

## SPEECH & LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision, incumbents of this class supervise and conduct diagnostic evaluations to determine the presence and extent of communication disorders within a diverse population; plans and executes a therapeutic program for persons with diagnosed communication disorders and/or swallowing disorders; and provides training to students, other health professionals and the community. Work is performed within standards set by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. This is the full performance level for this specialty. Exercises oversight and/or supervision of speech and language pathologist trainees as well as student therapists. Does related work as required.

### EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Develops evaluations, diagnosis and rehabilitation plans for patients with communication disorders and/or impairments;

Provides clinical supervision, training and evaluation of subordinate professional staff in implementing program objectives;

Performs and documents evaluation of patients referred by medical staff using evaluative techniques and/or electronic instrumentation in order to diagnose communication disorders such as: dysphagia, aphasia, cognitive deficits associated with head trauma, stuttering, voice problems, delayed speech and language, cleft palate, cerebral palsy, laryngectomy, dysarthria, apraxia, articulation disorders and impaired hearing;

Performs diagnostic specialties such as modified barium swallow studies, clinical and videofluoroscopic evaluations of the oral and pharyngeal phases of swallowing for neonatal through young adult population, and Passy-Muir speaking valve evaluation;

Establishes and implements long term and short term therapy goals, treatment strategies and methods to aid in the treatment/remediation of the impairment;

Consults with physicians and other health professionals as a member of a multi-disciplinary team in developing and implementing appropriate therapeutic approaches, intervention, and referral;

Counsels patients and members of patients' families regarding the patient's disability, therapeutic approaches and class placement for school age children;

Develops and implements remediation programs on an individual and/or group basis based on evaluative data and behavioral objectives for each client;

Provides therapy using sophisticated electronic instrumentation, augmentative communication devices, sign language, specialized techniques and family counseling;

Observes and measures progress of patients receiving treatment;

Establishes and maintains professional contacts with outside agencies to further benefit the overall treatment of the patient;

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Continue)

Instructs and demonstrates to students and other health professionals the objectives and techniques of speech and hearing therapy;

Uses computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments;

Accesses protected health information (PHI) in accordance with departmental assignments and guidelines defining levels of access (i.e. incidental vs. extensive);

May perform other incidental tasks, as needed.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Thorough knowledge of the principles, practices, and methods of speech-language pathology; thorough knowledge of the diagnostic tests and therapeutic equipment used in treating speech disorders; skill in the use of speech evaluation instrumentation; ability to deal effectively with people; ability to work as a member of a professional team; ability to plan and supervise the work of others; ability to write concise reports; ability to effectively use computer applications such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments; sound professional judgment; initiative; creativity; tact; physical condition commensurate with the requirements of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Possession of a valid license and current registration, issued by the New York State Education Department, in Speech-Language Pathology or in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, and possession of a Certificate of Clinical Competency issued by the American Speech-Language Hearing Association.