

BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION AIDE

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under supervision, an incumbent of this class is responsible for assisting in the prescribed behavior modification therapy of a physically and/or mentally disabled student or students in a public school setting. Students typically are diagnosed with autism, pervasive developmental delay, etc. Assignment of tasks is based on specific training of the incumbent, previous assessments by professional staff and the student's medical, physical and/or mental limitations. Responsibilities involve monitoring and reporting student's responses, condition and progress during activities. The incumbent works one on one with the student in combination with other professionals, i.e., Special Education Teacher, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, Speech Pathologist, etc. Supervision is not a responsibility of this position. Does related duties as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Works one on one with a student using behavior modification techniques to diminish or correct pathology, enhance task performance and to promote and maintain health;

Carries out a prescribed therapy designed to modify a student's behavior patterns;

Prepares and works with student, using repetition and practice techniques, to reinforce academic programs developed by teachers;

Uses augmentative communication devices, such as head switch with adapters and Mercury Computer, when reinforcing prescribed academic programs;

Evaluates and records student's progress through the use of charts, notes, etc;

Participates in staff evaluation of student and assessment of needs;

Escorts student to various therapy sessions, remaining with student and assisting therapist during the session as necessary;

Assists student with daily living activities, e.g. grooming, eating, walking, use of toilet, etc.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Knowledge of applied behavior analysis (ABA) principles and methods; knowledge of therapeutic equipment, therapeutic seating techniques, wheel chair and wheel chair functions; ability to work with a multi-handicapped student; ability to recognize seizures and follow through on appropriate procedures; ability to stimulate and maintain student's interest; ability to work effectively in conjunction with other staff members involved in the student's therapy; ability to read, write, understand and communicate in English sufficiently to perform the essential functions of the position; ability to maintain an effective relationship with assigned student; good judgment; initiative in undertaking assigned work; emotional maturity; physical condition commensurate with the requirements of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and one year of work experience where the primary function of the position was working with a physically and/or mentally disabled individual using adaptive physical and/or therapeutic equipment, such as augmentative communications devices, wheelchairs, splints, standers, gate trainers, etc.

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, only experience gained after attaining the minimum education level indicated in the minimum qualifications will be considered in evaluating experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS: In accordance with the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) legislation, Chapter 180 of the Laws of 2000, and by the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, candidates for appointment in school districts must obtain clearance for employment from the State Education Department prior to employment based upon a fingerprint and criminal history background check.

School Districts
J. C.: Competitive
(to be proposed Non-competitive)
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Job Class Code: S502