

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY TECHNICIAN

### DESCRIPTION OF WORK

This is skilled work in assisting occupational therapists implement activities and programs to improve psychosocial and developmental functioning at the level of performance normal for the individual's stage of development, in a State institution or a local agency.

Employees assist in implementing the treatment programs designed by the occupational therapist to gain or re-gain physical, psychosocial, or developmental functioning. Responsibilities are performed with some independence in preparing and constructing routine adaptive devices and splints, conducting activities of daily living programs and activity programs. Work requires employees to observe and report the individual's response to treatment and is performed under the direct supervision of an occupational therapist. Performance is evaluated through observation and supervision.

### EXAMPLES OF DUTIES PERFORMED

Instructs patients in routine activities of daily living, activity programs aimed toward exercise and reeducation of injured or atrophied muscle and appropriate interaction to improve psychosocial functioning, upon collaboration with the occupational therapist.

Assists in treatment programs and performs routine measurements of injured parts for strength, grip, dexterity, coordination, swelling, and range of motion and advises the therapist of findings.

Constructs routine splints as directed by the occupational therapists for use in preventing and correcting joint deformities, and increasing muscle strength through graded activities and helps with or constructs self-help devices such as spoons and combs.

Performs related duties as required.

### RECRUITMENT STANDARDS

#### Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities

Some knowledge of occupational therapy principles, techniques, methods, modalities, and their proper application.

Some knowledge of functional anatomy, physiology, and skeletal biomechanics.

Skill in fabrication and use of the less complex splints and devices.

Ability to report progress of patient through oral and written communications.

Ability to work effectively with patients of various ages, mental competence, and physical disabilities.

#### Minimum Education and Experience

High school or General Educational Development diploma and one year of health care experience and one year of on-the-job training in occupational therapy; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

#### Minimum Education and Experience for a Trainee Appointment

Completion of high school and one year of experience in health care work to enter one year on-the-job training program; or completion of high school to enter two year on-the-job training program; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.