

CLASS TITLE: AQUATIC THERAPY SPECIALIST

Class Code: 02801200

Pay Grade: 18A

EO: E

CLASS DEFINITION:

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: To plan, organize, and conduct swimming instructions as it relates to physical therapy; to apply aquatic therapy procedures and modalities to patients or clients under the direction of legally qualified physical or medical staff; and to do related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Works under the general and specific direction of a licensed physical therapist or medical staff;

assists registered physical therapists in individual case treatment and reports patient status to supervisory staff; work is reviewed through periodic reports and conferences with supervisors.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: May directly instruct and supervise patients or clients in therapeutic swimming and exercise or other physical therapy modalities.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:

To plan, organize and conduct classes in therapeutic swimming; to develop water skills and insure safety and administer lifesaving services when necessary at a state institution.

To achieve maximum utilization of swimming facilities through efficient planning and scheduling.

To apply aquatic physical therapy procedures and modalities to patients/clients under the direction of legally qualified physical therapists or medical staff.

To assist patients/clients to achieve functional goals through application therapeutic swimming and physical therapy modalities as directed by a legally qualified physical therapist or medical staff.

To follow established procedures pertaining to maintenance, adjustment assembly and disassembly of physical therapy equipment.

To perform predetermined clerical procedures related to patient treatment and medical record status notes.

To observe precautions related to therapeutic exercise and aquatic therapy procedures.

To assist with transfer of patients to and from treatment areas.

To be responsible for safety and care of patients by a physical therapist or medical staff.

To do related work as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:

KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES: A working knowledge of the principles, practices, and techniques of swimming instruction; a working knowledge of the principles, practices, and techniques of applied aquatics and the ability to instruct rehabilitation patients/clients in water skills; a working knowledge of pools and their equipment and the ability to maintain healthful water conditions in a pool; a thorough knowledge of modern lifesaving methods and techniques including resuscitation and first aid and a high degree of skill in applying such methods and techniques; the ability to plan, organize and conduct classes in swimming and related capacities and abilities; a familiarity with physical therapy treatment, equipment, accessories, modalities, and precautions as applied to patients/clients; the ability to gain cooperation and confidence of the patients/clients; the ability to accept and follow specific oral and written directions from legally qualified physical therapists and/or medical staff; the ability to learn and perform specific tasks related to the adjustment of equipment in physical therapy as it relates to aquatic therapy; the ability to assist the physical therapist in achieving therapeutic patient goals; a basic knowledge of human anatomy, physiology, medical terminology, and disability; the ability to orally report at team conferences; and related capacities and abilities.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Education: Such as may have been gained through: graduation from a senior high school and successful completion of courses in lifesaving, water safety instruction, first aid and CPR, and aquatic fitness; and

Experience: Such as may have been gained through: employment in a physical therapy program in a public or private hospital, rehabilitation center or other institution, working under the direction of a licensed physical therapist.

Or, any combination of education and experience that shall be substantially equivalent to the above education and experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: At the time of appointment, must possess certification as an Aquatic Fitness Instructor from the Aquatic Exercise Association, certification as a Lifeguard or Lifeguard Instructor and Water Safety Instructor from an accredited agency and must maintain such licensure and certification as a condition of employment. At the time of appointment, must be physically qualified to perform assigned duties as evidenced by a physician's certificate.

Class Created: June 22, 1997

Editorial Review: 3/15/03