

**CLASS TITLE: CHIEF PHYSICAL THERAPIST
(HABILITATION-REHABILITATION)**

**Class Code: 02801800
Pay Grade: 37A
EO: A**

CLASS DEFINITION:

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: As assigned, to be responsible for planning, coordination and supervision of a professional staff engaged in providing physical therapy services to meet the special needs of mentally retarded and developmentally disabled and physically disabled, particularly with regard to self-help skills and activities of daily living; to be responsible for development, coordination and management of clinical affiliation programs for physical therapy students; to be responsible for the evaluation of physical therapy techniques and methods to increase staff capabilities; to administer and assign programs of work for physical therapy staff; to consult with and provide assistance to education and treatment professionals in various treatment settings; to provide education and support to clients' families and support groups; and to do related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Works under the administrative direction of a superior with considerable latitude for the exercise of initiative and independent action related to physical therapy services; work is reviewed upon completion through conferences and submitted reports, and the results reviewed for conformance to professional standards, agency policies, rules and regulations.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: Exercises administrative, professional and technical supervision of professional and/or non-professional physical therapy staff and others engaged in the administration of an assigned program in physical therapy for the mentally retarded, developmentally disabled and physically disabled.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:

As assigned, to be responsible for planning, directing, coordinating, and supervising of a professional and non-professional staff engaged in providing a program of physical therapy services.

To be responsible for developing clinical student affiliation programs with approved schools of physical therapy.

To conduct conferences and staff consultations to review physical therapy treatment policies and procedures.

To review professional standards of physical therapy programs.

To provide leadership in the development of in-service training and education programs for physical therapists and other related staff employees.

To plan, organize and coordinate delivery of in and outpatient therapy services.

To submit periodic reports related to the status of physical therapy program and services.

To review research and educate therapy staff on current information related to principles and practices of physical therapy evaluation and procedures.

To review, interpret and coordinate medical and other staff referrals for physical therapy services.

To be responsible for writing, filing and submitting comprehensive records and reports.

To schedule staff assignments and to administer distribution of client activities based on referrals.

To assist in the preparation of departmental budget information related to ordering equipment and supplies.

To coordinate physical therapy service with other rehabilitative services.

To evaluate community needs and trends for physical therapy services and to provide such services to mentally retarded, developmentally disabled and physically disabled clients as required.

To do related work as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:

KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES: A thorough knowledge of the principles, practices and methods utilized to decrease disabilities through physical therapy intervention; a thorough knowledge of diseases and traumatic processes which interfere with normal human development and result in disability; a thorough knowledge of administrative principles and practices related to providing physical therapy services for the mental retarded, developmentally disabled and physically disabled in a variety of treatment settings; a working knowledge of anatomical, physiological and kinesiological principles in directing physical therapy evaluation and treatment; the ability to plan and develop programs of physical therapy treatment for clients based on medical staff referral; the ability to develop and maintain clinical student affiliation programs in physical therapy; the ability to design and maintain effective staff development through a program of in-service training; the ability to evaluate policies and procedures related to provisions of physical therapy programs; the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with superiors and associates, other public and private rehabilitation agencies, the community and the public; and related capacities and abilities.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Education: Such as may have been gained through: graduation from a program of physical therapy which is accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or the Council on Post-Secondary Accreditation and be eligible for membership with the American Physical Therapy Association; and **Experience:** Such as may have been gained through: considerable full-time employment in a hospital, rehabilitation center or community agency as a physical therapist with supervisory, administrative and consultant physical therapy responsibilities in the development of programs for the treatment and rehabilitation of disabled persons.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Must meet established requirements for licensing of physical therapists administered by the Rhode Island Department of Health and must maintain licensure as a condition of continued employment.

Class Revised: July 12, 1992

Editorial Review: 3/15/03