

CLASS SPECIFICATION FOR
Speech Pathologist

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: Conducts a program of speech and motor therapy as a phase of treatment and/or rehabilitation of the mentally or physically handicapped; does related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This class makes assessments of client's/student's needs, participates in the development of program plans, carries out a program of speech therapy with the client/student, and provides consultation services to parents and/or teachers. Work is performed under general supervision.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (illustrative only):

- Identifies children suspected of having a communication problem through screening and referral procedures;
- Conducts initial assessment of client's/student's ability and follows-up with subsequent evaluations;
- Organizes and provides a program of speech-language therapy to meet the needs of the individual;
- Provides individual and group therapy sessions;
- Visits clients at home to conduct assessment, to provide treatment, or to motivate clients to receive services;
- Works with school personnel and/or parents toward creating an awareness of those factors that prevent communication disorder;
- Provides information about individual students to the Department of Special Education as required;
- Participates in staffing conferences;
- Serves as consultant to other staff;
- Performs case management services as required;
- Maintains clinical and administrative recording as required;
- Provides training to parents and family members;
- Expands own knowledge by such means as academic study, independent reading, and attending outside conferences, workshops and seminars;
- Performs related work as assigned.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES: Considerable knowledge of the principles and practices of speech therapy and ability to apply them in the treatment of client population to which assigned; knowledge of mental and physical handicaps; good interpersonal skills which include the ability to empathize, demonstrate respect, communicate, reflect feelings and confront constructively; ability to relate freely to and work effectively with clients/students, families and professionals; ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; ability to keep records and prepare reports.

MINIMUM EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE: Possession of a master's degree in speech pathology and experience working with the population to which assigned; OR, any equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS: May require possession of a Certificate of Clinical Competency from the American Speech and Hearing Association (or attainment within one year of employment date) and/or licensure as a speech/language pathologist by the Virginia Board of Health Professions.

BV02
Revised 07/10/01
G

This is a class specification and not an individualized job description. A class specification defines the general character and scope of duties and responsibilities of all positions in a job classification, but it is not intended to describe and does not necessarily list the essential job functions for a given position in a classification.