

WORK THERAPY TECHNICIAN

KIND OF WORK

Paraprofessional vocational therapy work.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under general supervision, assists in the delivery of work activity and industrial therapy programs designed to provide realistic, therapeutic work experiences and to teach appropriate work behaviors and attitudes; performs related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Matches patients/residents to on-campus job assignments to provide a learning-earning experience in conjunction with established treatment goals by evaluation based on personal interview, job-site development with supervisors and establishment of wage rates.

Designs activities for patients/residents in a work shop setting to evaluate level of functioning, to develop vocational skills and/or to provide ongoing work therapy through observation of task completion and attention span followed by modification of assignments and shop facilities to accommodate deficiencies.

Evaluates patient/resident performance on the job to determine success of work therapy and to provide input to the interdisciplinary treatment team by observation of the worker on the job; measurement of product quality against prescribed standards; performance appraisal by on-campus supervisor; or assessment of productivity by timing rate of production.

Processes patient/resident payroll to compensate program participants by distributing time sheets and paychecks, monitoring daily attendance, posting and reporting actual hours worked for payment by the business office.

Submits monthly report of patient/resident worker progress to support the planning process of treatment teams by summarizing attendance, performance and behavior from review of work in progress and study of charts and time sheets.

Establishes production projects to offer practical work experience to patient/resident participants by bidding and contracting with business firms and government agencies to deliver goods and services.

Maintains safe, efficient work environment to protect workers and permit uninterrupted work flow by cleaning work areas, repairing equipment and ordering supplies.

Supports overall treatment goals to increase patient/resident independence by implementing prescribed self-care and behavior management programs.

Feeds, bathes and grooms patients/residents - or supervises them in these activities - to ensure their health and well-being.

Provides health care to patients/residents so that response to treatment is not impeded by physical illness through administration of medications/ treatments, taking and monitoring vital signs, intervening when patient behavior is threatening to others or himself/herself.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Client groups (mentally retarded, mentally ill, chemically dependent, physically handicapped) sufficient to accommodate for special limitations in the work setting.

Industrial safety standards and procedures sufficient to ensure the physical safety of clientele while in the workshop setting.

Therapeutic intervention techniques sufficient to control physically and verbally aggressive behaviors.

Behavior modification techniques sufficient to implement prescribed programs.

Skill in:

Skill in interviewing sufficient to identify patient/resident likes/dislikes, attitudes, abilities, attention span and sociability in relation to the goals and objectives of prescribed program plans.

Ability to:

Administer first aid.

Collect, record and calculate patient/resident payroll data.

Collect, record, present and evaluate work behavior summaries in oral and written form to patient/resident and to the treatment team for action.

Provide and/or supervise patients/residents in performing activities of daily living by tube feeding, attaching adaptive feeding equipment, escorting to and monitoring activities in mealtime routines; by using specialized bathing tables, tubs and bath solutions.

Administer oral medications and health care treatments (such as soaks, topical creams and ointments).

SPECIAL WORK CONDITIONS

Employees in this class may be required to lift shop supplies. In addition, the employee may be subject to unpredictable and hazardous patient/resident behaviors.

Est.: 11/83

Rev.:

T.C.: 4/84

Former Title(s): Institution Work
Therapy Technician