

**MENDOCINO COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
CLASS SPECIFICATION**

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**CLASS TITLE:** PHYSICAL THERAPIST  
**DEPARTMENT:** PUBLIC HEALTH  
**REPORTS TO:** SUPERVISING THERAPIST

**CLASS CODE:** 47024  
**FLSA STATUS:** NE  
Created June, 2000  
Revised July, 2001

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**JOB SUMMARY AND DISTINGUISHING FEATURES:**

To plan, organize and provide therapeutic treatment services for the physically handicapped clients of the Public Health Department's California Children's Services Program.

**ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:** (All responsibilities may not be performed by all incumbents.)

Plans and provides therapeutic treatment services for physically handicapped children.

Institutes therapy as prescribed by physicians.

Confers with patient, family and professional personnel to coordinate and facilitate a comprehensive treatment plan.

Evaluates motion, motor skills, functional activity and manual test of muscular strength; administers various tests to assess physical handicaps.

Maintains patient case history files and charts; completes patient records; prepares written reports dealing with cases and caseload data.

Teaches children, parents, teachers and family the use of special equipment and specific exercises designed to provide corrective measures.

Sets measurable therapy goals and objectives

Assists with the training and supervision of professional and non-professional staff.

Evaluates braces and other apparatus used by children; makes minor adjustments; assists in designing, developing and constructing equipment.

Performs other related duties as assigned.

**MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT USED:**

Computer

General office equipment

General medical measuring devices:

Goniometer

Stethoscope

Blood pressure cuff

General tools for brace and wheelchair repair

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:**

**Education and Experience:**

Graduation from a school of physical therapy or other educational course approved by the California State Physical Therapy Examining Committee.

Some work experience in Physical Therapy as would be gained through college level internship or field placement;  
OR,

Any combination of education, training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform the essential functions of the job.

**Licenses and Certifications:**

Possession of a valid license to practice as a Registered Physical Therapist in the State of California, or the ability to obtain such a license within 12 months of hire.

Valid California class C driver's license.

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:**

Knowledge of treatments directed toward increasing the range of joint motions, muscle strength and other motor development.

Knowledge of basic neurology, skeletal anatomy, kinesiology, and physical therapy treatment objectives,

Knowledge of the types and uses of special adaptive equipment.

Knowledge of sensory deficits and therapy techniques to provide sensory input..

Knowledge of the physical and psychological problems of therapy patients.

Knowledge of applicable medical terminology and nomenclature.

Working knowledge of modern theory, principles and methods of physical therapy, especially as applied to physically handicapped children.

Working knowledge of pathology and injuries, which result in physical impairment.

Working knowledge of growth and development of normal and handicapped children.

**Mental and Physical Abilities:**

Ability to recognize and inhibit primitive reflexes.

Ability to assess children's needs, formulate recommendations and adapt various functions to the therapeutic requirements of patients.

Ability to establish rapport with the child and family with tact and understanding.

Ability to comply with public health safety practices and procedures.

Ability to employ appropriate and effective patient transfer techniques.

Ability to prepare accurate, concise case records and to write progress reports and evaluations.

**Working Conditions:**

While performing the essential functions of this job the employee is frequently required to stand, walk, sit, use hands to finger, handle, or feel, reach with hands and arms, speak and hear, and must occasionally lift and/or move children.

While performing the duties of this position, the employee works primarily indoors, and is rarely exposed to outside weather conditions.

The noise level while performing these duties is generally moderate.

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This class specification should not be interpreted as all inclusive. It is intended to identify the essential functions and requirements of this job. Incumbents may be required to perform job-related responsibilities and tasks other than those stated in this specification. Any essential function or requirement of this class will be evaluated as necessary should an incumbent /applicant be unable to perform the function or requirement due to a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodation for the specific disability will be made for the incumbent/applicant when possible.