

MUSIC THERAPIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This position is responsible for evaluating, planning and directing music activities designed to provide positive learning experiences leading to increased comprehension of self and environment for students with disabilities. Students are referred to special education programs from physicians, therapists and teachers. The employee works closely with parents and teaching staff to aid in planning music activities according to student's needs, capabilities and interests. Therapy is provided in groups or on an individual basis. The employee works under the direct supervision of and reports to the administrator of special education programs. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative only)

Directs and participates in instrumental, vocal, and participatory music activities designed to meet students needs, such as solo or group singing, rhythmic and other creative music activities, music listening, etc.;

Develops, plans and directs music activities designed to provide positive learning experiences related to specific educational and behavioral needs;

Participates with teachers and other staff members to develop student's overall "Individual Education Plan" (I.E.P.);

Studies and analyzes student's reactions to various experiences, and records symptoms indicative of progress or regression on I.E.P.'s as mandated by State and Federal laws;

Works with parents, teachers and other staff to identify and evaluate individual learning and behavioral problems.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Good knowledge of music therapy, strategies, and practices; working knowledge of community resources related to music therapy; ability to plan and direct music activities designed to respond to the educational needs of students with disabilities; ability to evaluate, plan and implement individual therapy programs; ability to work in a team situation in order to benefit the student; ability to analyze student's reactions to therapy and record findings; ability to instruct others; ability to evaluate student progress in therapy and the relative need for on-going therapies; ability to align and adjust services according to departmental goals for special education; ability to communicate well both orally and in writing; ability to establish good working relationships; patience; courtesy; tact; thoroughness; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Master's Degree or Bachelor's Degree in Music Therapy.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT: Possession of a current certification by the Certification Board For Music Therapists, Inc. at time of appointment OR within one (1) year of appointment and maintenance of certification throughout the tenure of appointment.

REVISED: JULY 14, 2010

CIVIL SERVICE CLASSIFICATION: COMPETITIVE