

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Human Resources Division

Class Description
SENIOR SCHOOL RECREATION THERAPIST

Job Purpose

Assists the Coordinator, Adapted Physical Education (APE) and Recreation Therapy (RT) Program in the development and implementation of the Recreation Therapy Program. Coordinates and provides technical supervision to Recreation Therapists. Provides training to Recreation Therapists for the delivery of therapy services to students placed or referred for placement in special education programs.

Responsible to

Coordinator, Adapted Physical Education and Recreation Therapy or designee

Technical Direction Provided to

School Recreation Therapist(s), Special Education

Functions

Essential Functions

1. Provides orientation for and trains therapists in appropriate District procedures and monitors their work in the performance of therapy service delivery.
2. Technically observes and monitors therapy services provided by school therapists.
3. Confers with administrators and staff regarding issues such as program development, work assignments, in-service training, due process, procedures, materials and equipment needs, as well as school site-specific issues.
4. Models and guides program staff in the assessment of students' skills and abilities to determine educational need for therapy services.
5. Provides strategies and techniques to program staff to facilitate assistance school-wide, including the demonstration of strategies and activities.
6. Provides support to Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams in issues related to Recreation Therapy.
7. Monitors and provides training to staff to ensure compliance.
8. Utilizes Welligent reports to assist staff in self-monitoring service delivery.
9. Assists with the formulation of practices consistent with State, National, and evidenced-based practices.
10. Supports program staff in the evaluation, selection, and use of effective evidence practices for Recreation Therapy service delivery.

Other Functions

1. During periods of critical personnel shortage or other emergency situation, shall temporarily perform any duties, as directed, within the authorization of any license, registration, or credentials held by the incumbent which are registered with the Office of the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools and which are a part of the class description requirements in effect at the time such duties are performed.
2. Performs other duties as assigned in accordance with the District-UTLA Agreement.

Qualifications

Education

Required

An earned bachelor's degree or advanced degree of at least equivalent standard in Therapeutic Recreation or in Recreation with specialization in Therapeutic Recreation conferred by a regionally-accredited college or university

Desirable

1. An earned master's degree or advanced degree of at least equivalent standard conferred by a regionally-accredited college or university in the field of Therapeutic Recreation
2. Strong clinical knowledge in pediatric Recreation Therapy practices

Experience

Required

At least five years of successful, full-time service as a public school recreation therapist.

Desirable

At least three years of experience working with a variety of special populations.

NOTE: For definitions of years of service, refer to Policy Guide E23.

Certification

One of the following:

1. A valid and current certification as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) issued by the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification (NCTRC)
2. A valid and current certification as a Recreation Therapist Certified (RTC) issued by the California Board of Recreation Therapy Certification

Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, and Personal Characteristics

1. Previous supervising experience.
2. Knowledge of the fundamental principles and accepted practices of Recreation Therapy.
3. Knowledge of special education federal and state laws and regulations.
4. Knowledge of and skill in individual and group Recreation Therapy techniques.
5. Knowledge of community health and social services resources.
6. Strong oral and written communication skills.
7. Ability to observe and effectively communicate recommendations for change and professional growth in staff.
8. Ability to integrate school Recreation Therapy with the student's educational program.
9. Ability to work effectively with all racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, linguistic, and disability groups.
10. Ability to plan, organize, prioritize, and manage time for self and others.
11. Ability to work collaboratively with students, parents, community representatives, colleagues, and District personnel both individually and as a group.
12. Ability to communicate with students, parents, community representatives, colleagues, and District personnel, both individually and as a group.
13. Ability to compose and comprehend written communication utilizing various computer programs.
14. Appropriate interpersonal style and methods to guide individuals and groups toward task accomplishment.
15. Ability to observe, support, and guide program staff and their activities.
16. Ability to respond to crisis situations.

Health

Physical and mental fitness to engage in service as a senior school recreation therapist as certified by a licensed physician and surgeon or medical officer pursuant to Education Code Section 44839 and evidence of freedom from active tuberculosis pursuant to Education Code Section 49406

Special Requirements

1. Annual Bloodborne Pathogen training (new employees must complete prior to employment)
2. A valid driver's license to legally operate a motor vehicle in the State of California and the use of a motor vehicle, or the ability to utilize an alternative method of transportation.

NOTE: This is a Special Services Salary (D) Table classification.

This class description is not a complete statement of essential functions and responsibilities. The District retains the discretion to add or change typical duties of a position at any time.

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