

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT

DEFINITION

Under the supervision of a licensed Speech Language Pathologist (SLP), a Speech Language Pathology Assistant assists in providing educationally related speech and language services to identified special education students according to the students' Individualized Education Programs (IEP).

TYPICAL DUTIES

- Assists a Speech Language Pathologist in providing therapeutic intervention in accordance with District policies and procedures according to IEP goals and the treatment plan developed by the Speech Language Pathologist.
- Assists with data collection and the assessment of students' abilities in articulation, language, voice, and fluency.
- Assists the SLP in supporting classroom teachers to aid in the maintenance of an adequate learning environment to facilitate the achievement of speech and language goals.
- Monitors the use of Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC) devices.
- Assists the SLP to educate staff through consultation training and direct collaborative therapy activities related to IEP goals.
- Documents therapy and session results in District required Speech Treatment Records using computer applications.
- Maintains and monitors service logs and documentation according to established guidelines.
- Organizes materials in preparation for therapeutic intervention services.
- Attends Speech and Language Program staff meetings and assists with staff development as instructed.
- May assist in the development, implementation, and use of multimodal communication techniques and materials.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS AMONG RELATED CLASSES

A Speech Language Pathology Assistant assists a licensed Speech Language Pathologist in providing services based upon the recommendation of the Individual Education Program (IEP) team.

A School Occupational Therapy Assistant assists a School Occupational Therapist in providing services based upon the recommendation of the Individual Education Program team.

A Health Care Assistant performs authorized medical procedures for disabled students in addition to performing the duties of a Special Education Assistant.

A Special Education Assistant assists teachers in the presentation and positive reinforcement of instructional materials and cares for the physical needs of students with disabilities.

SUPERVISION

General supervision is received from a licensed Speech Language Pathologist and/or the Coordinator of the Speech and Language Program. No supervision is exercised.

CLASS QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- Child growth, development, and behavior
- Speech and language development theories and practices
- Language, articulation, and hearing disorders
- General methods and techniques of speech therapy
- Operation and maintenance of augmentative communication devices and equipment
- Record keeping procedures and practices
- Correct English usage, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and vocabulary
- Oral and written communication skills
- Basic computer applications such as word processing, spreadsheets, database, and email software programs

Ability to:

- Provide speech therapy services for identified students
- Assist with conducting speech and language screenings
- Speak and write English clearly and effectively
- Prepare and implement therapy area and instructional materials
- Accurately collect, record, and report data related to student treatment
- Maintain confidentiality of information pertaining to students and their families
- Assist with standardized assessment tests
- Work cooperatively and effectively with all levels of District staff, parents, health care professionals, and other education agencies
- Operate a computer and associated peripheral equipment
- Organize and prioritize responsibilities

ENTRANCE QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

Graduation from high school or evidence of equivalent educational proficiency. Graduation from a recognized college or university with an associate degree in speech-language pathology assistant or equivalent.

Experience:

Seventy hours of field work experience (paid or voluntary), which involves learning the job responsibilities and workplace behaviors of the speech-language pathology assistant. Clinical or school-based experience working with the pediatric population is preferable.

Special:

- A valid Speech and Language Pathology Assistant license issued by the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board (SLPAHADB).
- 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 may be required for some positions.

The class description is not a complete statement of essential functions, responsibilities, or requirements. Entrance requirements are representative of the minimum level of knowledge, skill, and /or abilities. To the extent permitted by law, management retains the discretion to add or change typical duties of a position at any time, as long as such addition or change is reasonably related to existing duties.

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