

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive; Non-Competitive when Part time in County and Schools
Adopted: October 6, 1960
Revised: June 11, 2010

PHYSICAL THERAPIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is technical work involving the treatment of injuries, disease, or disabilities by the use of therapeutic properties of heat, cold, water, light, electricity, sound, exercise, and massage. The work is performed under medical direction and written orders of a licensed physician. The work may entail instruction and technical supervision of public health nurses who administer physical therapy to selected patients. The incumbent does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative only)

Administers hydrotherapy, such as continuous baths, sedative packs, sitz baths, and whirlpool baths;
Administers ultra violet and infra-red treatment;
Gives massages, therapeutic exercise, and other muscle reeducation treatments;
Maintains treatment records and prepares reports;
Keeps equipment in good working condition;
Teaches and supervises public health nurses, who administer physical therapy to selected patients, in physical therapy techniques and prevention of disabilities in body mechanics;
Instrumental in getting patients under necessary medical care.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES & PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of principles, objectives, and techniques of physical therapeutic treatments;
Good knowledge of the construction and proper care of apparatus and equipment;
Demonstrated skill in the application of hydrotherapy, electrotherapy, and other physical therapeutic techniques.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Completion of an approved program of instruction in physical therapy.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Eligibility for a license to practice physical therapy issued by the State of New York at time of application. Possession of license at time of appointment.