

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive  
Adopted: June 7, 1989  
Revised: May 28, 2010

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is a skilled entry-level professional position involving responsibility for assisting an occupational therapist in the application of treatment procedures. The work is performed under supervision of an occupational therapist who evaluates the patient and develops the treatment procedures to be followed. Patient progress and observations are reported to the occupational therapist who modifies the treatment to promote maximum rehabilitative and restorative measures. Supervision may be exercised over the work of aides. The incumbent does related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** (Illustrative only)

Carries out occupational therapy procedures by working with patients individually or in groups in providing treatment of an illness or disability training in the activities of daily living;  
Confers periodically with occupational therapist regarding all facets of patient care and related activities;  
May fabricate and apply splints and assistive devices, trains patient in self-care activities, and uses varied media to improve their physical or mental functioning;  
Prepares and sets up occupational therapy treatment apparatus;  
Participates with other facility personnel in the formulation of patients' total health care plans;  
Supervises aides as directed by the occupational therapist;  
Observes, records, and reports patients' reactions to occupational therapy treatments and programs;  
Prepares and maintains records of treatment;  
Provides for and oversees safety precautions during all phases of therapy;  
Inventories, cleans, stores, and maintains supplies and equipment.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES & PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Working knowledge of the principles, techniques, and terminology of occupational therapy treatment procedures;  
Working knowledge of occupational therapy materials and equipment and their appropriate application to a variety of patient disabilities;  
Ability to observe, record, and report patients' responses to treatment;  
Ability to work effectively with the aged, ill, and disabled;  
Ability to plan and supervise the work of others.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Certification by the New York State Education Department as an Occupational Therapy Assistant.