



## **SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST (SPEECH THERAPIST) JOB DESCRIPTION**

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### **Job Summary:**

Speech Language Pathologist provides diagnostic and therapeutic services, patient/family counseling and appropriate referrals as necessary to all inpatients and outpatients exhibiting a speech, language, hearing or swallowing disorders. Maintains quality care for all patients through interaction with hospital personnel in a coordinated, comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach and provides assistance where communication barriers exist due to speech/language disabilities to enable each individual to reach his or her maximum level of independence.

### **Qualifications:**

**Education:** Masters degree in Speech Pathology. Current license as a Speech Language Pathologist as required by state/s

**Experience:** One year full time experience as a Speech Language Pathologist

**Certification:** Current CPR/BLS Certification

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

The Speech Language Pathologist is expected to practice safe and ethical care within his/her scope as defined by the State Regulatory Agency under the direction of the Rehabilitation Department Head. The Speech Language Pathologist should understand his/her own limitations, seeking advice and assistance when necessary. Specific duties may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Performs diagnostic evaluations and provides results in written form for the medical record
- Report at patient evaluation conferences
- Provides therapy for all types of speech, language, hearing and swallowing disorders as well as education and family counseling.
- Performs hearing screening
- Provides total case management and systematic reporting of progress, recommendations and referrals in accordance with applicable guidelines
- Actively participates in patient evaluation conferences with emphasis on discharge planning and referral pertinent to continued rehabilitation and/or stabilization of clinical gains
- Provides assistance to other rehabilitation team members about the most feasible communication pathways to achieve maximum value of patient teaching in rehabilitation techniques
- Assesses and manages swallowing disorders in coordination with other departments
- Assists as a referral source for deaf patients requiring interpreters
- Present a neat appearance and dress in compliance with the client facilities' policies

- While on assignment, the Speech Language Pathologist is responsible and accountable to their assigned patients and to the client institution. The Speech Language Pathologist is under the direct supervision of the Department Head or other assigned personnel and must have the ability to follow directions/instruction from his/her supervisor.

**Essential Functions:**

- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing
- Participates in continuing education and learning experiences to enhance and maintain current knowledge and skills for continued competence
- Perform all duties using proper body mechanics
- Stand for long periods with frequent squatting, twisting, bending, kneeling and reaching to prepare equipment, materials or objects in order to provide patient care or maintain the patient environment
- Sensory requirements include speech for communication and vision, smell, touch and hearing to assess patient status.
- Problem solving skills
- Manual dexterity and fine motor coordination
- Ability to work in a stressful environment
- Consistent attendance is required to assure that the client facilities' needs and patient needs are met.
- To comply with all client facilities' policies, procedures and practices
- To comply with all client policies and to uphold our standards of excellence while on assignment at our client facilities.

**Working Conditions:**

The Speech Language Pathologist must understand and accept the possibility of exposure to inside environmental conditions, such as noise, infectious/communicable diseases, blood and bloodborne diseases, chemicals and/or chemical fumes, odors, gases and dusts. There is also the possibility of physical injury/verbal abuse from an out of control patient and/or visitor. Frequent exposures to distressed patients, families or visitors.

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