

New York State Department of Civil Service
DIVISION OF CLASSIFICATION & COMPENSATION

Classification Standard

Occ. Code 8341510

Rehabilitation Technologist 1, Grade 20	8341510
Rehabilitation Technologist 2, Grade 22	8341520
Rehabilitation Technologist 3, Grade 25	8341530

Brief Description of Class Series

Positions in this series work to increase opportunities towards independence for persons with physical disabilities through the appropriate application of rehabilitation technologies and provide consultation to professionals and services to patients for prosthetic and orthotic devices, mobility systems, augmentative communication devices, computer access, and environmental control units. Incumbents of these positions may modify consumer products, custom fabricate rehabilitation devices, make recommendations for commercial devices, and participate in consumer education.

These positions are classified only for the Center for Rehabilitation Technology (CRT) at Helen Hayes Hospital.

Distinguishing Characteristics

Rehabilitation Technologist 1: entry-level; provides direct care to consumers.

Rehabilitation Technologist 2: full-performance level; provides consultation and patient services for evaluation, prescription, modification, and training for electronic communication devices; and helps facilitate consumer interaction with local health care community.

Rehabilitation Technologist 3: advanced performance and/or first supervisory level; plans, conducts, and evaluates Center for Rehabilitation Technology programs; develops strategies of materials and device inventory to serve patients' needs; and facilitates communication between the CRT and Helen Hayes' general administrative offices to improve consumer care.

Related Classes

Head Physical Therapists plan and supervise physical therapy for a major service unit (about 400 mentally retarded residents or about 200 physically handicapped or disabled) while supervising a small (3-10) staff of physical therapy personnel.

Senior Orthotists assure proper evaluation and treatment of patients needing orthotic devices, monitor subordinate staff in the department, and assist in the development/implementation of department research.

Senior Prosthetists assure proper evaluation and treatment of patients needing prosthetic devices, monitor subordinate staff in the department, and assist in the development/implementation of department research.

Illustrative Duties

Rehabilitation Technologist 1

Assist patients with obtaining mobility devices.

- Fit clients to wheelchairs
- Provide consultation to hospital and community therapists for prescription of seating and mobility devices.
- Coordinate vendor appointments and deliveries, tracks prescriptions, and funding documents.
- Pursue appeals to third party payers for funding of devices.
- Develop, maintain, and update equipment manuals and inventory systems for seating devices.
- Monitor implementation of systems for management of hospital wheelchair fleet.

Rehabilitation Technologist 2

May perform any of the duties of a properly classified Rehabilitation Technologist 1.

Facilitate interdepartmental coordination and community awareness.

- Provide outreach to clinical professionals and consumers providing education and awareness development on technology and durability of products.
- Coordinate CRT staff presentations, development of educational material, and displays.
- Advise CRT on strategies for presenting technological information.
- Organize special workshops on rehabilitation technology.

- Manage internship and practitioner programs, co-manage computer access program.
- Provide advice to NYS agencies for legislative initiatives or policy revisions related to regulation of durable medical equipment vendors, federal grant applications, technical application, and cost effectiveness of personal alarm services.

Ensure proper usage and application of center resources.

- Provide consultation and patient services for evaluation, prescription, modification, and training.
- Plan, implement, evaluate, and report effectiveness of related technology programs within Helen Hayes, and as a model for other centers.
- Direct a “library” of adapted toys used to allow switch operation for normal development of disabled children.
- Collaborate with software specialist and librarian in the implementation of library based personal computer station for independent operation.
- Provide leadership and implement education programs in evaluation, application advances, and service delivery.
- Manage and promote ABLEDATA (a computerized list of assistive devices, manufacturers and prices) to disseminate to interested parties.

Promote consumer rehabilitation and adaptation

- Provide consultation and patient services for the evaluation, prescription, modification, and training for electronic environmental control devices.
- Coordinate the Special Device Program with other technological programs in the CRT.
- Analyze existing methods of patient education, service delivery, and trends in funding for special devices.

Rehabilitation Technologist 3

May perform any of the duties of a properly classified Rehabilitation Technologist 1 or 2.

Develop CRT services and applications.

- Plan, conduct, and evaluate program for provision of postural support systems, and wheeled mobility devices.
- Develop strategies of materials and device inventory to serve patients’ needs.
- Evaluate effectiveness of commercial products while identifying a need for new systems and collaborates with engineers and technicians on design.
- Develop and manage budget, and oversee programs for Special Apparatus Shop and Hospital Wheelchairs fleet.

- Promote inter/intra departmental communication.
- Evaluate, prepare, report, and disseminate information to hospital administration and professional staff on clinical and cost effectiveness
- Provide leadership and implement education programs in seating and mobility evaluations, applications, advances, and service delivery.
- Respond to requests for advice on technical and/or service delivery issues regarding seating and wheeled mobility.

Supervise subordinate staff.

- Provide supervision, guidance, and oversight to subordinate staff, and intervene and resolve problems as necessary.
- Determine and oversee staff assignments.
- Approve leave and track time and attendance.
- Review, monitor, and evaluate staff performance.
- Complete performance evaluations.
- Identify training needs and arrange for provision of training.
- Manage and direct program activities by setting priorities and deadlines.

Minimum Qualifications

Rehabilitation Technologist 1

Open Competitive: a current license or certification to practice either Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, or Speech-Language Pathology OR a bachelor's degree in Engineering, specializing in Rehabilitation Engineering; AND two years of professional experience of which one year must be in the area of assistive technology.

Rehabilitation Technologist 2

Open Competitive: a current license or certification to practice either Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, or Speech-Language Pathology OR a bachelor's degree in Engineering, specializing in Rehabilitation Engineering; AND three years of professional experience of which two years must be in the area of assistive technology and one year must have been in a supervisory capacity.

Rehabilitation Technologist 3

Open Competitive: a current license or certification to practice either Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, or Speech-Language Pathology OR a bachelor's degree in Engineering, specializing in Rehabilitation Engineering; AND four years of professional experience of which three years must be in the area of assistive technology and two years must have been in a supervisory capacity.

Substitution: A master's degree in any of the areas may be substituted for one year of professional experience.

Note: Classification Standards illustrate the nature, extent and scope of duties and responsibilities of the classes they describe. Standards cannot and do not include all of the work that might be appropriately performed by a class. The minimum qualifications above are those which were required for appointment at the time the Classification Standard was written. Please contact the Division of Staffing Services for current information on minimum qualification requirements for appointment or examination.

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