# Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA)



#### JOB SUMMARY:

The Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) supports and assists the Occupational Therapist (OT), working as a member of a team, to provide occupational therapy and sensory integration to students with autism (ages 3-22). With support from the OT, the COTA targets the acquisition of/or compensations for deficits in fine motor skills, sensory motor skills, visual perceptual skills, and self-care skills, supports students in necessary foundational skills through individually selected motor activities. The COTA consults with team members to modify the environment and instructional methodology to support student achievement on a particular classroom/vocational projects or skills.

### **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

Essential functions include but are not limited to:

- Participates in the assessment of fine motor, perceptual motor, sensorimotor & oral motor function.
- Determines therapeutic goals in conjunction with the occupational therapist.
- Participates in IEP meetings as assigned.
- Utilizes a collaborative, team approach in working with therapists, teachers, parents, and classroom team members.
- Adheres to rules and regulations related to work hours and student schedules.
- Provides intervention services to students as established through the IEP.
- Consults, instructs and assists classroom team members regarding positioning and handling, curricular access strategies, and the utilization of intervention programs.
- Assists in administrative duties.
- Assists in determining and meeting students' adaptive equipment needs.

# SPECIAL SKILLS/REQUIREMENTS:

- Energetic, positive, dedicated individual with ability to motivate others
- Ability to work as a team member within an integrated program while maintaining flexibility
- Knowledge of Applied Behavior Analysis preferred
- Able to maintain appropriate confidentiality and protect the rights of students at all times
- Knowledge in Microsoft Office and the Internet
- Ability to pass a Department of Justice screening
- Must provide proof of a negative TB screening
- This position requires the following physical activities: bending, stooping, kneeling, twisting, reaching, sitting, standing, walking, lifting, talking, hearing, and visual acuity, and the ability to lift up to 50 lbs

# QUALIFICATIONS/EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:

- Associates degree in an approved/accredited OTA program; NBCOT passed or pending
- Experience with individuals within the autism spectrum or other developmental disabilities and/or experience in pediatrics

#### **BENEFITS:**

(If working over 30 hours per week)

- Medical, dental, basic life insurance and AD&D
- 401k option
- Voluntary life insurance, vision, and AFLAC
- Paid time off (PTO)