



# New Mexico State Personnel Office

2600 Cerrillos Road  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-0127

## Classification Description

### OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

<u>Class Title</u>	<u>Class Code</u>	<u>Pay Band</u>	<u>Alt Pay Band*</u>
Occupational Therapists-B	K1122B	55	70
Occupational Therapists-O	K1122O	60	75
Occupational Therapists-A	K1122A	65	80

*\*In accordance with SPB Rule 1.7.4.10 NMAC, the assignment to alternative pay bands shall be reviewed annually to determine their appropriateness.*

#### Occupation Description

Assess, plan, organize, and participate in rehabilitative programs that help restore vocational, homemaking, and Daily living skills, as well as general independence, to disabled persons.

#### Nature of Work

Occupational therapists help patients improve their ability to perform tasks in living and working environments. They work with individuals who suffer from a mentally, physically, developmentally, or emotionally disabling condition. Occupational therapists use treatments to develop, recover, or maintain the daily living and work skills of their patients. The therapist helps clients not only to improve their basic motor functions and reasoning abilities, but also to compensate for permanent loss of function. The goal is to help clients have independent, productive, and satisfying lives.

#### Distinguishing Characteristics of Levels

*Note: Examples of Work are intended to be cumulative for each progressively higher level of work. The omission of specific statements does not preclude management from assigning other duties which are reasonably within the scope of the duties.*

#### Basic

- Employee in this Role provide routine occupational therapy services to patients, such as assessments, intervention, treatment implementation, and documentation to increase function and independence for daily living.

#### Recommended Education and Experience for Full Performance\*

Master's degree in Occupational Therapy from an accredited college or university and one (1) year paid experience as an Occupational Therapist.

#### Minimum Qualifications

Bachelor's Degree in Occupational Therapy and one (1) year paid experience as an Occupational Therapist.

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### Operational

- Employee in this Role provide specialized occupational therapy assessments, intervention, program planning, treatment implementation, and documentation to increase function and independence for daily living, inclusive of, but not limited to, patients in pediatrics, home health and rehabilitation centers, and those with development delays and dementia.

### Recommended Education and Experience for Full Performance

Master's degree in Occupational Therapy from an accredited college or university and two (2) years paid experience as an Occupational Therapist.

### Minimum Qualifications

Master's degree in Occupational Therapy from an accredited college or university and one (1) year paid experience as an Occupational Therapist.

### Advanced

- Employee in this Role direct occupational therapy assessment, treatment, intervention, administration, program planning, and documentation for acute and long term care patients to enable them to improve and/or restore their optimal functional abilities.

### Recommended Education and Experience for Full Performance

Master's degree in Occupational Therapy from an accredited college or university and four (4) years paid experience as an Occupational Therapist.

### Minimum Qualifications

Master's degree in Occupational Therapy from an accredited college or university and two (2) years paid experience as an Occupational Therapist.

### Knowledge and Skills

*Note: This information has been produced by compiling information and documentation provided by O\*NET. O\*NET™ is a trademark of the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.*

### Knowledge

**Therapy and Counseling** — Knowledge of principles, methods, and procedures for diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of physical and mental dysfunctions, and for career counseling and guidance.

**Psychology** — Knowledge of human behavior and performance; individual differences in ability, personality, and interests; learning and motivation; psychological research methods; and the assessment and treatment of behavioral and affective disorders.

**Education and Training** — Knowledge of principles and methods for curriculum and training design, teaching and instruction for individuals and groups, and the measurement of training effects.

**Sociology and Anthropology** — Knowledge of group behavior and dynamics, societal trends and influences, human migrations, ethnicity, cultures and their history and origins.

**Medicine and Dentistry** — Knowledge of the information and techniques needed to diagnose and treat human injuries, diseases, and deformities. This includes symptoms, treatment alternatives, drug properties and interactions, and preventive health-care measures.

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**Customer and Personal Service** — Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction.

**English Language** — Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.

**Administration and Management** — Knowledge of business and management principles involved in strategic planning, resource allocation, human resources modeling, leadership technique, production methods, and coordination of people and resources.

**Biology** — Knowledge of plant and animal organisms, their tissues, cells, functions, interdependencies, and interactions with each other and the environment.

### Skills

**Active Listening** — Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times.

**Reading Comprehension** — Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents.

**Speaking** — Talking to others to convey information effectively.

**Critical Thinking** — Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.

**Service Orientation** — Actively looking for ways to help people.

**Social Perceptiveness** — Being aware of others' reactions and understanding why they react as they do.

**Monitoring** — Monitoring/Assessing performance of yourself, other individuals, or organizations to make improvements or take corrective action.

**Time Management** — Managing one's own time and the time of others.

**Writing** — Communicating effectively in writing as appropriate for the needs of the audience.

**Active Learning** — Understanding the implications of new information for both current and future problem-solving and decision-making.

**Statutory Requirements:** All applicants for this position must be licensed in accordance with Occupational Therapy, 61-12A-1 through 61-12A-24 NMSA 1978 and 16.15.1 through 16.15.6 NMAC, as applicable.

You must include your license or certificate number in the "License" section of the application form.

**Conditions of Employment:** Working Conditions for individual positions in this classification will vary based on each *agency's utilization, essential functions, and the recruitment needs* at the time a vacancy is posted. All requirements are subject to possible modification to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities.

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**Default FLSA Status:** Exempt. FLSA status may be determined to be different at the agency level based on the agency's utilization of the position.

**Bargaining Unit:** This position may be covered by a collective bargaining agreement and all terms/conditions of that agreement apply and must be adhered to.

**Established:** 07/07/2001                      **Revised:** 9/20/2011

*\*Adapted from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics and are intended to illustrate the typical education and experience required for this occupation.*

*Note: Classification description subject to change. Please refer to the SPO website [www.spo.state.nm.us](http://www.spo.state.nm.us) to ensure this represents the most current copy of the description.*