



State of New Mexico  
Classification Description

## PHYSICAL THERAPIST

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### **General Summary**

Physical Therapists evaluate and diagnose movement dysfunctions and use interventions to treat patients, clients, and residents in a variety of healthcare settings. Work is performed under general supervision and is reviewed and evaluated by a rehabilitative services director, higher level therapists, and/or medical directors through personal observation of work, analysis of reports, periodic conferences and as evidenced by patients' progress.

### **Physical Therapy Assistant**

**Jobcode:** HPHV17

**Pay Band:** HE

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

### ***Distinguishing Characteristics***

Physical Therapy Assistant charged with implementing therapy plans through hands-on use of therapeutic techniques and adaptive devices, contributing to therapy plans through recommendation and documentation.

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

Associates' Degree in Physical Therapy, certification from the National Board for Certified Physical Therapy Assistant (CPTA) and licensure or application for licensure as a CPTA and two (2) years of experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

### ***Minimum Qualifications***

Associate's Degree in a relevant discipline (PT preferable), certification by passing the exam from the National Board for Certified Physical Therapy Assistant (CPTA) and licensure or application for licensure as a CPTA.

### ***Essential Duties and Responsibilities\****

- May schedule patients to fit an individualized schedule.
- Collaborates with nursing and physician staff to obtain additional patient information and makes suggestions for tailoring the plan for physical therapy services to benefit the patient to the fullest.
- Administers specialized treatments to address physical therapy needs (therapeutic exercises, etc)
- Assists in directing activity programs and documents the progress of treatments.
- Participates and performs portions of the evaluation and assessment of clients' needs for physical therapy services.
- Instruct, or assist in instructing, patients and families in home programs, basic living skills, or the care and use of adaptive equipment.

### **Physical Therapist I**

**Jobcode:** HPHY23

**Pay Band:** HG

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

### ***Distinguishing Characteristics***

Assesses patient condition, performs planning, administration and evaluation of physical therapy services.

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

Licensed as a Physical Therapist in the State of New Mexico and two (2) years of experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

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### ***Minimum Qualifications***

Licensed as a Physical Therapist in the State of New Mexico OR eligible to be licensed in New Mexico before date of hire.

### ***Essential Duties and Responsibilities\****

- Confers with, and carries out physician's instructions regarding patient treatment and progress.
- Assesses patient status; plans and implements treatment programs, which include the use of physical agents, manual therapy, and therapeutic exercise and activities.
- Administers physical therapy to patients through use of physical, chemical, and other properties of heat, light, water, electricity, scientific massage, and therapeutic exercise. Performs specialized treatments, gait and functional mobility assessments, patient pre-placement screening, safety awareness training, and wheelchair assessments.
- Instructs patients or family members of patients/clients/residents in exercise and activity which is to be continued after returning home.
- Consults with other members of the interdisciplinary team regarding physical therapy program.
- Instructs other team members in patient-specific therapy techniques;
- Maintains accurate and timely medical records.
- Maintains adaptive equipment.
- May provide work direction and clinical supervision to Physical Therapy Assistants and may supervise Physical Therapy aides.

### **Physical Therapist Supervisor\*\***

**Jobcode:** HPHY26

**Pay Band:** HH

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

### ***Distinguishing Characteristics***

Incumbents may be the only professional Physical Therapist at a facility with no higher level professional therapy supervision, or incumbents may provide services to one or more assigned facilities. Incumbents instruct, assign work, supervise, and evaluate physical therapy services and subordinate physical therapy personnel.

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

Licensed as a Physical Therapist in the State of New Mexico and five (5) years of experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification and two (2) years of supervisory experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

### ***Minimum Qualifications***

Licensed as a Physical Therapist in the State of New Mexico and two (2) years of experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

### ***Essential Duties and Responsibilities\****

- Performs all duties of Physical Therapist Level I.
- Directs physical therapy assessment, treatment, intervention, administration, program planning, and documentation for assigned populations to enable them to improve their optimal functional abilities.
- Provides oversight and consultation to first level Physical Therapists and/or PT Assistants, including review of documentation.
- Oversees plans of care, exercise programs, scheduling, and therapy treatments to ensure compliance with Medicare and other regulations regarding duration, intensity and quality of therapy provided.

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- Maintains accurate and timely medical records.
- Assesses, plans, organizes, and participates in rehabilitative programs that help restore vocational, homemaking and daily living skills and general independence to disabled persons.
- May oversee a maintenance program providing clinical supervision to physical therapy staff and Restorative Aides.
- May supervise Physical Therapy students and Physical Therapy Assistant students during fieldwork placements.
- Participates in departmental activities to comply with licensing, accreditation, and administrative policies.

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**Statutory Requirements:** Statutory requirements 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 including. It is the hiring Agencies responsibility to ensure the appropriate licenses/certifications are obtained for each position.

**Conditions of Employment:** Conditions of employment 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.

**Working Conditions:** Work is performed in a hospital or rehabilitation center setting. Late hours, extended shifts, weekends, and on-call/callback work may be required. May encounter combative or aggressive patients. May be required to lift and turn patients during therapy sessions. Will be exposed to regular periods of video display terminal and keyboard usage and stressful situations. Some travel may be required.

**Established:** 10/18/2019

**Revised:**

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*\*Essential Duties and Responsibilities 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 duties. Classification description subject to change. Please refer to SPO website ([www.spo.state.nm.us](http://www.spo.state.nm.us)) to ensure this represents the most current copy of the position.*

*\*\* Supervisor must supervise two (2) or more full-time positions.*