



**TOBAGO REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY  
HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
JOB DESCRIPTION**

<b>Job Title</b>	<b>Occupational Therapist – Paediatric Services</b>
<b>Department</b>	<b>Occupational Therapy</b>
<b>Reports to</b>	<b>Head of Department – Occupational Therapy</b>
<b>Head of Department</b>	<b>Head of Department – Occupational Therapy</b>
<b>Supervision Provided to</b>	<b>Occupational Therapists, Rehabilitation Assistants, Clerical Assistants</b>

**JOB SUMMARY**

The Occupational Therapist – Paediatric Services work with children and infants who exhibit difficulties in movement, coordination, sensory and cognitive problems. Some of the conditions treated include; birth defects or injuries, learning difficulties, developmental delay, and traumatic injuries to the brain or spinal cord. The therapist will need to have hospital and community experience working with this clientele.

**PRIMARY DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Provides occupational therapy assessments and intervention through individual and group sessions in the least restrictive environment or the child's environment to meet the identified needs and goals of patients.
- Collaborate with the individual, family members, caregivers and professionals to formulate goals and treatment plans for children.
- Provides service in child's natural environment (i.e. home, classroom) to promote generalization of the skills learned.
- Use clinical reasoning to develop the intervention program to meet the child's changing needs.
- Teach adults to encourage follow-up on home programs and environmental adaptations.
- Teach child by using compensatory strategies to meet the child's abilities.
- Use behavioural approaches to help manage the child's behaviour by understanding the child's sensory, motor, cognitive skills and social function.

- Liaise with the multidisciplinary team to provide client centered treatment plan.
- Advise on equipment and services available to patients as part of the occupational therapy program.
- Provide opportunities for student training in the advancement of the profession.
- Refer to various services for multidisciplinary involvement to meet the needs of patients.
- Adheres to protocols, guidelines, policies and procedures relevant to Accreditation Standards, Public Health, Infection Control, Occupational Health and Safety, MOH/DHWSP, Registering Board/Association and the TRHA
- Compliance with the Occupational Therapy Code of Conduct and Ethics
- Performs other related duties as assigned

### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES**

- Demonstrate creative problem-solving skills and knowledge.
- Demonstrate ability to work with adults and caregivers, family members, teachers and others involved in the child's life.
- Demonstrate leadership skills and able to take initiative, make sound judgments, and work independently within a multidisciplinary team.
- Demonstrate child management skills.
- Demonstrate good organizational skills and time management skills.
- Demonstrate good verbal and written communication skills.
- Demonstrate good understanding and sound background in pathological conditions.
- Physical ability to execute job responsibilities that may include: transferring and/or lifting patients or equipment, and managing equipment.

### **QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE**

- Training as evidenced by a Master's Degree Occupational Therapy, from an institution accredited by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT).
- Licensed and Registered to practice in Trinidad & Tobago, with the Council for Professions Related to Medicine.
- At least 1-2 years paediatric experience and exposure to hospital and community, setting can be considered for this post.
- Experience in physical dysfunction, hospital and community will be an asset.

### **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Physical and mental strength and capability to perform the manual requirements of the position.
- Willing to work overtime, public holidays, and weekends as requested by the HOD Occupational Therapist:

- The incumbent is required to perform Emergency On-call duties based on an On-call roster as directed by the Essential Service Industry Standards for a 24-hour Health Care System.
  - The incumbent is also required to work in a shift environment covering 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
- Staff must avail themselves as far as possible for duty in the event of an emergency or disaster.