

## MUSIC THERAPIST

Code No: 3-14-215  
COMPETITIVE

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is a professional position in a school district responsible for evaluating, planning and directing music activities designed to provide positive learning experiences leading to increased comprehension of self and environment for students with disabilities (ages 3 to 21 years). Students are referred to special education programs from physicians, therapists and teachers. The employee works closely with parents and teaching staff to aide in planning music activities according to student's needs, capabilities and interests. Therapy is provided in groups or on an individual basis. The employee works under the general supervision of and reports directly to the administrator of special education programs. Direct supervision is exercised over teacher aides assigned to the class. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES (All need not be performed in a given position. Other related activities may be performed although not listed.):

Works with parents, teachers and other staff to identify and evaluate individual learning and behavioral problems;

Develops, plans and directs music activities designed to provide positive learning experiences related to specific educational and behavioral needs;

Directs and participates in instrumental, vocal, and participatory music activities designed to meet students needs, such as solo or group singing, rhythmic and other creative music activities, music listening, etc;

Participates with teachers and other staff members to develop student's overall "Individual Education Plan" (I.E.P.);

Studies and analyzes student's reactions to various experiences, and records symptoms indicative of progress or regression on I.E.P.'s as mandated by State and Federal laws;

Familiarizes special education staff with music therapy programs;

Meets on a regular basis with student's parents to discuss achievements, progress and general information.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Good knowledge of music therapy, strategies, and practices; working knowledge of community resources related to music therapy; ability to plan and direct music activities designed to respond to the educational needs of students with disabilities; ability to evaluate, plan and implement individual therapy programs; ability to work in a team situation in order to benefit the student; ability to analyze student's reactions to therapy and record findings; ability to instruct others; ability to communicate well both orally and in writing; ability to establish good working relationships; patience; courtesy; tact; thoroughness; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's degree in Music Therapy.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Possession of (or eligible for) a Certification as a Music Therapist

by the Certification Board For Music Therapists, Inc. at time of appointment. Note: This credential is granted when an individual: 1. meets the academic requirement of successfully completing a degree in music therapy at a recognized college or university; 2. successfully completes a clinical internship in music therapy at an approved facility; and, 3. passes a national examination that is administered every November.

### **SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND BOCES**

Per Chapter 180 of the Laws of 2000, and by Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, to be employed in a position designated by a school district or BOCES as involving direct contact with students, a clearance for employment from the State Education Department is required.

ADOPTED: January 17, 1985  
REVISED: September 11, 1986  
REVISED: July 6, 2000