

## **SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

### **SPEECH & LANGUAGE SPECIALIST**

#### **DEFINITION**

To provide specialized services that include identification, assessment and instruction for students who qualify under state eligibility criteria related to language, speech, and hearing needs; consult with and provide in-service to school site staff in specialty area; and to perform related Speech & Language Specialist duties as assigned.

#### **EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES**

Assist in determining eligibility of students for specialized instructional services.

Provide speech and language therapy to individual students and to small groups of students.

Design and implement an Individualized Education Program with goals and objectives designed to remediate identified deficiencies for each eligible student.

Participate in team meetings to design/develop the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP).

Consult with instructional staff, parents, physicians, and outside agencies regarding specific speech, language, and remedial needs of students.

Attend IEP, staff development, and other meetings in the course of providing speech and language services.

Use alternative/augmentative communication and computer technologies to address individual student needs.

Interpret specialized educational program objectives to students, parents, staff members, districts, community members and others as required.

Review, prepare, and maintain records and confidential files; and write reports.

Promote development of positive self-esteem and feelings of accomplishment with students and instructional staff members.

Participate in professional development activities to maintain/increase competency in assigned Speech & Language Specialist activities.

Work within a budget to purchase, create, and organize specialized materials and resources needed to carry out assigned job duties.

Perform related Speech & Language Specialist services as assigned.

## **JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS**

### **Knowledge of:**

Effective methods, practices, and resources used for the screening, evaluation and therapy of students who may be deficient in communication abilities.

Applicable guidelines and standards pertaining to area of specialty.

Varied assessment processes used to determine student eligibility and placement in individualized educational programs.

### **Skill and Ability to:**

Apply pertinent state and federal regulations, guidelines, legal mandates, and educational codes related to delivery of speech & language specialist services.

Organize and prioritize the delivery of required specialized instructional services in an effective and timely manner.

Interact with colleagues, staff, parents, students, and the public in an open and constructive manner.

Meet the physical requirements necessary to perform assigned duties in a safe and effective manner for self and others.

## **EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE**

*Any combination of education, training, and experience that would likely provide the required knowledge and skills is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required knowledge and skills would be:*

### **Education:**

Possession of a Bachelor's/Master's Degree.

### **Experience:**

Recent speech & language therapy experience preferably including some teaching experience in a Special Education Program.

### **License or Certificate:**

Possession of an appropriate teaching credential with Language, Speech & Hearing Specialist authorization.

Possession of a valid Class C California Driver's License.

Insurability by the designed liability carrier for the Santa Cruz County Office of Education.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

*The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform essential functions. Essential duties require the following skills and working environment:*

Sitting frequently on a daily basis; bending and kneeling on a regular basis; standing and walking short distances; lifting 50 to 100 lbs. maximum, with frequent lifting of 10 to 25 lbs. Frequent use of hands, vision, hearing, speech/language processes; ability to use a variety of specialized instructional and assessment materials and supplies, telephone, computer, audiometer, testing/therapy tools, files, tape recorder, luggage cart, and automobile.

Assigned work is normally performed in a school site environment. Frequent travel between school sites is required, along with continuous contact with school staff, students, parents, community agencies, and the general public.

**Approval Date:** 1995.