



UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD6085

JOB TITLE:	Speech-Language Pathologist, Public Health	JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:	6085
CLASSIFICATION:	Speech/Language Pathologist P1	GRID/PAY LEVEL:	H-I-P1
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Health Science Professionals	HSCIS NO.:	52901
UNION:	BCGEU; CUPE	JOB/CLASS CODE:	52901
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	Population and Public Health	BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):	
REPORTING TO:	Manager or designate		
FACILITY/SITE:	VIHA South, Central and North Island Health Services Delivery Areas		

JOB SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Vision, Purpose, and Values, and strategic direction of the Vancouver Island Health Authority (Island Health), patient and staff safety is a priority and a responsibility shared by everyone; as such, the requirement to continuously improve quality and safety is inherent in all aspects of this position.

Reporting to the Manager or designate, The Speech-Language Pathologist, Public Health provides speech language pathology services to children who are under the age of kindergarten eligibility in community-based settings such as public health units by identifying, assessing, diagnosing and treating communication delays and disorders and/or difficulties with feeding and swallowing and providing relevant consultation and/or education for clients, families, caregivers, staff and the community, within professional scope of practice in accordance with the College of Health and Care Professionals of BC standards of practice. This position prioritizes referrals, assesses, develops and implements individual and group treatment programs to ensure optimum client care for assigned caseload. In partnership with Acute Care, the Speech-Language Pathologist, Public Health supports the transition of clients between acute care and community-based health services.

The Speech-Language Pathologist, Public Health contributes to the achievement of organizational and departmental objectives, in accordance with established standards of practice, Island Health policies, and work-related processes, procedures and guidelines, including safety and quality protocols.

Travel may be a requirement of this position. Transportation arrangements must meet the operational requirements of Island Health in accordance with the service assignment and may require the use of a personal vehicle.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Screens referrals and performs intake of clients with communication delay/disorder and/or difficulty with feeding and swallowing skills in community-based settings. Conducts assessments and/or examinations of patient status; interviews/gathers information from patient/family; reviews patient health record including test results to determine, develop and implement care/treatment plans using diverse approaches and/or coordinates services for patient.
2. Evaluates and prioritizes interventions including diagnostic and other testing procedures to support diagnosis and treatment of communication delays or disorders. Engages with patient and caregiver in setting treatment/service goals.
3. Provides education to client and family/caregiver regarding functional and rehabilitation issues of client; coaches client to ensure their maximum effort and cooperation and promotes their independence.

4. Monitors client progress, evaluates outcomes/goals and reassesses and/or modifies care/treatment plan and/or refers client to other health care resources as required. Identifies patient/family learning needs and provides related instruction, guidance and/or education materials.
5. Interprets the speech and language services provided by Island Health to other agencies in the community, informing the community of services offered and of the importance of early identification, intervention and prevention programs.
6. Collaborates with multi-disciplinary care teams, practice leaders, client, family and other partners in the provision of care across the continuum; provides clinical work direction to designated care providers and volunteers; and coordinates administrative tasks related to the provision of care.
7. Participates in employer programs and initiatives such as discharge planning, research activities, quality improvement, team conferences, meetings, and the development of new policies, procedures and standards for efficient program delivery and development.
8. Utilizes, maintains, and participates in the evaluation of work-related systems, tools, supplies, and equipment in the provision of care/treatment. Gathers, enters, reviews, and maintains patient information in health systems in accordance with CHCPBC Documentation Standards and Island Health Clinical Documentation Policy. Compiles/prepares reports.
9. Provides orientation, guidance, and collegial information or demonstration of equipment or work methods and processes to others including peers, new staff, and students. Provides instruction and/or supervision to students; evaluates and provides feedback on student progress. Provides work direction to support staff.
10. Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

- Graduation from a recognized university program in Speech-Language Pathology; and
- Current licensure in a practicing category with the College of Health and Care Professionals of BC as a Speech-Language Pathologist; and
- Valid Class 5 BC Driver's License.

Skills And Abilities

- **Communication:** Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with patients, families, the public, medical staff and multi-disciplinary teams using verbal, written and computer-based communication. Ability to utilize conflict resolution skills to promote collaboration and effective problem-solving in multi-disciplinary settings.
- **Judgment:** Demonstrated ability to exercise good professional judgment with empathy, tact and integrity when dealing with patients and their families/caregivers. Ability to promote culturally safe, patient focused care by incorporating an understanding of cultural and spiritual beliefs and preferences, patient advocacy and social justice concerns to enhance service provision and decision making.
- **Teamwork:** Demonstrated ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships in a complex, multi-disciplinary environment.
- **Organization:** Demonstrated ability to independently organize work, set objectives, problem-solve and establish priorities in a complex, continuously changing environment. Manages time and resources effectively to consistently complete tasks with accuracy in the interest of ensuring effective and timely delivery of services.
- **Equipment:** Demonstrated ability to operate equipment including computerized systems, Microsoft Office Suite applications and clinical software programs. Ability to operate other related equipment as required in the specific practice area.
- **Physical Ability:** Physical ability to perform the duties of the position.