



JOB DESCRIPTION

Role: Occupational Therapist – Housing & Manual Handling (full-time)
Location: Saffron Walden with frequent travel to Southend-on-Sea
Salary: £26,000 - £30,000 per annum depending on experience

Company Description

We are a private housing occupational therapy company, designing and adapting homes for the less able. We work with clients who have suffered catastrophic injuries and are involved in litigation claims against third parties. We also work on behalf of a local authority adaptations team, with clients of all ages who have chronic medical conditions.

This role will involve supporting the local authority adaptations team to provide major and minor adaptations and specialist equipment to people's homes, to improve independence and safety. Knowledge of specialist equipment, adaptations and manual handling is required in order to recommend suitable solutions for clients.

Design for Independence is growing and we are looking for talented and creative occupational therapists to join us. As part of the role, there will be opportunities for professional development and training.

Job Overview

Your role will involve undertaking occupational therapist assessments of the housing needs of adults with disabilities. You will be asked to come up with suitable solutions to your clients' challenging problems. In this role you will have the ability to improve people's lives by recommending adaptations to overcome environmental barriers.

About the Person

This role will suit you if you have 2-3 years of occupational therapist experience specialising in housing and manual handling. You will be passionate about improving people's lives and also wanting to develop yourself and your career. You may currently be working in a local authority, looking to move to a commercial role or someone currently in private practise wanting to join a company at an exciting time of its growth, with a team who make a real difference!

We are looking for someone who always wants to do more and better. We are a small team of people at the office and we are looking for someone to join us and support the positive caring environment we share.

Key Responsibilities and Duties

1. You will be working with adults, particularly older people to provide solutions to their housing needs. Clients may have physical, sensory and mental health issues and some may be wheelchair users.
2. You will need to work in partnership with the local authority Adaptation Team and Equipment Services.

3. Your role will be to identify risks in the home and to identify solutions to mitigate these risks.
4. You will be competent at documenting your work, for example writing case notes, reports and specifications and presenting your cases in a variety of ways and in a number of different forums.
5. You will be required to travel within the UK to visit clients. You must hold a clean licence and be happy to travel and stay away from home if needed.
6. You will adhere to the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct standards of the College of Occupational Therapists.

Qualifications and Requirements

Experience:

- 2- 3 years occupational therapist experience specialising in Housing and Manual Handling
- Some experience working with surveyors, architects, building trades and planning departments
- Good communication skills, both written and verbal
- Good assessment and problem-solving skills
- Good clinical reasoning
- Committed to continuous professional development
- Self-motivated and ability to work autonomously as well as part of a team
- Ability to prioritise own workload and to work with minimum supervision

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science honours degree in Occupational Therapy
- Registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)
- Registered with the Royal College of Occupational Therapy
- Current driving licence and access to transport (travel expenses will be paid per HMRC guidelines)

Knowledge:

- Government legislation and guidance affecting this service area
- Benefits and grants available for people with disabilities
- Knowledge and experience of the effects of disability on the individual
- Understanding of building materials, building design and structure, construction process and the role of key people within it

Core Competencies

- Client Service - ability to respond to the clients and anticipate their needs
- Analytical Thinking – ability to apply logic to solve problems and get the job done
- Creative Thinking and Flexibility - ability to look outside the box and develop new strategies
- Initiative and Decision Making - can make decisions and take responsibility for them
- Excellent communication - can use language effectively to gather information and facilitate the exchange of ideas

Relationships



Reports to: Senior Occupational Therapist

Travel and Transport

This role is office-based in Saffron Walden with regular travel to Southend-on-Sea. Occasional wider UK travel and overnight stops may be required, as dictated by client and team requirements.