REHABILITATION ASSISTANT

JOB SUMMARY
Performs rehabilitation assistant duties such as implementing individual and group interventions and activities that improve or maintain functional abilities of patients. Maintains records and performs related duties by utilizing a personal computer, word processing software tools, and related equipment. (Additional details below)

TRAINING / EXPERIENCE NEEDED
- Grade 12, completion of Rehabilitation Assistant Program plus,
- One year recent experience
- Or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience.

PROGRAM LENGTH
- 2 years full time

SKILLS AND ABILITIES NEEDED
- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing.
- Physical ability to carry out the duties of the position.
- Ability to organize work.
- Ability to deal effectively with others.
- Ability to operate related equipment.

POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS
- Vancouver Community College (link)
- Capilano College (link)
- For a complete list of Canadian Colleges and Universities that offer Rehabilitation Assistant training and are recognized by VIHA, click on this (link).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Grade 12 graduation, GED or equivalent with Human Biology 12 (OR VCC BIOL 1094) and Math 11*
- If a C+ was not achieved in Math 11*, applicants must write the VCC Basic Arithmetic Assessment and score 80% or higher
- English 12 with a ‘B’ or equivalent
- 30 hours of paid or volunteer experience working with people with disabilities as verified by a supervisor, employer or educational institute. Click here for the Work Experience Verification form in PDF form.
- All requests for transfer credits or course exemptions for all courses in the program must be submitted with application to the program. Click here for Request for Transfer Credit (PDF) form.
- All of the above admission requirements must be attached to your application

Upon acceptance:
- Current CPR - Level C
- Proof of a negative TB skin test or chest xray. For further information about Health requirements click here
- Criminal Record Search Each applicant is responsible for any costs incurred. Applicants who have drug-related charges should consult with the Registrar's Office prior to applying to the program. The CRS must be received by the Registrar's Office prior to the first day of class.

Recommended characteristics
- Excellent command of spoken and written English

QUICK FACTS
The Wage
- 2008 - 2009  $20.01 per hour
- 2009 - 2010  $20.55 per hour

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Recommended characteristics
- Excellent command of spoken and written English
- Ability to communicate effectively with people of all ages
- Good health and physical stamina
- Patience, empathy and a genuine interest in promoting the independence of others
- Good observational and organizational skills
- Ability to follow directions and work as part of a team
- Updated immunizations
- Basic computer and word processing skills

Vancouver Community College requirements. Subject to change. Requirements will vary between educational facilities.

**JOB TASKS - A SAMPLE**

- Conducts individual and group therapeutic activities, such as therapeutic ambulation, wheelchair mobility training (manual and power), exercise classes, individual prescribed exercises, cognitive groups, meal management, and social groups, to restore, improve, and maintain patients functional abilities. As instructed, assists therapist during direct treatment or during assessment sessions.
- Prepares patients for treatment by transporting to and from treatment area, assisting with removal and application of orthoses, prostheses, and clothing as required.
- Instructs patients in self care and instrumental activities of daily living to provide skill practice.
- Reports observations on patient progress and condition to staff therapist and other appropriate team members.
- Assists therapist in making, modifying, and adapting self-help devices and equipment.
- Assists in the inventory, ordering, and maintenance of therapy equipment, to ensure that appropriate supplies are available for patient activities.
- Completes minor repairs and reports malfunctioning equipment to therapist and Plant Services.
- Participates in patient conferences to provide feedback to care teams on patient progress, as required.
- Maintains records such as statistics, and inventories, and performs related duties by utilizing a personal computer, word processing software tools, and related equipment.
- Maintains work area by cleaning, transporting, storing and inspecting equipment and supplies.
- Participates in team meetings, in-services and quality improvement initiatives.
- Prepares purchase requisitions and/or uses petty cash to purchase department supplies.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.