



Creative Minds International PCS Accepting Applications Occupational Therapist, SY 2017-18

Creative Minds International Public Charter School (CMIPCS) is currently seeking an Occupational Therapist. Occupational therapists in the school setting help children with disabilities participate fully in school and social situations. As an inclusion-focused school, CMIPCS ensures students receive occupational therapy supports to fully access the high quality education we provide.

About CMIPCS

CMIPCS is a tuition-free school located in NW Washington, DC, authorized to serve students from preschool through 8th grade. Now in its fifth year of operation, CMI serves 341 students in Preschool (3 year olds) through 6th grade. Beginning this school year, CMIPCS expanded to include two 6th-grade classes, marking the opening of its new Middle School. Two sections of 7th grade will be added in 2017-2018 with 2 classes of 8th being offered in the subsequent year.

Our mission is to provide students with the foundational skills required for successful participation in a global society. CMIPCS is a unique and dynamic working environment with a respectful and positive school culture. We offer a highly-engaging, international curriculum with project- and arts-based activities with an emphasis in STEAM that foster creativity, self-motivation, social and emotional development, and academic excellence.

The Position

The Occupational Therapist collaborates with the Director of Inclusion, Special Education Coordinator, related service providers, and general education staff. Occupational Therapists (OTs) employed by CMIPCS are committed in helping students with disabilities become successful in their learning environments. This staff member is expected to participate as an active member of the school team. Candidates should be passionate about helping students on their cognitive, physical, sensory and motor skills in the school setting. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Serving as the school-based occupational therapist for assessment and implementation of individualized education programs for students with special needs in assigned schools.
- Developing individualized goals and objectives to facilitate eligible student's active participation/acquisition of functional performance skills in self-maintenance, academic and vocational pursuits, and leisure/play activities that occur in school environments.
- Preparing written/oral reports/presentations for determining student's eligibility for special education services.
- Utilizing direct and indirect services, assistive technology and/or environmental modifications to implement special educational programming and to provide for the development of sensorimotor, perceptual or neuromuscular functioning, and emotional, motivational, cognitive, or psychosocial performance.
- Maintaining confidential files which include assessments, reviews, test results, IEPs, documentation of consultations, and Service Tracker Forms.
- Participating in planning team meetings for students and discusses student's response to OT treatment; makes recommendations to enhance student's function in other areas; and may make or recommend referrals to other disciplines as appropriate.
- Reviewing and interpreting independently generated therapy and medical reports; and serves as a resource in reporting findings to other health care and related service providers.
- Collaborating with general education teachers, special education teachers and other related service providers to identify instructional strategies and accommodations/modifications that promote student success in the inclusive general education classroom.
- Modifying and augmenting environment (including use of assistive technology)
- Delivering individual and group therapy in accordance with the students' Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
- Developing intervention plans based on student needs and evaluation results.
- Providing continuing education and in-service training for educational personnel, parents, and community based service providers

- Support classroom teachers in the implementation of IEP goals, design instructional supports by modifying/adapting curriculum;
- Prepare quarterly individual student progress reports;
- Communicate with families regarding service delivery and progress;
- Encourage families' involvement in students' therapy goals;
- Document and report student progress toward achievement of annual goals by collecting and interpreting data;
- Attend and participate in parent conferences and IEP meetings;
- Act as a resource to staff;
- Provide training to one-on-one Dedicated Aide working with students in the classroom;
- Participate in continued professional growth activities to advance knowledge of effective instructional curriculum and methodologies for students with special needs;
- Attend the two-week summer institute and other required professional development sessions.

Desired Qualities

- Commitment to the success of each and every student;
- Demonstrated communication skills;
- Demonstrated ability and experience to engage the interest of school-age children;
- Demonstrated ability to work with diverse children
- Teaching experience in a public or private school, preferably in an urban setting;
- Demonstrated ability to work well with parents;
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively as a team member;
- Knowledge of state requirements for special education;
- Experience in writing and monitoring IEPs and communicating with families and service providers to support students;
- Commitment to professional growth.

Minimum Qualifications

- Master's degree in Occupational Therapy;
- 3+ years of therapy experience;
- Experience working with special needs students in an inclusive setting.

Desired Qualifications

- Experience using the Special Education Data System (SEDS/EasyIEP);
- Specialized and differentiated methods of instruction for a wide variety of students and their needs;
- Evaluative strategies to assess the effective delivery of special education services and support.

Why join CMIPCS?

Our mission is to provide students with the foundational skills required for successful participation in a global society by offering a highly engaging, international curriculum with project- and arts-based activities that foster creativity, self-motivation, social and emotional development, and academic excellence.

At CMIPCS you will join a staff uniquely committed to a vision of inclusion and equity for all types of learners. At CMIPCS you will find a team of educators who deeply believe that *all* students can learn and *will make a contribution to their community*. Our dedication to Arts-Integration allows for a creative and collaborative atmosphere, as classroom lead teachers, support staff, and enlightenment teachers all work together to plan engaging and enriching content that weaves the Arts into all subjects. At CMIPCS, we take seriously the idea that "no significant learning occurs without a significant relationship." Each of our educators, regardless of role or responsibility, is committed to seeking out best practices for delivering instruction and responding to the academic and social-emotional needs of *all* children. The CMIPCS teacher is empathetic and welcoming of mistakes (both academic and behavioral) because CMIPCS educators know that mistakes lead to learning opportunities if children are held to high standards.

CMIPCS offers an exceptional and dynamic working environment with a positive and supportive culture including small class sizes (approximately 20), higher than average adult to student ratios, weekly and monthly professional development, comprehensive and generous benefits including medical, dental,



401K (with employer contributions), short and long term disability, life insurance, paid school holidays, personal and sick days, and parental and family leave, among others.

For more information about CMI, visit our website <http://www.creativemindspcs.org/> and follow us on [Twitter @cmipcs](#).

To Apply

A successful application will include a resume and a cover letter detailing relevant experience and qualifications for this position. Please submit the requested information to cmi.inclusion@creativemindspcs.org. We will only be contacting candidates selected for interviews and will require letters of recommendation and/or references for any candidates being considered for this position.

Note: Nothing in this job description restricts management's right to assign or reassign duties and responsibilities to this job at any time. Creative Minds International PCS is an Equal Opportunity employer. Personnel are chosen on the basis of ability without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, marital status or sexual orientation, in accordance with federal and state law.