Job Class Profile: Prosthetic/Orthotic Technician III

Pay Level: CG-29 Point Band: 622-675

Factor	Knowledge	Interpersonal Skills	Physical Effort	Concentration	Complexity	Accountability & Decision Making	Impact	Development and Leadership	Environmental Working Conditions	Total Points
Rating	5	3	5	6	3	3	4	1	5	
Points	233	50	32	29	90	65	83	21	54	657

JOB SUMMARY

The Prosthetic/Orthotic Technician III is responsible for all technical aspects of the laboratory dedicated to the custom fabrication and repair of orthotic and prosthetic devices.

Key and Periodic Activities

- Laminates prosthetic sockets. Prepares cast, material and vacuum station; finishes trimlines, and aligns sockets.
- Molds prosthetic check sockets or liners. Prepares cast, material and vacuum station; finishes trimlines and aligns sockets or posts orthoses and attaches stapling and padding.
- Repairs all types of prosthetic/orthotic devices to restore functionality including replacing components such as joint, foot, tube clamping, pylon, or structural repair of socket, orthosis, padding, strapping or leather.
- Researches possible repair options and corresponds with manufacturer's technical support.
- Completes cosmetic finishing of prostheses to properly fit the client.
- Completes plaster work.
- Restocks supplies in casting/modifying/fabricating rooms; advises management of equipment or supply issues; and assists with annual inventory counts.
- Attends in-service education sessions.

SKILL

Knowledge

General and Specific Knowledge:

- Fabrication of artificial limbs and range of bracing devices
- Preparing casts and molds to bench alignment
- Myoelectrics, biomechanics and componentry.

Formal Education and/or Certification(s):

- Minimum: High School and a 2 Year Specialized Post-Secondary Diploma in Fabrication of Devices and a Professional Designation as a RTO (Registered Technician Orthotics), RTP (Registered Technician Prosthetics) or RTPO (Registered Technician Prosthetic and Orthotics). This is full time 4 semester college diploma with a required internship and completion of a

certification board examination.

Years of Experience:

— Minimum: Up to 3 years

Competencies:

— The use of machinery such as band saws, drill presses, and handheld rotary tools.
— Strong artistic design skills
— Identifying materials and components for devices
— Coordinate a range of related work or project activities

Interpersonal Skills

— A range of interpersonal skills are used to perform activities such as listen to and ask questions (to receive good information as they may be working to fabricate devices for more than one clinician at any time), periodically communicate complex information and deal with upset or angry clients when devices do not fit properly.
— Communications occur with a range of contacts including employees within the immediate work area; clients; supervisors/mangers and with suppliers/contractors.
— The most significant contact is with other technicians to discuss technical fabrication details, clients, the manager/supervisor, and explaining verbally and in writing technical details for device duplication.

EFFORT

Physical Effort

— Constantly required to exert physical effort which can result in fatigue requiring periods of rest and requires strength and endurance. Work has a continuous flow of physical activity as most of its time is fabrication; however, as multiple projects are ongoing at any time, may be able to take a break from physically demanding activities and perform less demanding ones if fatigue sets in.
— Lifts various fabrication materials weighing between 25 and 50 lbs. such as plaster materials, and 4’x8’ sheets of stock materials, works with plaster casts which can be quite heavy and many of the items are awkwardly shaped making lifting and moving difficult.
— Physical effort includes lifting and holding devices during various phases of fabrication which requires prolonged periods of being in awkward/cramped positions.
— Uses gross motor skills to lift sheets of materials, and to pour plaster. Riveting and chiselling plaster from a socket requires rapid physical movement requiring reflexes.

Concentration

— **Visual concentration** is required to mark reference lines on devices being fabricated, and when using machinery such as a band saw, inspecting componentry, reading precise measurements, and matching pigmentation.
— **Auditory concentration** includes listening to multiple stakeholders while working in a noisy environment, and for signs of equipment malfunction.
— **Other sensory concentration includes touch** for assessing surface finishes, transition of trimlines, etc.

— **Higher than normal levels of attentiveness** are required when working with students or volunteers as they use fabrication machinery; therefore, attention is critical to ensure their safety.
— Required to work under **deadlines** to have devices ready for clients, and when using bonding agents such as resins that dry quickly.
— **Eye/hand coordination** is required in all aspects of fabrication work as work is completed by using hand held tools.
— **Exact results and precision** are required to ensure a device is going to fit and benefit the client and any deviations from exact specifications will result in misalignment making the device non-functional.

Complexity

— Required to deal with highly technical tasks or problems. Tasks are generally quite different but allow for use of similar skills and knowledge. While all tasks relate to the fabrication and repair of prosthesis and orthoses, each device has different requirements and therefore must be constantly aware of these differences and any new techniques available.
— For each piece of work assigned, problems include assessing a work order and deciding on a course of action while taking into consideration factors such as availability of materials, work stations, co-workers and time to complete.
— There are various manuals and guidelines to assist and help from other technicians and co-workers, and manufacturer's technical support are available.

RESPONSIBILITY

Accountability and Decision-Making

— Work tasks and activities are generally prescribed or controlled. Reports to a Prosthetist/Orthotist.
— Responsible for all technical aspects of the laboratory dedicated to the custom fabrication and repair of orthotic and prosthetic devices.
— Without formal approval, is able to remove items from the stockroom as required for a job and can restock supplies in specific areas of the workplace.
— Formal approval is required to requisition non-stock materials and tools.
— Have the discretion to requisition personal protective equipment.
— Discretion and judgement are exercised to interpret directions and apply guidelines during the execution of a work order as the work order will state what the end result is but leaves room to determine how to reach the end result. Team work is critical as work is performed to the expectation levels of the Prosthetist/Orthotist and the client.

Impact

— Generally has impact within immediate work area, department, and on clients. Additionally, work activities may impact equipment, finances (i.e. clients are billed for devices fabricated), and material resources.
— Work can have a positive or negative impact on client functionality. Clients could incur injury or suffer setbacks in rehabilitative therapy, if devices are not fabricated correctly or malfunction, depending on whether the fabricated devices meet the client needs.

— Errors are generally detected by clients during fittings and are resolved within a reasonable time period. There are static and dynamic checks with the client wearing the device prior to leaving the work place.
Development and Leadership of Others
— Not responsible for supervision of staff. — May provide advice/guidance/direction/orientation to new technicians. Also shares opinions about materials to be used and different approaches to completing tasks to other technicians and clinicians.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Environmental Working Conditions
— Required to use safety precautions and equipment such as wearing a respirator, eye protection, hearing protection and covering skin when working with irritants such as fibreglass. — There is a moderate likelihood of receiving minor cuts, bruises and abrasions; however, there is a lesser likelihood of any illness or injury beyond this level of severity. — Work is performed in an open workshop environment with regular exposure to fumes (i.e. glue, glue thinner, resin, carbon and fibreglass), unusual distracting noise (i.e. equipment and hand held tools), lack of privacy, hazardous chemicals, toxic or poisonous substances, sharp objects, and heavy machinery; and occasional exposure to limited ventilation, vibration, odours, wet/slippery surfaces and confined spaces.