

Physical Therapist Assistant (Associate of Applied Science) - Memphis

Associate of Applied Science Program

Contact Hours: 1,845

Semester Credits: 78

Instructional Weeks – Full Time: 80

Average Time to Complete – Full Time: 20 Months

Program offered at: Memphis, Tennessee

Physical Therapist Assistant (Associate of Applied Science) Mission Statement

The program provides students with diverse training in the classroom and laboratory as well as real-world experiences. Students will acquire the theoretical knowledge, technical skills, critical reasoning, and professional behaviors necessary to obtain entry-level positions as physical therapist assistants. The program prepares students to successfully complete the National Physical Therapist Assistant Examination (NPTAE).

Learning Objectives / Instructional Outcomes

The program includes current practice and include real-world clinical experiences, preparing the graduate to perform selected interventions and data collection, as well as assess the patient's/client's safety and response to interventions. Program graduates will recognize, respect, and act with consideration for individual differences, values, preferences, and expressed needs. Additionally, PTA graduates will effectively communicate with other members of the healthcare delivery team, interact with members of the patient's/client's family and caregivers, and work cooperatively with other healthcare providers. In collaboration with the Physical Therapist, PTA graduates will participate in the education of other healthcare providers, patients/clients and their families or primary caregivers, as well as the community.

Career Overview

Physical Therapist Assistants (PTA) provide physical therapy services under the direction and supervision of a licensed Physical Therapist. The PTA implements the Physical Therapist's plan of care, assessing patient status and modifying selected interventions to progress and protect the safety and comfort of the patient. The PTA helps people of all ages who have impairments that limit movement, function, work and recreational activities. The PTA works in a variety of settings, including hospitals, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, private practices, outpatient clinics, home health, skilled nursing facilities, schools, sports facilities, and more. The PTA provides a variety of physical therapy techniques as they carry out the Physical Therapist's plan of care for the patient, including therapeutic exercise, functional training, soft tissue mobilization, and physical modalities, such as electrotherapy and ultrasound. The PTA may also assist the Physical Therapist in injury prevention, fitness, and wellness-oriented programs for a healthier and a more active lifestyle. To work as a PTA, an individual must graduate from a PTA program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), must apply and be accepted as a licensed/certified PTA applicant, and must pass the National Physical Therapist Assistant Examination (NPTAE) and, if required by the state, the state jurisprudence examination. Other requirements vary from state to state, according to physical therapy practice acts or state regulations governing physical therapy.

In order to graduate from the Physical Therapist Assistant (Associate of Applied Science) program, students must successfully complete the following curriculum:

Program Delivery

The Physical Therapist Assistant program is delivered in a blended format. Courses will be delivered entirely online, entirely on-ground or with an appropriate blend of both online and on-ground hours in the same course. Of the 1,845 program hours, a maximum of 470 course hours (25.5%) may be offered online (including general education courses). Campuses may have the option to deliver general education courses either online or on-ground depending on local need and availability.

Course #	Course Title	Theory Hours (Ground/Online)	Lab Hours (Ground/Online)	Clinical Hours (Ground/Online)	Semester Credit Hours
BIOL1310 *	Anatomy & Physiology I	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
BIOL1320 *	Anatomy & Physiology II	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
ENGL1310 *	English Composition I	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
COMM1310 *	Elements of Human Communication	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
PSYC1310 *	General Psychology	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
PSYC1320 *	Human Growth & Development	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
MATH Elective*	MATH1310 Contemporary Mathematics or MATH1320 College Algebra	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
PTAP1201	Functional & Applied Anatomy Lab	0	60 (60 / 0)	0	2
PTAP1210	Patient Care Skills	30 (21 / 9)	0	0	2
PTAP1211	Patient Care Skills Lab	0	60 (60 / 0)	0	2
PTAP1221	Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation Lab	0	60 (60 / 0)	0	2
PTAP1240	Modalities	30 (21 / 9)	0	0	2
PTAP1241	Modalities Lab	0	45 (45 / 0)	0	1.5
PTAP1300	Introduction to Physical Therapy	45 (30 / 15)	0	0	3
PTAP1320	Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation	45 (30 / 15)	0	0	3
PTAP1350	Pathology for the Physical Therapist Assistant	45 (30 / 15)	0	0	3
PTAP1400	Functional & Applied Anatomy	60 (42 / 18)	0	0	4
PTAP2121	Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Lab	0	30 (30 / 0)	0	1
PTAP2131	Rehabilitation for Specialized Disorders Lab	0	30 (30 / 0)	0	1
PTAP2201	Neuromuscular Rehabilitation Lab	0	75 (75 / 0)	0	2.5
PTAP2210	Rehabilitation Through the Lifespan	30 (18 / 12)	0	0	2
PTAP2220	Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation	30 (18 / 12)	0	0	2
PTAP2230	Rehabilitation for Specialized Disorders	30 (18 / 12)	0	0	2
PTAP2340	Special Topics for the Physical Therapist Assistant	45 (27 / 18)	0	0	3

PTAP2400	Neuromuscular Rehabilitation	60 (40 / 20)	0	0	4
PTAP2525	Clinical Experience I	0	0	240 (240 / 0)	5
PTAP2535	Clinical Experience II	0	0	240 (240 / 0)	5
PTAP2545	Clinical Experience III	0	0	240 (240 / 0)	5
Total		765 (295/470)	360 (360/0)	720 (720/0)	78

* These courses may be offered entirely online or entirely on-ground at the campus.

Students who have successfully completed a degree in Kinesiology, Athletic Training, or other Health Sciences area (Associates or higher) containing a minimum of six semester credits of anatomy & physiology may receive a block transfer of seven General Education courses totaling 21 semester credits, upon evaluation of transcript. The block transfer includes the courses: BIOL1310, BIOL1320, ENGL1310, COMM1310, PSYC1310, PSYC1320, MATH1310 (or MATH1320). The remaining credits required to complete the program is 57. Additional courses may be available for transfer based on review of course descriptions from the granting institution.

Block Transfer Courses

Course #	Course Title	Theory Hours (Ground/Online)	Lab Hours (Ground/Online)	Clinical Hours (Ground/Online)	Semester Credit Hours
BIOL1310	Anatomy & Physiology I	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
BIOL1320	Anatomy & Physiology II	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
ENGL1310	English Composition I	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
COMM1310	Elements of Human Communication	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
PSYC1310	General Psychology	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
PSYC1320	Human Growth & Development	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
MATH Elective	MATH1310 Contemporary Mathematics or MATH1320 College Algebra	45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
Total		315 (0/315)	0	0	21