

# Physical Therapist Assistant (11-12)

## Associate in Applied Science in Allied Health & Life Science

### Program Description:

Physical Therapist Assistants (PTA) are educated, skilled healthcare workers who work under the supervision of a Physical Therapist (PT). PTA's assist in implementing physical therapy interventions in accordance with an established plan of care. Physical Therapist Assistants perform various treatment procedures which may involve the therapeutic use of water, massage, ultrasound, and the thermal properties of light and electricity to promote healing and relieve pain. The assistant also implements exercise programs designed for the restoration of strength, endurance, coordination, relaxation, and range of motion.

The program is designed to facilitate problem-solving, critical thinking, group interaction and improved self-assessment skills. The program is designed in a 1 + 1 curricular format. The first year's general prerequisite courses total 34 credit hours, focusing on General Studies. Students receive foundational courses in functional human and neuroanatomy.

Through **selective** admissions, students are admitted into the second year of the program. This year consists of Physical Therapist Assistant Technical Education courses. Second-year courses include a comprehensive curriculum in adult, orthopedic, pediatric and spinal cord rehabilitation. Student will be required to complete 720 hours of full-time clinical education. The costs of clinical education (travel, housing, incidentals) are the responsibility of the student.

### Career Outlook:

Employment of Physical Therapist Assistants is expected to grow much faster than the average. The impact of proposed Federal legislation imposing limits on reimbursement for therapy services may adversely affect the short-term job outlook for PTAs. However, over the long run, demand for PTAs and aides will continue to rise in accordance with growth in the number of individuals with disabilities or limited function. The growing elderly population is particularly vulnerable to chronic and debilitating conditions that require therapeutic services. These patients often need additional assistance in their treatment, making the roles of assistants vital. The large baby-boom generation is entering the prime age for heart attacks and strokes, further increasing the demand for cardiac and physical rehabilitation. In addition, future medical developments should permit an increased percentage of trauma victims to survive, creating added demand for therapy services.

### Employment Opportunities:

- Home health
- Acute care hospitals
- Private practice offices
- Rehabilitation hospitals
- Skilled nursing units
- School systems
- Nursing homes
- Outpatient departments

### Admission Requirements:

Admission to the PTA Program is **selective**. Students seeking admission into the PTA Program at Mountwest may arrange and appointment with the program faculty prior to submitting their application packet. This is to ensure that students receive current information

regarding the program admission requirements and the criteria for selection.

- Application packets are available after October 15 from the Allied Health & Life Sciences Division, Cabell Hall, Room 304
- Students may contact the program offices to schedule an appointment at 304-696-3008 or 304-696-3981
- Application deadline is February 15
- Applications are valid only for the noted academic year

### Accreditation:

The PTA program is accredited by the Commission of Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association (CAPTE). For additional information, contact the American Physical Therapy Association, Department of Accreditation at: 1-800-999-APTA or online at <http://www.apta.org/>.

### Contact Information:

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## First Year

## Fall Semester – 17 hours

ENL 111	Written Communication	3 hours	Completed_____	When_____	Grade_____
*BIOL 260	Applied Human Anatomy <sup>11**</sup>	4 hours	Completed_____	When_____	Grade_____
*BIOL 265	Applied Human Physiology <sup>12**</sup>	4 hours	Completed_____	When_____	Grade_____
IT 101	Fundamentals of Computers	3 hours	Completed_____	When_____	Grade_____
MAT 145	Applications in Algebra	3 hours	Completed_____	When_____	Grade_____

## Spring Semester – 17 hours

COM 112	Oral Communication <sup>15</sup>	3 hours	Completed_____	When_____	Grade_____
BIOL 221	Structural Kinesiology <sup>2,13**</sup>	4 hours	Completed_____	When_____	Grade_____
BIOL 245	Physiology of Exercise <sup>2,14**</sup>	3 hours	Completed_____	When_____	Grade_____
SCI 110	Introductory Physics <sup>3**</sup>	4 hours	Completed_____	When_____	Grade_____
SS Elective <sup>1</sup>	_____	3 hours	Completed_____	When_____	Grade_____

## Second Year

**Second Year Admission Requirements** “C” or better in all 1<sup>st</sup> year curriculum classes, a cumulative GPA of 2.0, BS GPA of 2.75, Gen Ed GPA of 2.50 and admission to the PTA Program.

## Summer Semester – 3 hours

PTA 100	Introduction to Physical Therapy <sup>4</sup>	3 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
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## Fall Semester – 16 hours

PTA 110	Physical Therapy Modalities	2 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 110L	Physical Therapy Modalities Lab <sup>5</sup>	1 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 120	Patient Care Skills	2 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 220L	Patient Care Skills Lab <sup>5</sup>	1 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 130	Functional Anatomy & Procedures	3 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 130L	Functional Anatomy & Proc. Lab <sup>5</sup>	1 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 140	Clinical Practice I <sup>6,7</sup>	1 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 150	Clinical Practice II <sup>6,7</sup>	2 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 160	Neuroanatomy & Physiology	3 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____

## Spring Semester – 19 hours

PTA 200	Pathological Conditions	3 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 220	Orthopedic Rehabilitation	3 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 220L	Orthopedic Rehabilitation Lab	1 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 230	Adult Rehabilitation	3 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 230L	Adult Rehabilitation Lab <sup>5</sup>	1 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 240	Clinical Practice III <sup>6,9</sup>	4 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 250	Peds & Spinal Cord Rehab	2 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 250L	Peds & Spinal Cord Rehab Lab <sup>5</sup>	1 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
PTA 270	PTA Seminar	1 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____

## Summer Semester – 4 hours

PTA 260	Clinical Practice IV <sup>6,9</sup>	4 hours	Completed_____	Grade_____
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## Hours required for graduation – 76 hours

## Requirement Associated With Completion of the Prerequisite Courses (\*\*)

If you have already taken the basic science courses they must have been successfully completed with the last 5 years in order to receive credit. Regardless of the grade achieved, students must re-take any course not meeting these timelines in order to receive credit toward meeting this admission criterion. Courses complete prior to admission into the PTA Program must have been completed with a minimum grade of “C” in order to be considered “successfully” completed.

\* BIOL 260 & 265 have a prerequisite of BIOL 257 or ACT of 19 (student may request advanced standing exam to meet this requirement. Contact Allied Health & Life Science Division at 304-696-6270)

- Social Science Requirement: Select from SS 201, SS 215, or SS 200.
- BIOL 260/265 are prerequisites for BIOL 221/245.
- SCI 110 has a prerequisite of MAT 145 (may substitute with PHY 101/101L).
- Admission to PTA program is a prerequisite to all PTA coursework.
- All PTA Lab courses have PTA course co-requisites: PTA 110/PTA 110L; PTA 120/PTA 120L; PTA 130/PTA 130L; PTA 220/PTA 220L; PTA 230/PTA 230L and PTA 250/PTA 250L.
- Clinical grades will be given on a credit/non-credit basis. The student will be required to pass each clinical. If the student does not pass the clinical, the student may be allowed to repeat the clinical one time. Failure on the repeat will result in program dismissal.
- PTA 140 has prerequisites of completion of PTA 100, PTA 110, PTA 110L, PTA 120, PTA 120L, PTA 130, and PTA 130 L and PTA 160 with “C” or better.
- PTA 150 has a prerequisite of PTA 140.
- PTA 240 and PTA 260 have a prerequisite of completion of all previous PTA coursework with a grade of “C” or better.
- Students are required to make a “C” or better in each course in the second year before graduating from the program. The student may be allowed to repeat a course one time before being dismissed from the program. Sequencing of courses and progression will be determined by the program faculty. If a student receives a “D” or “F” in more than one course in the same semester, then the student will be dismissed from the program.
- 11-14: The following courses are recommended if planning to seek advanced degree (see advisor as course may not be transferrable):  
11. BSC 227, 12. ESS 201, 13. ESS 321, 14. ESS 345