

Physical Therapist Assistant AAS

Career & Technical Division

ACCREDITATION:

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Mountwest Community & Technical College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; Telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: <http://www.capteonline.org>.

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 31 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**. The program seeks to admit 24 students new annually, however this number is not guaranteed.

- Application packets are available after **November 15** from the Allied Health & Life Sciences Division, MB, Room 427
- Application deadline is **March 15**
- Applications are valid only for the noted academic year
- **Note:** Applicants must demonstrate a min cum GPA of 2.5 by the end of the spring they are applying for 2019-20 cycle, all subsequent cycles, beginning in 20-21 will require this requirement to be demonstrated upon submission of the application. This means spring coursework will not be applicable toward meeting this admission requirement after the 2019-20 admission cycle.

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 7 years in order to receive credit. For the application cycle 2019-2020, the completion date would be no earlier than the spring of **2013** to meet this expectation. 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 completed prior to admission into the PTA Program must have been completed with a minimum grade of "C" in order to be considered "successfully" completed.

Admission Decisions:

Admission notifications will only be announced after the final spring grades have been posted to the transcript and should occur in mid-May. Admission to PTA program is a prerequisite to all "PTA" coursework.

Contact Information:

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Physical Therapist Assistant^{1,*}—Major Code CP 10

Name:			ID Number 942-	
CAPS SCORES:	MATH:	ENGLISH:	READ:	DOE:
COL 101 Faculty:				
Educational Counselor:				
Faculty Advisor:				

COURSE	REQUIREMENTS	SEM	HRS	GR	SUBSTITUTE/REPEAT CRS	SEM	CR
BIOL 260	Applied Human Anatomy ²		4				
BIOL 265	Applied Human Physiology ²		4				
ENL 111	Written Communication ³		3				
MAT 144 or MAT 145	Application/Algebra Expanded or Applications in Algebra ⁴		3				
	SS Elective ⁵		3				
Total Semester Hours			17				
COM 112 or COM 125	Oral Communication ⁶ or Interpersonal Communication		3				
BIOL 221	Structural Kinesiology ⁷		4				
BIOL 245	Physiology of Exercise ⁸		3				
SCI 110	Introductory Physics ⁹		4				
Total Semester Hours			14				
PTA 100	Introduction to Physical Therapy ¹		3				
Total Semester Hours			3				
PTA 110	Physical Therapy Modalities		2				
PTA 110L	Physical Therapy Modalities Lab ¹⁰		1				
PTA 120	Patient Care Skills		3				
PTA 120L	Patient Care Skills Lab ¹⁰		1				
PTA 130	Functional Anatomy and Procedures		3				
PTA 130L	Functional Anatomy and Proc. Lab ¹⁰		1				
PTA 150	Clinical Practice I ¹¹		2				
PTA 160	Neuroanatomy and Physiology		3				
Total Semester Hours			16				
PTA 200	Pathological Conditions		3				
PTA 220	Orthopedic Rehabilitation		3				
PTA 220L	Orthopedic Rehabilitation Lab ¹⁰		1				
PTA 230	Adult Rehabilitation		3				
PTA 230L	Adult Rehabilitation Lab ¹⁰		1				
PTA 240	Clinical Practice II ¹²		4				
PTA 250	Specialized PT Interventions		3				
PTA 270	PTA Seminar		3				
Total Semester Hours			21				
PTA 260	Clinical Practice III ¹²		4				
Total Semester Hours			4				

DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES REQUIRED

COURSE	REQUIREMENTS	SEM	HRS	GR	SUBSTITUTE/REPEAT CRS	SEM	CR

Hours Required for Graduation: 75
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¹ Admission to PTA program is a prerequisite to all PTA coursework.

² BIOL 260 and BIOL 265 have a prerequisite of BIOL 257, or BIOL 258 or ACT 19.

³ ENL 111 has a prerequisite of placement in 100-level English, and placement in 100-level reading.

⁴ MAT 144 and MAT 145 has a prerequisite of placement in 100-level reading.

⁵ Select from SS 201, PSYC 200, or PSYC 215.

⁶ COM 112 has a prerequisite of REA 098, or placement in 100-level reading.

⁷ BIOL 221 has a prerequisite of BIOL 260.

⁸ BIOL 245 has a prerequisite of BIOL 265.

⁹ SCI 110 has a prerequisite of MAT 125, or MAT 135, or MAT 145, or MAT 146.

¹⁰ All PTA Lab courses have a co-requisites: PTA 110/PTA 110L; PTA 120/PTA 120L; PTA 130/PTA 130L; PTA 220/PTA 220L; PTA 230/PTA 230L.

¹¹ PTA 150 has a prerequisite of PTA 100, and co-requisite of PTA 110, PTA 120, PTA 130, and PTA 160 with a "C" or better.

¹² PTA 240 and PTA 260 have a prerequisite of completion of all PTA coursework with a grade of "C" or better.

*See advisor if planning to seek advanced degree before enrolling as course(s) may not be transferable.

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