

## ***Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute***

### **Physical Therapist Assistant Program Admissions Information**

#### **Program Information**

The physical therapist assistant curriculum prepares the graduate to assist the professional physical therapist in a variety of direct patient care services delegated by the supervising therapist to restore function by alleviation or prevention of physical impairment and other activities essential to the operation of physical therapy service. The graduate is eligible to take the licensing examination given by the North Carolina Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.

The physical therapist assistant career requires skills in the following areas: 1) written and oral communication and listening skills, 2) problem-solving ability, 3) organizational skills, 4) ability to manage multiple tasks, 5) knowledge of anatomy, and 6) teaching and reasoning skills. The technical skills listed below are necessary for the success of a PTA:

- Critical thinking and problem solving ability sufficient for appropriate clinical judgment.
- Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact effectively with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds.
- Communication abilities sufficient for effective interaction with others in verbal and written form.
- Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces, as well as lift and move patients and equipment.
- Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to perform procedures and operate equipment safely, accurately and efficiently.
- Auditory ability sufficient to accurately gather information relevant to physical therapy duties.
- Visual ability sufficient for observation, assessment and performance of physical therapy procedures.
- Olfactory senses (smell) sufficient for maintaining patient, environmental and co-worker safety.
- Ability to present professional appearance and implement measures to maintain own physical and mental health and emotional stability.

Suggested high school courses for individuals desiring a career as a physical therapist assistant would include biology, algebra, and possibly chemistry.

**Applicants should be aware that travel up to an hour drive one way from the student's home may be required for clinical affiliations.**

*To insure the public health and safety of all patients many of our clinical affiliation sites require personal criminal background checks and /or drug screening in order for the student to participate in clinical education at that site.*

*Most disciplines of Health Sciences require registration, certification or licensure to practice in the health care field. Most examining boards require proof of good moral character to apply to take the registration, certification or licensure examination. If you have further questions, please contact the North Carolina Board of Physical Therapy Examiners at 919-490-6393 or NCPTBoard@Mindspring.com.*

**The physical therapist assistant program is a two-year program with a limited class size. During the fall semester of each year a new class is accepted to begin the next summer semester.**

Admission requirements should be completed by September 1st in order to be considered for admission to the next class.

## **Admission Process**

Each applicant is tentatively admitted to the PTA program by the Consideration Date (the date that all admission requirements are met.) This is a “first-come, first-served” process.

## **Admission Requirements**

It is suggested that admission requirements be met in the following order.

### **1. CCC and TI application.**

- Submit an application to Student Services.
- Applications are available in Student Services or online at [www.cccti.edu](http://www.cccti.edu).

### **2. Official documentation of high school graduation or GED completion.**

- This is required even if the applicant holds a four-year degree.
- A high school graduate should request his/her high school to send to CCC&TI an official transcript indicating date of graduation.
- If the applicant is still in high school, an official transcript should be sent now only if SAT/ACT scores are to be used to waive the college placement tests; otherwise, an official transcript should be submitted after graduation.
- A GED or adult high school diploma graduate is exempt from sending a high school transcript, **but** an official copy of GED scores or official documentation of adult high school graduation must be sent to CCC&TI from the granting institution.
- Reproduced copies of personal documents are not acceptable.
- Transcript request forms are available in the Student Services office at CCC&TI.

### **3. Official transcripts of any college work.**

- The applicant should request colleges to mail transcripts directly to CCC&TI.
- If currently enrolled at another college, he should request a transcript now and another one at the completion of his courses.
- Transcript request forms are available in Student Services or may be downloaded from the college webpage, [www.cccti.edu](http://www.cccti.edu).
- College transcripts must be received and evaluated in order to exempt the applicant from placement tests.

### **4. Placement tests.**

- Placement tests are given at the Testing Center at CCC&TI in Hudson or at the Watauga Campus. Please contact the Testing Centers directly for testing appointments.
- Any applicant whose placement test scores fall below the required minimum for the PTA program must take the indicated developmental course(s). **An applicant must complete all required developmental courses before the PTA Consideration Date will be given.**

- Acceptable CPT scores for the PTA Program and the corresponding exempted developmental courses:
 

○ Reading	80	Developmental Courses: RED 080, RED 090
○ Sentence skills	86	ENG 080, ENG 090
○ Pt I math(arithmetic)	55	MAT 060
○ Pt II math (algebra)	75	MAT 070, MAT 080
- Please see the Testing Center for comparable ASSET or COMPASS scores. Official test scores for these tests must be provided to the Testing Center if testing is done at another college on or after 2/1/07.
- Placement tests may be waived for persons who have transferable college credit that shows proficiency in reading, English and math.
- Documentation must be provided if an applicant has college transfer credit; or has high SAT or ACT scores (SAT = 500+ each section of Writing and Critical Reading and 520+ of Math; OR ACT = 21+ each section) within 3 years of the application date; which would exempt an applicant from testing.

**5. Information Session and Accompanying Quiz.**

- Complete a Physical Therapist Assistant Information Session to receive current details regarding admission, academic, and program requirements.
- Please call 828-726-2710 to receive instructions about completing the session.
- Answers to the PTA Quiz must be e-mailed or mailed back to Lyndon Withers in Health Sciences Admissions to receive credit for the PTA Information Session.

**THE PTA CONSIDERATION DATE IS GIVEN WHEN REQUIREMENTS 1 – 5 ARE MET.**

**7. Physical examination**

- After program acceptance, a completed *Student Medical Form for North Carolina College System Institutions* form **must be submitted by April 1<sup>st</sup> prior to beginning the first semester of the PTA program** to provide documentation of physical and emotional health which indicates the applicant's ability to provide safe care to the public.
- **The date of the actual physical examination must be dated within one year prior to the date of enrollment.**
- Immunizations must be up to date and reflect standards for health care workers according to CDC guidelines.

**8. Infant, Child and Adult CPR certification.**

- Accepted students must be currently certified in CPR through one of the following: American Heart Association: BLS Healthcare Provider course, or American Red Cross: Adult CPR and Infant/Child CPR,
- **Submit a copy of CPR certification card with the health form by April 1<sup>st</sup> prior to beginning the first semester of the PTA program.**

# Academic Progression Policy

## Grade Point Average.

- The student is expected to maintain a minimum grade point average of **2.75** for all required courses, with no grade lower than a “C”.
- Please refer to the GPA worksheet for calculating the grade point average.

### **Please note:**

**Each applicant is responsible for:**

- **completing admission requirements,**
- **confirming receipt of letters and documents in the admissions office,**
- **keeping CCC&TI informed in writing of any personal information changes**
- **keeping copies of all documentation submitted to CCC&TI (i.e., CPR, physical form).**

**Applications are accepted for only one two-year health sciences program at a time. However, an applicant may apply for the one-year ophthalmic medical assistant diploma while also applying for a two-year health sciences program.**

## Curriculum for Physical Therapy Assistant (A45640)

		<b>Class</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>Clinical</b>	<b>Credit</b>
<b>Summer Semester I</b>					
BIO 168	Anatomy and Physiology I	3	3	0	4
PSY 150	General Psychology	3	0	0	3
ENG 111	Expository Writing	3	0	0	3
ENG 111A	Expository Writing Lab	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
		9	5	0	11
<b>Fall Semester I</b>					
BIO 169	Anatomy and Physiology II	3	3	0	4
ENG 113	Literature-Based Research	3	0	0	3
COM 231	Public Speaking	3	0	0	3
	OR				
COM 120	Interpersonal Communication				
	Humanities Elective	3	0	0	3
PTA 110	Introduction to Physical Therapy	2	3	0	3
BIO 161	Introduction to Human Anatomy	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>
		14	6	0	16
<b>Spring Semester I (**16-week didactic and #16 weeks one day clinical term)</b>					
PTA 125	Gross and Functional Anatomy	3	6	0	5
PTA 135	Pathology	4	0	0	4
PTA 165	PTA Clinical I	0	0	9	3
PTA 222	Professional Interactions	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
		9	6	9	14

**Summer Semester II (10-week term)**

PTA 145	Therapeutic Procedures	2	6	0	4
PTA 152	Wellness Prevention	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
		3	8	0	6

**Fall Semester II (PTA 245 4-wks, 5 wks didactic, PTA 185 3-wks, 4 wks didactic)**

PTA 185	PTA Clinical II	0	0	9	3
PTA 215	Therapeutic Exercise	2	3	0	3
PTA 225	Introduction to Rehabilitation	3	3	0	4
PTA 245	PTA Clinical III	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>4</u>
		5	6	21	14

**Spring Semester II (11-week didactics, 5-week capstone Clinical IV)**

PTA 235	Neurological Rehabilitation	3	6	0	5
PTA 255	PTA Clinical IV	0	0	12	4
PTA 212	Health Care/Resources	2	0	0	2
PTA 270	Physical Therapy Topics	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
		6	6	12	12
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>76</b>

**Tuition:**

In-State                    \$42.00 per credit hour  
   \$672.00 maximum tuition per semester

Out-of-State                \$233.30 per credit hour  
   \$3,732.80 maximum tuition per semester

**Activity Fees:**

\$7.00 per class, fall and spring semesters, up to a maximum of \$28.00.  
\$3.00 per class, summer semester, up to a maximum of \$9.00.

**For additional information,  
please contact:**

Lyndon Withers  
Coordinator of Health Sciences Admissions  
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute  
2855 Hickory Boulevard  
Hudson, NC 28638  
828-726-2710; 828-328-8697, ext. 710; 828-264-7670, ext. 710  
E-mail: [lwithers@cccti.edu](mailto:lwithers@cccti.edu)

Revised 3/08

Since health program standards are mandated by accrediting and regulatory agencies, revisions to the above information may be necessary. Efforts will be made to keep changes to a minimum and finalized one year in advance of the starting date of the program; however, the college reserves the right to revise any part or section as necessary.