PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute’s Physical Therapist Program

- Is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: http://www.capteonline.org.
Purpose

• To provide PTA applicants with program overview including:
  • Applications and admissions requirements
  • Curriculum and program requirements

• To provide career information including:
  • Nature of the work in Physical Therapy
  • Where to access salary information and employment outlook
What is **physical therapy**?

An area in rehabilitation that assists individuals with exercises or interventions that help them to regain or improve their physical abilities or prevent functional limitations.
Physical Therapist Assistants

- Provide services under the supervision of a physical therapist that:
  - help improve mobility,
  - relieve pain,
  - fit, adjust & train patients in the use and care of prostheses and artificial supports and exercise.

- Prevent/limit permanent physical disabilities of patients suffering from injuries or diseases.
Employment Outlook for Physical Therapist Assistants

Growth Outlook: With economic improvements, Good to Excellent

- With the Baby Boomer’s entering the Medicare Market, the need for PTAs should remain stable or increase.
- For the most accurate and up to date information regarding salary please refer to the below URL:

  http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes312021.htm
## CCC&TI PTA Program: Critical Success Factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PTA Class</th>
<th>Began PTA 110</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
<th>Matriculation Rate*</th>
<th>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; x take passage rate</th>
<th>Over all passage rate</th>
<th>Employme Rate ^</th>
<th>Employed including PRN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>93.5%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Matriculation tabulated from number of students entering PTA 110 compared to those graduating.

** Six month post graduation statistic.

^ Six month fulltime employment rate of those licensed

TBD: To be determined with set date exam July 8, 2015
Desirable Abilities & Qualities for Physical Therapist Assistants

- Desire to “HELP” others
- Listen & Observe
- Tactful, Patient & Honest
- Mature & Emotionally stable
- Follow Directions Accurately and Completely
- Direct patients in Effective & Safe Care
- Read for Detailed Information
- Write with detail and clarity
- Get along well with any and all persons
- Motivate Others
Likes for Physical Therapist Assistants

- Working in the healthcare field
- Helping others meet their health care goals
- Good employment opportunities
- Working under the direction & supervision of physical therapists
- Interpreting current status of patient
- Progressing patient according to the “Plan of Care”
Dislikes for Physical Therapist Assistants

• Meet the demand for appropriate documentation for reimbursement
• The legal requirement to remain current in professional literature for any changing techniques
• Working some evenings and weekends
• Physical demands of moving and lifting
• High productivity expectations from employers
General Information

• Two-year program beginning in the summer

• Limited enrollment based on competitive admissions accepting 24 students with each cohort

• Travel out-of-service areas is required for educational and clinical experiences.
To Ensure Public Health & Safety:

Most Health Science programs require registration, certification or licensure to work in the fields of health care.

Most examining boards require proof of good moral character to take the registration, certification or licensure exam. Any criminal activity may limit applicants eligibility to become registered, licensed, or certified.
Required Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen

• Students are required to maintain a satisfactory criminal background check and drug screen.
• All background checks and drug screens are at the student’s expense.
• Background checks & drug screens are to be completed by the deadline established by the program director.
Required Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen

• Students with unsatisfactory findings will not be allowed to participate in clinical components of the program resulting in failure of program progression and termination from the program.

• Background checks are conducted through the designated provider.

• Any dispute concerning unsatisfactory background findings or drug screen will be between the student and the party providing the service.
To Ensure Public Health & Safety

• *Graduation from the PTA program does not guarantee a right to take the licensure exam.

• If you have any questions regarding your background history, please contact the following agency:

• North Carolina Board of Physical Therapy Examiners
  • (919) 490-6393
  • Email: NCPTBoard@Mindspring.com
Admission requirements

**Admission requirements are reviewed and subject to change. The most updated information is available through the PTA’s webpage.**
1. CCC&TI application

• Submit to Student Services

• The college application is available online.
• Applications are also available in Student Services.
2. Program GPA

- Program GPA must be at least a 2.75 as of the admission deadline.
- No grade below a “C” is allowed in a general education course (ENG, BIO, PHY, etc).
3. Official documentation

• Official transcripts showing high school graduation or high school equivalency completion
4. Official transcripts of college work

• Request ALL transcripts of college work to be submitted to the Admissions Office.

• A transfer equivalency report will be sent to your CCC&TI student email account after ALL transcripts have been received & evaluated.
5. Placement testing

• NCDAP minimum scores
  • Reading/English  151
  • Math/Algebra must score a 7 to indicate proficiency for math modules DMA 010-050

• If scores are below the minimum level, take appropriate developmental courses.
Placement testing, waived by meeting one of the following:

- Sufficient transfer credit
- Acceptable SAT or ACT scores.
- Multiple Measures

* Refer to institutional policies in college catalog
6. Complete Information Session

After viewing this presentation, submit a completed PTA Info Session Quiz electronically to the Health Sciences Admissions Office from the PTA web page.

http://www.cccti.edu/PTA/Default.asp

Questions regarding the PTA Program contact:
Heather Bowman, MPT, PT
PTA Program Director
(828) 726-2605
hbowman@cccti.edu
7. ATI-TEAS 6 admission test (Test of Essential Academic Skills)

- Schedule & complete ATI-TEAS 6 exam in the Testing Center
  - 828.726.2719 (Caldwell Campus)
  - 828.297.2185 *5220 (Watauga Campus)

- TEAS minimum score requirement is 60.
  - Exam score is used as part of the applicant’s total point score for admission competition.
• An online test fee is required on the day of the test. Fee is subject to change and is the responsibility of the applicant.

• Study materials are available on both campuses in the Academic Support Center, or may be purchased from ATI’s website at www.atitesting.com. Online study materials can also be obtained through the Academic Support Center.
8. MAR (Minimum Admissions Requirement) Review

Request a MAR review with the Health Sciences Admissions Office AFTER completing all admissions requirements and before the application period deadline of February 1st.

Contact one of the following in the Health Sciences Admissions Office:

Amy Huffman  
ahuffman@cccti.edu  
828.726.2710

Kim Van Wie  
Watauga Campus: 828.297.2185  
kvanwie@cccti.edu

Patty Brinkley  
pbrinkley@cccti.edu  
828.726.2711
All admission requirements must be met to be considered a qualified applicant and eligible for admission into the PTA program.

Please find the exact requirements at:
Example of Time Requirements for PTA Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIO 169</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHY 110</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COM 120 or 231</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUM elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA 110</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>(17)</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

That means you will need to study 58 hours per week to successfully complete the above courses.
Time Commitment

14 college credits equals \(~58\) total study and contact hours per week
Academic Progression Policy

• A Program GPA of 2.75 or greater is required for admission and to progress each semester within the PTA Program.

• All “PTA” prefixed courses must be completed with a GPA of 3.0 or above in order to progress.
Physical Exam & CPR

Physical exam and infant, child, & adult CPR for health care providers certification submitted by the deadline provided in the student’s acceptance letter.
Professional Education Phase: Final 4 semesters

• All general education requirements must be completed prior to beginning this phase

• Designed for full-time students who are not working

• Working during the second year of program, can place the best student “at risk” of failing
Grade Point Average

GPA: 2.75 is really a middle level “B” average, not a “C” average.

General education course grades of mostly “Cs” will not allow a student to progress into the Professional Phase of the PTA Program.
Clinical Coursework

❖ PTA 155 Clinical I Spring semester
  >12 weeks, 8 hrs. per week or 1 day/wk

❖ PTA 245 Clinical III Fall Semester
  >5 weeks, 5 days/wk. for 8 hrs/ day/40 hrs/wk

Capstone Clinical Rotation:
Final Spring Semester Merge two clinical courses to create one rotation:
❖ PTA 175 Clinical II & PTA 255 Clinical IV for
  ~7 weeks, 5 days/wk. for 8 hrs/ day/ 40 hrs/wk
Clinical sites

- **3 clinical sites with a variety of clinical settings include:** *
  - Outpatient orthopedic/Sports Medicine facility
  - Hospital based facility
  - Rehabilitation facility/ skilled nursing or long term care facilities
  *as clinical sites are available

- **Clinical site assignments are made with every attempt to be within 1 hour’s drive, one-way of the student’s residence.**
CCC &TI’s PTA Program Outcomes Objectives: Upon successful completion of the Caldwell’s PTA Program curriculum, graduates will use problem solving and critical thinking skills to:

- demonstrate professional and ethical behaviors at all times;
- interpret accurately the established plan of care;
- formatively assess patient’s status;
- provide safe and effective patient interventions;
- educate patient, care givers, families and colleagues to insure effective health care;
- manage emergency situations safely and effectively;
- communicate effectively both written and oral formats;
- perform delegated administrative duties to insure quality care;
- acquire, maintain, expand knowledge and competencies to assure professional integrity.
How Can I Succeed in CCC&TI’s PTA Program?
Readiness Checklist

• I am in good health in order to meet the demands of the program.

• I have the **financial** means to complete the program.

• I have adequate, stable, flexible childcare.

• I have dependable, personal transportation and will be able to drive up to 55 miles one-way 5 times a week to clinical sites.
Readiness Checklist, cont’d

• I am committed to making adjustments in order to complete the program.

• I am ready to attend class/clinicals at least 15 – 40 hours per week and study outside of class between 40-50 additional hours in order to be successful for the next two years.

• My family & friends understand the demands of the program and support my decision to complete the program.
Apply for financial aid today

It is never too late
Call 828.726.2713

Apply online: www.fafsa.gov
Where do you go from here?

If you have questions about meeting program admission requirements contact:

Amy Huffman 726-2710 or ahuffman@cccti.edu
Coordinator for Health Sciences Admissions
F building  Office #113

If you have questions regarding the PTA program curriculum or physical therapy profession contact:

Heather Bowman 726-2605 or hbowman@cccti.edu
Program Director for Physical Therapist Assistant
B building  Office #101
PTA Program Admissions Process:

• The admissions process for the PTA Program is a competitive admission process based on a point system.

• It is the responsibility of the applicant to keep personal information current with the college, such as current address and phone number.

• A copy of the PTA competitive admission process is available on the PTA web page: [http://www.cccti.edu/PTA/Documents/PTAAdmissions.pdf](http://www.cccti.edu/PTA/Documents/PTAAdmissions.pdf)
CCC&TI Email Communication

• Once your CCC&TI application has been processed, students are issued an email account.
• You are also sent a letter with explicit instructions on how to access this email account.
• Information concerning your admissions status, financial aid, registration and program orientation will be sent via your student email account.
• Please check your email account weekly to keep informed.
Thank you for your interest in CCC&TI’s Physical Therapist Assistant Program.

Click here to complete quiz: http://www.cccti.edu/PTA/Documents/InfoSessionQuiz.pdf

Email completed quiz and signed criminal background acknowledgment statement to Amy Huffman ahuffman@cccti.edu

Or Mail To:
CCCTI
Amy Huffman
2855 Hickory Boulevard
Hudson, NC 28638