

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT - ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE



PHTA

Occupational Title: Physical Therapist Assistant
Newport County Campus only

Physical therapist assistants work under the supervision of a physical therapist utilizing prescribed activities to help patients recover physical function lost through disease, injury or other causes, and to relieve pain and promote healing. Licensed physical therapist assistants work in public or private hospitals, clinics, school systems or other health agencies.

The Physical Therapist Assistant program is a full-time, day program. It consists of a variety of courses that includes physical therapy theory and practice as well as supporting courses from general education.

Students who successfully complete this program are eligible to take the licensure examination for physical therapist assistants.

Technical standards: The physical activity level for the physical therapist assistant is classified as "medium" by the Department of Labor in the Dictionary of Occupational Titles.

Note: Many courses require prerequisites, corequisites and/or testing. See course descriptions for details (<https://catalog.ccri.edu/course-descriptions/>).

General Policies

See important general policies in the beginning of this section on the performance-based Health Sciences application process, academic progress, advanced placement, background check, CPR certification, health insurance, health records, reinstatement, transportation, uniforms, and equipment.

Minimum Requirements to Apply to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program

- CCRI application** – Complete and submit a CCRI Application for Enrollment. General Studies should be the first choice; PHTA should be the second choice.
- High school transcript** – Send an official copy of the applicant's high school or GED® transcript, including date of graduation. If the applicant holds a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university, the high school transcript may be waived; a college transcript must indicate completion and degree awarded.
- Placement testing**
 - Must earn English placement test results (ACCUPLACER NEXT GENERATION) issued by CCRI's Advising Center, must show readiness to take Composition I (ENGL 1010) or the applicant must have completed College Writing (ENGL 1005) with a grade of "C" or better. Composition I for Speakers of English as a Second Language (ESL) (ENGL 1300) will not substitute for Composition I (ENGL 1010).

- Complete a standardized test (ACCUPLACER NEXT GENERATION) issued by CCRI's Advising Center. Competency of 250 or above is required for reading comprehension or completion of Reading and Study Skills Program (ENGL 1002) with a grade of "B-" or better.
 - Demonstrate competency at the Introduction to College Mathematics (MATH 1025) level. The following courses will substitute for Introduction to College Mathematics (MATH 1025): Mathematics for Liberal Arts Students (MATH 1139) or (MATH 1139C), College Trigonometry (MATH 2110), Statistics for the Health and Social Sciences (MATH 1175) or (MATH 1175C), Statistical Analysis I (MATH 1240), Quantitative Business Analysis I (MATH 2077), Quantitative Business Analysis II (MATH 2138), Pre-Calculus Mathematics (MATH 2111), Calculus I (MATH 2141), Calculus II (MATH 2142), Calculus III (MATH 2243). (Highest grade earned in any of these courses will be calculated in the point system.)
- Complete Foundational Kinesiology (RHAB 1100) (recommended) and it may be considered in the performance-based acceptance process.
 - Complete the following courses** with a grade of B- or better:
 - Human Anatomy & Physiology I (BIOL 2201)
 - Introduction to the Physical Therapist Assistant (PHTA 1000)
 - Medical Terminology for Rehabilitative Health (RHAB 1010)
 - GPA** – Earn a cumulative grade point average of 2.7 or better for all college courses taken
 - Health Sciences application** – Complete and submit performance-based Health Sciences application including a preadmission degree evaluation during the open enrollment period. The application and instructions can be found at www.ccri.edu/oes/admissions/index.html (<https://www.ccri.edu/oes/admissions/>).
 - Important:** All the above requirements must be completed satisfactorily **before** submission of performance-based Health Sciences application and do not guarantee acceptance to the program. Students declining acceptance into the program for the semester offered must resubmit a performance-based Health Sciences application for the program and meet the current admission requirements for the application period in which they reapply. Once accepted into Physical Therapist Assistant program, the student must attend a mandatory orientation conducted by the Rehabilitative Health Department.
 - Background check** – Students are required to submit a background check when directed by notification from Enrollment Services. Final acceptance to the program is dependent on the results of the background check.

Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Preadmission General Education Requirements		
This course must be taken prior to program admission:		
BIOL 2201	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
Subtotal		4
General Education Requirements		
ENGL 1010	Composition I (or ENGL 1010A)	3
BIOL 2202	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4
COMM 1010	Communication Fundamentals ^a	3
PSYC 2010	General Psychology	4
PSYC 2030	Developmental Psychology	3
MATH 1025	Introduction to College Mathematics ¹	3

Subtotal		20
Preadmission Major Requirements		
These courses must be taken prior to program admission.		
PHTA 1000	Introduction to the Physical Therapist Assistant	2
RHAB 1010	Medical Terminology for Rehabilitative Health	1
Subtotal		3
Major Education Requirements		
Students must be accepted into the program before taking any major requirements.		
RHAB 1110	Kinesiology ²	4
PHTA 1120	Tests and Measurements for Physical Therapist Assistants	2
PHTA 1010	Physical Therapist Assistant I	6
PHTA 1020	Physical Therapist Assistant II	4
RHAB 1030	Pathophysiology for Rehabilitative Health Practitioners	3
PHTA 2910	Clinical Education I ³	3
PHTA 2010	Physical Therapist Assistant III	7
PHTA 2920	Clinical Education II ³	3
PHTA 2020	Physical Therapist Assistant IV	7
PHTA 2930	Clinical Education III ³	3
PHTA 2040	Career Development Seminar	1
Select one of the following: ⁴		
RHAB 1100	Foundational Kinesiology	
PHTA 1220	Basic Therapeutic Exercise	
PHTA 2030	Physical Therapy for Impaired Neuro Function	
Subtotal		43
Total Hours		70

¹ If you plan to transfer to a four-year institution, please consider registering for Mathematics for Liberal Arts Students (MATH 1139) or (MATH 1139C), or Statistics for the Health and Social Sciences (MATH 1175) or (MATH 1175C).

² Students are strongly encouraged to take Kinesiology (RHAB 1110) in the summer semester prior to entering the program.

³ 40 hours of clinical education for six weeks for a total of 240 hours for Clinical Education I (PHTA 2910), Clinical Education II (PHTA 2920) and Clinical Education III (PHTA 2930).

⁴ **Optional but strongly recommended**

Recommended Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
Prerequisites		
BIOL 2201	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
PHTA 1000	Introduction to the Physical Therapist Assistant	2
RHAB 1010	Medical Terminology for Rehabilitative Health	1
Hours		7
Year 1		
Semester 1		
RHAB 1110	Kinesiology	4
PHTA 1010	Physical Therapist Assistant I	6
PHTA 1120	Tests and Measurements for Physical Therapist Assistants	2

BIOL 2202	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4
Hours		16
Semester 2		
RHAB 1030	Pathophysiology for Rehabilitative Health Practitioners	3
PHTA 1020	Physical Therapist Assistant II	4
ENGL 1010	Composition I (or ENGL 1010A)	3
COMM 1010	Communication Fundamentals ⁴	3
MATH 1139	Mathematics for Liberal Arts Students ¹	3
Hours		16
Summer Session		
PHTA 2910	Clinical Education I	3
PSYC 2010	General Psychology	4
Hours		7
Year 2		
Semester 1		
PHTA 2010	Physical Therapist Assistant III	7
PHTA 2920	Clinical Education II	3
PSYC 2030	Developmental Psychology	3
Hours		13
Semester 2		
PHTA 2020	Physical Therapist Assistant IV	7
PHTA 2930	Clinical Education III	3
PHTA 2040	Career Development Seminar	1
Hours		11
Total Hours		70

¹ If you plan to transfer to a four-year institution, please consider registering for Mathematics for Liberal Arts Students (MATH 1139) or (MATH 1139C), or Statistics for the Health and Social Sciences (MATH 1175) or (MATH 1175C).

Transfer

If you are interested in earning a bachelor's degree, please meet with an Academic Advisor (<https://ccri.edu/advising/>) who can help you select the courses that best prepare you for transfer to a four-year college or university.

If you are interested in transferring to Rhode Island College or the University of Rhode Island, check out the Joint Admissions Agreement (<https://ccri.edu/jaa/>). Transfer information, events and articulations can be found on the Transfer Center website (https://ccri.edu/oes/transfer_center/).