

Physical Therapist Assistant Degree

Degree: Associate in Applied Science

Total Required Credits for Degree: minimum of 69.5

Program Requirements: 54.5

General Education Credits: 15 to 17

Code: 3186

About the Program

The Physical Therapist Assistant program prepares its graduates to provide skilled direct patient care under the direction and supervision of a licensed physical therapist. Goals of treatment include relieving pain, improving strength and mobility, and helping patients to attain maximum function.

Physical therapist assistants are employed in a variety of settings, including hospitals, rehabilitation centers, long-term care facilities, out-patient clinics and home health care agencies. Graduates must take the state licensure examination for physical therapist assistants.

The Physical Therapist Assistant program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

Program web site:

www.cod.edu/academic/acadprog/occ_voc/PhyTherA.htm

Health Sciences Admissions

The majority of Health Sciences programs require either a separate admissions process (in addition to the standard college application form) and/or the completion of specific prerequisites before acceptance into a program. The Health Sciences Admissions office is located in the Student Resource Center (SRC), Room 2046. For more information, check out the Health Sciences Admissions web site at: www.cod.edu/hsadmissions/

Program Notes

1. Enrollment in the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program is by admission only. Space in the program is limited. Acceptance is highly competitive. Admission to College of DuPage does not guarantee acceptance in the PTA program.
2. The PTA program is designed for students who plan to enter professional practice as PTAs. PTA clinical courses are not accepted in transfer by most Physical Therapy programs. Students who are seeking admission to a Physical Therapy program should follow the Pre-Physical Therapy curriculum (outlined in a separate information sheet).

3. Students seeking admission to the PTA program should obtain a complete admission packet with application from the Physical Therapist Assistant online program guide (www.cod.edu, click on "Academics" and choose this program from the drop-down menu); the Health, Social and Behavioral Sciences Division; or the program coordinator, Don Schmidt, 942-4076.

4. Before applying for admission to the program, it is strongly suggested that students attend a PTA program advising/information session.

5. The PTA program admits one class per year. The application deadline is June 1. Candidates are notified in July/August, and classes begin in the fall semester.

6. To be considered for admission to the PTA program, applicants must submit the following documentation of minimum requirements by the June 1 deadline:

- a. Completed PTA program application.
- b. Results of the Developmental Test of Language Skills with placement in English 1101. For testing times and locations, contact the Assessment and Testing office at (630) 942-2400.
- c. Official transcripts showing completion of Anatomy and Physiology 1551 and 1552 OR 1571 and 1572 (within the preceding five-year period) and Health Sciences 1110, *Biomedical Terminology*, with grades of "B" or better in all three; all other secondary and post-secondary coursework; and college coursework with a minimum GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.

Students with college coursework from outside the United States must also submit an evaluation report from an independent credentialing evaluation agency. Names and addresses of evaluation agencies are available from the Records office.

- d. Documentation of observation or volunteer or work experience in a physical therapy clinical setting.
 - e. Three letters of recommendation from clinical and academic references on PTA program recommendation forms.
7. Students awaiting admission are strongly encouraged to complete all other general education requirements prior to entering the PTA program.

General Education Requirements

Each candidate for an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree shall satisfactorily complete a minimum of 18 credits in General Education. For the Physical Therapist Assistant degree, some General Education courses are already listed under program requirements. Therefore, students need 15 to 17 General Education credits besides those listed under program requirements.

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Physical Therapist Assistant Degree

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Use the *Student Planning Worksheet* or consult a list of General Education categories and courses for the A.A.S. degree to decide what needs to be taken. Links can be found on the Physical Therapist Assistant online program guide (www.cod.edu, click on “Academics” and choose this program from the drop-down menu).

Under the specified General Education headings below, the following courses are recommended or required for the Physical Therapist Assistant degree:

Communications: 6 credits required

Recommended courses: English 1101 and Speech 1100 (Special section for health care majors) or 1120 or 1150

Physical/Life Sciences: 3 to 5 credits required

Required courses: Anatomy and Physiology 1551 and 1552 OR 1571 and 1572 (already listed under Program Requirements)

Mathematics: 3 to 5 credits required

Recommended courses: Mathematics 1102, *Mathematics for Health Sciences*

Humanities and Fine Arts: 3 credits required

Recommended course: Philosophy 1112, *Biomedical Ethics*

Social and Behavioral Sciences: 3 credits required

Recommended course: Anthropology 1100, *Cultural Anthropology*, OR Psychology 1100, *General Psychology*, OR Sociology 2251, *Health and Illness in Contemporary Society*

Additional A.A.S. Degree Requirements

A minimum of 2 credits must be completed from the list of courses in the Global/Multicultural Studies or Contemporary Life Skills category.

Required course: Health Sciences 1110 (already listed under Program Requirements)

Program Requirements

Anat& 1551	Human Anatomy and Physiology I.....	4
AND		
Anat& 1552	Human Anatomy and Physiology II.....	4
OR		
Anat& 1571	Anatomy and Physiology with Cadaver I	4
AND		
Anat& 1572	Anatomy and Physiology with Cadaver II ...	4
Hlths 1110	Biomedical Terminology	4
Phyta 1100	Introduction to Physical Therapy	2
Phyta 1107	PTA Pathophysiology	2
Phyta 1109	Basic Health Care Skills and Principles of Soft Tissue Techniques	3
Phyta 1110	PTA Documentation	1.5
Phyta 1111	PTA Kinesiology I.....	2
Phyta 1112	PTA Kinesiology II.....	3
Phyta 1114	PTA Total Patient Care	1
Phyta 1201	PTA Therapeutic Modalities.....	4
Phyta 1202	PTA Therapeutic Exercise	2
Phyta 1211	PTA Therapeutic Assessment and Basic Intervention.....	4
Phyta 1221	PTA Clinical Practicum I.....	1
Phyta 2203	PTA Neuromuscular and Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation	3
Phyta 2204	PTA Special Patient Populations	2
Phyta 2212	PTA Advanced Orthopedic Rehabilitation....	4
Phyta 2214	PTA Professional Issues.....	1
Phyta 2222	PTA Clinical Practicum II	1.5
Phyta 2223	PTA Clinical Practicum III	2.5
Phyta 2224	PTA Clinical Practicum IV	3
Total.....		54.5

Adviser

If you are considering this program as an area of study, consult with a faculty adviser in this field.

	Location	Phone
Donald Schmidt, coordinator E-mail: schmidt@cod.edu	HS 2202B	(630) 942-4076