

Associate in Applied Science Degree

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

The A.A.S. in Physical Therapist Assistant degree prepares students to implement physical therapy treatment procedures under the supervision of licensed Physical Therapists. As an assistant to a physical therapist, you will help patients recovering from debilitating illness, amputation, surgery, or accident to improve mobility, restore physical function, relieve pain, and prevent or limit permanent physical disabilities.

Program Information

Specific Admission Requirements for Program

The Physical Therapist Assistant program is a limited-access program. All applicants must meet weighted Admission requirements by May 15 to advance to the next phase of consideration for admission to the program. However, meeting admission requirements does not guarantee admission to the PTA program. An applicant who receives notification that she/he was not admitted to the Physical Therapist Assistant program must resubmit the Physical Therapist Assistant Program Application by the published application deadline in order to be considered for admission to the next available class. These applicants should check with Admissions to determine if HGTC Admission information requires updating. A waiting list of applicants is not maintained.

- Criminal Background Check 30 days prior to starting clinical each semester beginning in the second semester; felony or misdemeanor convictions could result in applicants being ineligible to complete the program.
- Urine Drug Screening 30 days prior to starting clinical each semester beginning in the second semester.
- Submit a Health Sciences Division Student Health Record Form indicating the candidate has the ability to perform the physical tasks required in the program prior to second semester.
- Proof of CPR certification for Health Care Providers prior to second semester.
- Experience Documentation form submitted to Office of Admissions reflecting a minimum of 20 hours in a physical therapy facility (3-year time limit). The applicant is responsible for arranging the experience at approved facilities. A list of local facilities is available on the department webpage.
- GPA of 2.75 or higher on all required General Education and support courses, with "C" or higher in each course. These courses include: BIO 210 and BIO 211 (5 year time limit, 10 year time limit if already completed Bachelor or Master degree programs), ENG 101, MAT 120 or MAT 110, PSY 201 and Humanities. Minimum cumulative 2.0 GPA must be maintained with no academic or disciplinary suspension at time of admission or program entry.
- To be licensed as a Physical Therapist Assistant in the state of South Carolina the graduate must pass the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) and apply for Physical Therapist Assistant licensure with the Labor and Licensing Regulation Board of South Carolina. The cost of completing the NPTE and application for licensure is not included in the cost of tuition for the program.
- Completion of TEAS test (2-year time limit).
- Not have two unsuccessful (D, F, W or WF) attempts in the first technical semester course of the PTA program within the last two academic years.

Course Sequence and Progression Requirements

A minimum grade of "C" or better is required for all PTH-prefixed courses for progression and graduation.

CURRICULUM SEQUENCE

PHASE 1 - GENERAL ADMISSION

Phase I is a general admission phase and enables students to enroll in the general education core courses required for completion of the Physical Therapy Assistant Program. These courses may be completed at Horry-Georgetown Technical College or transferred in from another accredited institution.

Upon completion of the following required general education courses and the TEAS test, students are eligible to apply for Phase II.

| General Education Requirements | Course Title | Semester Credit Hours |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| BIO 210 | Anatomy Physiology I | 4 |
| BIO 211 | Anatomy Physiology II | 4 |
| ENG 101 | English Composition I | 3 |
| MAT 110 | College Algebra | 3 |
| OR | | |

(Continued)

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|---------|---|-----------|
| MAT 120 | Probability and Statistics (preferred) | |
| PSY 201 | General Psychology | 3 |
| | Humanities | 3 |
| | TOTAL | 20 |

*Registration for ENG and MAT courses require students to have appropriate test scores and/or pre-req courses; please refer to your advisor to determine your academic qualifications and eligibility for enrolling in ENG and MAT courses.

PHASE II – LIMITED ACCESS

Phase II is limited access and requires admission to the program for students to be eligible to enroll in PTA and clinical courses. For students to proceed to Phase II they must complete the program specific admission process:

- **PTA Application Process**
- **STEPS Session**
- Completion of 20 hours observation in Physical Therapy.

After admission to PHASE II – Limited Access students must complete the following to graduate as a Physical Therapy Assistant.

- Purchase and complete a Criminal Background Check per date shown in the acceptance letter.

First Semester - Fall

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|---------|---|-----------|
| PTH 101 | Physical Therapy Professional Preparation | 2 |
| PTH 204 | Physical Therapy Functional Anatomy and Application | 5 |
| PTH 205 | Physical Therapy Functional Anatomy | 4 |
| PTH 221 | Pathology I | 2 |
| PSY 203 | Human Growth Development | 3 |
| | TOTAL | 16 |

Second Semester - Spring

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|---------|--|-----------|
| PTH 202 | Physical Therapy Modalities | 4 |
| PTH 234 | Clinical Education I | 3 |
| PTH 240 | Therapeutic Exercises/ Applications | 5 |
| PTH 270 | Special Topics in Physical Therapy | 3 |
| | TOTAL | 15 |

Third Semester - Summer

| | | |
|---------|-----------------------|----------|
| PTH 242 | Orthopedic Management | 4 |
| PTH 244 | Rehabilitation | 4 |
| | TOTAL | 8 |

Fourth Semester - Fall

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|---------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| PTH 235 | Interpersonal Dynamics | 2 |
| PTH 253 | Clinical Practice II | 3 |
| PTH 275 | Advanced Professional Preparation | 1 |
| PTH 276 | Physical Therapy Practicum II | 6 |
| | TOTAL | 12 |
| | TOTAL CREDIT HOURS | 71 |