

## Physical Therapist Assistant

### Program

Physical Therapist Assistants (PTA) are skilled technical health personnel who provide physical therapy services under the supervision and direction of a physical therapist. Physical therapist assistants enhance the delivery of physical therapy services by providing delegated interventions such as therapeutic exercise, training in assistive devices, developmental activities, balance and gait training, application of thermal agents, postural training and instruction in body mechanics. Physical therapist assistants help with data collection and must demonstrate the ability to modify intervention techniques as indicated in the plan of care designated by the physical therapist. Excellent communication skills are also necessary for the physical therapist assistant. The PTA must be able to interact with patients and families in a manner that provides the desired psychosocial support and effectively teach them to perform selected intervention procedures. PTAs also participate in discharge planning, document relevant aspects of the patient treatment, and promote effective interpersonal relationships.




The Associate Degree program at Rhodes State College provides the student with an excellent physical therapist assistant education encouraging personal and professional growth. The curriculum is a combination of general education, applied physical therapy sciences, technical skills and clinical education courses. The clinical rotations provide students with supervised clinical learning experiences in a variety of settings and with different patient populations.

After successful completion of both the didactic and clinical components of the PTA curriculum, and attainment of the Associate of Applied Science degree from Rhodes State College, students seeking licensure as a PTA must submit an application to register for the National Physical Therapy Examination for PTAs administered by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. Additionally, the student must submit a separate application to the licensing authority of the jurisdiction (state) in which the applicant is seeking licensure. In the state of Ohio, the Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board is the jurisdiction licensing authority. The state of Ohio requires licensure to practice physical therapy. Licensure enables the PTA to seek employment as a part of a dynamic health care team in a variety of health care settings such as hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, sports medicine clinics and outpatient treatment centers.

### Curriculum

#### First Year


##### Summer

SDE 1010 	First Year Experience	1
BIO 1110	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
COM 1110 	English Composition	3
BHS 1390	Medical Terminology	2
PTA 1100 	Introduction to Physical Therapy	3
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	Term Hours	13

##### Fall

BIO 1120	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
MTH 1260	Statistics	3
PTA 1120	Functional Anatomy	4
PTA 1140	Therapeutic Procedures	4
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	Term Hours	15

##### Spring


PTA 1200	Therapeutic Exercise	4
COM 2213	Verbal Judo	3
PSY 1010 	General Psychology	3
PTA 1220	Kinesiology	4
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	Term Hours	14

#### Second Year



##### Summer

PTA 1300	PTA Seminar	1
PTA 1320	Clinical Application I	2
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	Term Hours	3

##### Fall

PSY 2150	Lifespan Psychology	3
PTA 2100 	Rehabilitation for Specific PT Populations	4
PTA 2120	Functional Neurorehabilitation	4
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	Term Hours	11

##### Spring

PTA 2200	Clinical Application II	3
PTA 2220	Clinical Application III	3
PTA 2230  	Capstone Course	1
PTA 2240	Seminar II	1
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	Term Hours	8

**Total Hours 64**

 = Portfolio Course

 = Capstone Course

The "C" grade policy applies to all PTA courses, BIO 1110 Anatomy and Physiology I and BIO 1120 Anatomy and Physiology II. Courses are sequential and must be completed with a "C" or better to continue in the program.

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## Requirements

All students who apply for acceptance into the Physical Therapist Assistant program have their name placed on a qualified list after they meet the program qualifications listed below.

A program application packet is required and can be found by contacting the Office of Advising or visiting the PTA webpage and requirements tab. Students seeking admission are encouraged to review the qualification requirements early due to the amount of time required to complete the process. The application deadline is the second Friday of February for the application year.

In addition to the general admission requirements for all students, the following specific requirements must be completed before being added to qualified list:

1. Attend a mandatory program-specific orientation.
2. Complete and score a minimum of 60 on the Test of Essential Academic Skills (ATI TEAS) assessment exam.
3. Achieve an overall college GPA and program-related GPA of 2.75 or higher. (Program-related GPA is defined as the average GPA of program specific coursework excluding SDE 1010). For high school senior applicants without college level coursework, high school grades through the first nine weeks of the senior year will be used to calculate the GPA.
4. Complete 40 hours of observation in a clinical setting with a licensed Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant using the Observation Form in the application packet.
5. Complete all required college level or developmental level math, writing and reading courses and/or prerequisites with a grade of D or higher, and all college level or development level science requirements and/or prerequisites with a grade of C or higher; or equivalent placement.

If more than 30 applicants are qualified, students will be offered a seat based on the qualifying criteria (aggregate of calculated GPA, ATI TEAS score, the number of program specific courses completed with a C or better, and the two observation rubrics). If the qualifying criteria aggregate score of two applicants is equal then the college application date will be used to rank order those applicants.

Qualified students not in the top 30 will be admitted in a following cohort year. This acceptance is contingent upon re-application prior to the deadline of the offered cohort year to verify continued interest in pursuing the degree. These students will be encouraged to attend an informational meeting with programmatic faculty to discuss strategies for persistence within the program or opportunities for other health care majors with seats available for immediate entry and/or other career directions offered at the College.

The Physical Therapist Assistant program accepts students once a year for the summer session.

## Technical Standards

All applicants for the Health Sciences programs and certificates must possess the essential skills and abilities necessary to successfully complete the requirements of the curriculum either with or without reasonable accommodations for any disabilities the individual may have. \* Note: The use of an intermediary that in effect requires a student to rely on someone else's power of selection and observation will not be permitted.

## Accreditation

This PTA Program at Rhodes State College is accredited by the:

Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)

1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

(703) 706-3245

email: accreditation@apta.org

website: www.capteonline.org

The program has been accredited since its inception in May 1993.

## Program Mission Statement

The Rhodes State College Physical Therapist Assistant Program prepares students to be competent, professional physical therapist assistants.

## Notice to Current or Prospective Physical Therapist Assistant Students

You are at risk if you have been convicted of a prior felony and/or some misdemeanors. You may not be able to participate in clinical education experiences at some hospitals or other clinical sites, therefore preventing you from completing the program. A criminal record may also prevent you from obtaining a license or certificate in your chosen healthcare profession.

## Gainful Employment

See [www.RhodesState.edu/GainfulEmployment](http://www.RhodesState.edu/GainfulEmployment) for additional information.

## For More Information, Contact:

Admissions Office

Rhodes State College

4240 Campus Drive

Lima, OH 45804

Email: [enroll@RhodesState.edu](mailto:enroll@RhodesState.edu)

(419) 995-8320