

Physical Therapist Assistant

Program Number: 10-524-1

Associate in Applied Science Degree

Health-Related Professions Program Cluster

Center of Health & Safety Education

Program offered at Madison Campuses

For information call: (608) 246-6065 or
(800) 322-6282 Ext. 6065

About the Program

Physical therapy is a health profession with the primary purpose of promoting optimal human health and function through the application of scientific principles to prevent, identify, assess, correct, or alleviate acute or prolonged movement dysfunction. The physical therapist assistant (PTA) is a technical health care worker who carries out patient treatments under the supervision of a physical therapist. PTAs find employment in clinics, hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, home care agencies, schools, private health and fitness centers, and other settings.

Physical therapist assistants work under the supervision of a physical therapist. Their duties include: assisting the physical therapist with treatment programs according to the plan of care; training patients in exercises and activities of daily living; conducting treatments; using special equipment; administering modalities and other treatment procedures; and reporting to the physical therapist about the patient's responses.

Application Process

To apply for the program, students must submit an application, online or paper. A \$30 application fee (if not previously paid) plus \$5 online fee, high school transcripts or GED/HSED scores, all college transcript(s) and COMPASS/ASSET test scores.

Unique Requirements for Admission

The applicant will be expected to have better than average grades. An acceptable COMPASS, ACT, SAT, or ASSET test is required. Applicants must have successfully completed with a grade of C or better, two high school semesters or one college semester of chemistry and biology and have Algebra competency demonstrated with satisfactory testing within 2 years prior to applying.

Program Requirements

- 1) CPR Health Care Provider certification
- 2) Caregiver Background Check (CBC)
- 3) physical exam and a completed Medical Health History Form on file prior to beginning clinical experiences involving direct client care.

Curriculum

FIRST YEAR		Hrs/week	
Pre-PT Assistant course		Credits	Lec-Lab
10-806-177	General Anatomy and Physiology * OR	4	5-4
20-806-206	General Anatomy and Physiology *	(4)	(5-4)
Semester Total		4	

First Semester

10-801-195	Written Communication * OR	3	3-0
20-801-201	English 1 *	(3)	(3-0)
10-524-138	PTA Kinesiology 1	3	3-0
10-524-139	PTA Patient Interventions	4	4-0
10-524-140	PTA Professional Issues 1	2	2-0
Semester Total		12	

Second Semester

10-801-198	Speech * OR	3	3-0
20-810-201	Fund of Speech *	(3)	(3-0)
10-809-197	Contemporary American Society *OR	3	3-0
20-809-203	Intro to Sociology *	(3)	(3-0)
10-524-141	PTA Kinesiology 2	4	4-0
10-524-142	PTA Therapeutic Exercise	3	3-0
10-524-143	PTA therapeutic Modalities	4	4-0
Semester Total		17	

Summer Semester

10-809-166	Intro to Ethics: Theory & App *	3	3-0
20-809-231	Intro to Psychology *	3	3-0
10-809-188	Developmental Psychology * OR	3	3-0
20-809-233	Developmental Psychology *	(3)	(3-0)
Semester Total		9	

SECOND YEAR

First Semester

10-524-144	PTA Princ of Neuro Rehab	4	4-0
10-524-145	PTA Princ of Musculo Rehab	4	4-0
10-524-146	PTA Cardio & Integ Mgmt	3	3-0
10-524-147	PTA Clinical Practice 1	2	2-0
10-524-148	PTA Clinical Practice 2	3	3-0
Semester Total		16	

Second Semester

10-524-149	PTA Rehab Across the Lifespan	2	2-0
10-524-150	PTA Professional Issues 2	2	2-0
10-524-151	PTA Clinical Practice 3	5	5-0
	Elective	3	3-0
Semester Total		12	

* Courses which may be taken prior to entering the program. May also be taken at the College-Transfer level. Must have C's or better to transfer. A copy of the essential functions necessary to successfully complete the program of study & a copy of the program's mission statement and strategic plan is available from the website.

Note: Students are placed in English or mathematics courses based on their scores on the COMPASS or ASSET test or on completion of the appropriate prerequisite/s.

Program Courses

10-524-138 PTA Kinesiology 1 3 credits
Introduces basic principles of musculoskeletal anatomy, kinematics, and clinical assessment. Students locate and identify muscles, joints, and other landmarks of the lower quadrant in addition to assessing range of motion and strength.

10-524-139 PTA Patient Interventions 4 credit
An introduction to basic skills and physical therapy interventions performed by the physical therapist assistant.

10-524-140 PTA Professional Issues 1 2 credit
Introduces the history and development of the physical therapy program; legal and ethical issues; the interdisciplinary health care team; and professional communication skills.

10-524-141 PTA Kinesiology 2 4 credit
Applies basic principles from PTA Kinesiology 1 to the axial skeleton and upper quadrant including location and identification of muscles, joints and other landmarks. Assess range of motion and strength of the axial skeleton and upper quadrant. Integrate analysis of posture and gait.

10-524-142 PTA Therapeutic Exercise 3 credit
Provides instruction on the implementation of a variety of therapeutic exercise principles. Learners implement, educate, adapt, and assess responses to therapeutic exercises.

10-524-143 PTA Therapeutic Modalities 4 credits
Develops the knowledge and technical skills necessary to perform numerous therapeutic modalities likely to be utilized as a PTA.

10-524-144 PTA Princ of Neuro Rehab 4 credits
Integrates concepts of neuromuscular pathologies, physical therapy interventions, and data collection in patient treatment.

10-524-145 PTA Princ of Musculo Rehab 4 credits
Integrates concepts of musculoskeletal pathologies, physical therapy interventions, and data collection in patient treatment.

10-524-146 PTA Cardio & Integ Mgmt 3 credits
Integrates concepts of cardiopulmonary and integumentary pathologies, physical therapy interventions, and data collection in patient treatment.

10-524-147 PTA Clinical Practice 1 2 credits
Provides a part-time clinical experience to apply foundational elements, knowledge, and technical skills pertinent to physical therapy practice.

10-524-148 PTA Clinical Practice 2 3 credits
Provides another part-time clinical experience to apply foundational elements, knowledge, and technical skills required of the entry level physical therapist assistant in various practice settings.

10-524-149 PTA Rehab Across the Lifespan 2 credits
A capstone course that integrates concepts of pathology, physical therapy interventions and data collection across the lifespan. In addition the PTA's role in health, wellness and prevention; reintegration, and physical therapy interventions for special patient populations will be addressed.

10-524-150 PTA Professional Issues 2 2 credits
Incorporates professional development, advanced legal and ethical issues, healthcare management and administration, and further development of professional communication strategies.

10-524-151 PTA Clinical Practice 3 5 credits
Provides a full-time clinical experience to apply foundational elements, knowledge, and technical skills required of the entry level physical therapist assistant in various practice settings.

Career Potential:

- Physical Therapist Assistant

More detailed and updated information on this program may be available at: matcmadison.edu. The college reserves the right to make changes in the regulations and courses announced in this publication without notice.

Madison Area Technical College provides equal opportunity in education and employment.
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