# COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY



# PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

### ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM

Physical therapist assistants play an important role in the rehabilitation and treatment of patients with diverse medical conditions or injuries. Through the use of therapeutic modalities, exercise and other techniques, physical therapy assists patients in the relief of pain and discomfort as well as restoring optimal function.

CCAC's Physical Therapist Assistant program prepares students for entrylevel positions performing procedures under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist. Students complete 715 hours of supervised clinical experience in a wide variety of health care facilities, supplemented with 450 hours of classroom learning.

The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. Graduates are eligible to take the National Physical Therapy Examination for the Physical Therapist Assistant, administered by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. From there, they enter the workforce prepared to thrive in a growing field that meaningfully improves people's quality of life.



Students work with experienced instructors to practice a range of techniques using the college's state-of-the-art assistive devices and equipment, including therapeutic ultrasound, electric stimulation, diathermy, lasers, compression and traction.

#### **Affordable**

CCAC accommodates both parttime and full-time students, all for an affordable tuition that saves students thousands of dollars compared to other programs in the region.

### **Successful**

Employment opportunities for physical therapist assistants are on the rise in hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation facilities, schools, patients' homes, sports medicine clinics and private practices.

## **Award-**Winning

In recent years, the American Physical Therapy Association has recognized CCAC students and faculty with prestigious honors, including the Mary McMillan Scholarship Award and the Pennsylvania chapter's Student Leadership Award, Steven Kolumban Award and Carlin-Michels Achievement Award. Additional national awards include the New Century Workforce Pathway Scholarship, Newman Civic Fellowship and NISOD Excellence Award.





"My favorite part of the PTA program is when you go on clinical. The school does a really good job about trying to get everybody in different areas that they would like to see. I can't speak any more highly of the faculty. All of them want you to succeed, they want you to pass, they want you to reach your goals, and they want you to become a PTA. I'm definitely a driven person, but I think having such a supportive school is the whole reason why I did so well and why I landed myself a very nice full-time gig."

—Ashley G., Physical Therapist Assistant program graduate

"The PTA program at CCAC prepared me for success, with my career as a PTA as well as passing the state exam. The staff is a wealth of knowledge. I really enjoyed my time in the program, and I highly recommend it to anyone looking to join the profession of a PTA."

> -Ken C., Physical Therapist Assistant program graduate

> > For more information, visit ccac.edu





## **ASSOCIATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS (628.2)**

	FIRST SEMESTER CREDITS		
	BIO 160	Introduction to Human Pathology	3
	BIO 161	Anatomy & Physiology 1	4
	ENG 101	<b>English Composition 1</b>	3
	PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology	3
	PTA 101	Introduction to Physical Therapy	4
	SECOND	SEMESTER	
	BIO 162	Anatomy & Physiology 2	4
	ENG 102	English Composition 2	3
	PTA 102	Physical Therapy Principles &	4
		Procedures 1	
	PTA 103	Physical Therapy Principles &	4
		Procedures 2	
	PTA 112C	Introduction to Physical Therapy	1
		Clinical Education	
	SELECT	Health & Physical Education Elective	1–3
	SUMMER	₹	
	SELECT	<b>Mathematics Elective</b>	3–4
		(MAT 100 or higher, but not MAT 195)	
THIRD SEMESTER			
	PSY 108	Human Growth & Development	3
	PTA 201	Physical Therapy Principles &	
		Procedures 3	5
	PTA 202	Physical Therapy Seminar	
	PTA 203	Specialty Topics in Physical Therapy	2 3 2 3
	PTA 211C	Physical Therapy Clinical Education 1	2
	SPH 101	Oral Communication	3
	FOURTH	SEMESTER	
	PTA 212C	Physical Therapy Clinical Education 2	5
	PTA 213C	Physical Therapy Clinical Education 3	5
	PTA 215	Physical Therapy Professional Exploration	2
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TOTAL: 67–70 CREDITS

#### **ADMISSIONS**

Applying to the Physical Therapist Assistant program is a two-step process. Interested individuals must first apply to CCAC via the general application at **ccac.edu**. Once all admissions criteria have been met, students may then submit a Physical Therapist Assistant program application.

For more information regarding the admissions process, including prerequisite courses, visit **ccac.edu**.

### **FINANCIAL AID**

CCAC's financial aid opportunities are designed to assist students with a variety of options that will support the student's educational goals and attendance at CCAC.

Students are encouraged to apply for financial aid by submitting a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), available online at **studentaid.gov**. If you have questions or require assistance, contact the Financial Aid office at **financialaid@ccac.edu** or 412.237.2222.

Students are also encouraged to explore scholarships through the CCAC Educational Foundation at

ccac.awardspring.com.

# **Opportunities for PTA students:**

- Advancing Diversity in Physical Therapy (ADaPT)
- Boyce Campus Allied Health Department Endowed Scholarship
- Churchill Wilkins Rotary Founders Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Norman & Nancy Lenke-Johnson Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Norman L. Johnson Family Mobility Matters Endowed Scholarship
- Physical Therapist Assistant Program Alumni Endowed Scholarship