



ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY-OZARK CAMPUS
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM
1700 Helberg Lane
Ozark, Arkansas 72949
479-667-2117, ext 354
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PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

Physical therapy is the planning, organization and implementation of programs for individuals whose ability to function is impaired by disease or injury. The primary goal of physical therapy is to rehabilitate patients suffering from an illness or disease that affects mobility or strength and includes selection, application, and evaluation of appropriate procedures to maintain, improve, and restore these basic functions. The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) is a health care professional who provides specially prescribed physical therapy procedures in a safe, legal, effective manner under the direction and supervision of a licensed physical therapist.

Some tasks performed by the Physical Therapist Assistant include:

- effective communication with a variety of patients
- gathering patient information including vital signs
- performing data collection of patient function (including muscle strength and range of motion)
- assessing and reporting patient progress toward goals
- assisting with prescribed exercise
- application of various modalities (including electrical stimulation, ultrasound, paraffin baths, massage, traction, hot or cold packs)
- application of patients' orthopedic braces and prosthetic devices
- application and adjustment of patients' canes, crutches, walkers, and wheelchairs
- instructing patients to learn and improve ability in functional activities such as walking
- encouraging and motivating patients toward treatment goals
- participation in treatment planning meetings

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program at Arkansas Tech University- Ozark Campus is a course of study leading to the attainment of an Associate of Applied Science degree upon completion of 28 hours of pre-requisite coursework and 44 hours of technical coursework. The PTA program curriculum includes pre-requisite coursework which must be completed prior to enrollment in the technical phase. The technical phase will include 3 consecutive semesters of study. Successful completion of the PTA Program will enable the graduate to apply for licensure as a Physical Therapist Assistant.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus has been granted Candidate for Accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association (1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: www.captionline.org). Candidacy for Accreditation is a pre-accreditation status of affiliation with the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education that indicates the program is progressing toward accreditation.

Application packets will be tentatively available in November of each year. Classes for the PTA program will begin annually in June.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

Admission to the technical phase of the PTA curriculum is limited and requires the following:

1. Completion of 28 hours of pre-requisite coursework
2. 2.5 GPA for pre-requisite coursework
3. Admission to Arkansas Tech University- Ozark Campus
4. Be at least 18 years of age
5. Completion of 16 hours of observation in a physical therapy facility; 8 hours each in 2 separate facilities
6. Completion of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)

**ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE PROGRAM
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT**

Pre-requisites (Required before admission to the PTA Program)

PREFIX	NUMBER	TITLE	CREDITS HRS	SEMESTER
HIT	1123	Introduction to Human Anatomy	3	Fall
HIT	2233	Medical Terminology	3	Fall
BUS Or COMS Or COMS	1303 1003 2003	Introduction to Computers Introduction to Computer Based Systems Microcomputer Applications	3	Fall
ENGL	1013	Composition I	3	Fall
MATH	1113	College Algebra	3	Fall
PHSC	1013	Introduction to Physical Science	3	Spring
PHSC	1021	Introduction to Physical Science Lab	1	Spring
HIT	2203	Human Anatomy and Physiology	3	Spring
ENGL	1023	Composition II	3	Spring
PSY	2003	General Psychology	3	Spring
TOTAL PRE-REQUISITE HOURS			28	

PTA Program Coursework (Requires admission to the PTA Program)

PREFIX	NUMBER	TITLE	CREDITS HRS	SEMESTER
PTA	1122	Clinical Kinesiology	2	Summer
PTA	1121	Clinical Kinesiology Lab	1	Summer
PTA	1132	Pathological Conditions	2	Summer
PTA	1243	Principles of Physical Therapy	3	Summer
PTA	1241	Principles of Physical Therapy Lab	1	Summer
PTA	1251	Data Collection in PT	1	Summer
PTA	1232	Therapeutic Procedures I	2	
PTA	1231	Therapeutic Procedures I Lab	1	
			13	
PTA	2113	Therapeutic Procedures II	3	Fall
PTA	2112	Therapeutic Procedures II Lab	2	Fall
PTA	2121	Neurological Development and Motor Control	1	Fall
PTA	2143	Therapeutic Exercise and Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation	3	Fall
PTA	2142	Therapeutic Exercise and Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Lab	2	Fall
PTA	2151	Administrative Procedures	1	Fall
PTA	2164	Clinical Experience I (5 weeks)	4	Fall
			16	
PTA	2212	Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation	2	Spring
PTA	2211	Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation Lab	1	Spring
PTA	2222	Neurological Rehabilitation	2	Spring
PTA	2221	Neurological Rehabilitation Lab	1	Spring
PTA	2234	Clinical Experience II (5 weeks)	4	Spring
PTA	2235	Clinical Experience III (6 weeks)	5	Spring
			15	
TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS			44	
TOTAL DEGREE HOURS			72	

Any questions regarding the PTA Program can be directed to:

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