

# Physical Therapist Assistant Associate in Health Sciences

**Entrance Requirements:**

Acceptable ASSET or COMPASS score

**Type of Program:**

Phase I: Day, night, or weekend

Phase II: Day

**Type of Degree:**

Associate degree

**Professional Credentials:**

Physical Therapist Assistant (subject to passing national licensure exam)

**Program Accreditation:**

Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education, American Physical Therapy Association

**Employment Opportunities:**

Hospitals, rehabilitation centers, schools, home health care, private practice

- The Physical Therapist Assistant program prepares students to become licensed to work in the field of physical therapy, a key part of the health care profession. Physical therapist assistants work under the supervision of physical therapists to provide treatments to reduce physical disability, pain, movement dysfunction, and to promote optimal health and function.
- This program is designed as a One-Plus-One program. Phase I includes all of the general education and related courses that may be taken at Greenville Technical College or any articulating college. Upon successful completion of all Phase I courses, qualified students are eligible to apply to Phase II, the final four semesters of technical and professional physical therapist assistant coursework.
- Phase II courses are taught at either Greenville Tech's Greer Campus, at Florence-Darlington Technical College's Health Sciences Campus, or at Aiken Technical College.
- Clinical course assignments during Phase II may require students to travel and arrange temporary accommodations away from home.
- Graduates of this program must pass a national licensure exam to practice as a physical therapist assistant.
- **Phase I admission requirements:**
  - Complete Greenville Tech application packet and submit application fee.
  - Submit all high school transcripts or GED and official college transcripts, if applicable.
  - Achieve acceptable ASSET or COMPASS score.

- Meet with a Health Sciences advisor to plan course progression.
- **Phase II admission requirements:**
  - Meet all of the admissions requirements of Phase I.
  - Attend a Career Talk session for the PTA program.
  - Complete 20 hours of observation in at least two different physical therapy clinics and return verification forms signed by a licensed physical therapist/physical therapist assistant.
  - Complete and submit a Letter of Intent to enter Phase II to the PTA program director with appropriate support documentation no later than March 31 for the subsequent fall Phase II admission.
  - Attain a minimum cumulative technical GPA of 2.50 for all Phase I courses. Pass all Phase I courses with a minimum grade of “C” on the first or second attempt by the end of the spring semester before entering Phase II the following fall.
  - Students are selected based upon weighted admissions score. Weighted admission criteria can be obtained at a Career Talk session.
- After acceptance into Phase II, before beginning clinical coursework, students will be required to
  - Submit a physical exam with documentation of required immunization.
  - Attend student orientation.
  - Submit documentation of current CPR certification.
  - Have a crime-free criminal background report.
  - Students must be able to attend all clinical experiences.
  - Have a negative 10-panel drug screen report.
- To graduate with an associate degree, candidates must meet the computer competency requirement by taking CPT 101 (EGR 130 may be substituted with departmental approval) or by passing the exemption exam at a cost to be assessed by the college. CPT 101 and BIO 210/211 must be completed within five years of admission to Phase II.

### **Recommended Program Schedule**

The courses listed below in the first three semesters are required general education courses, except BIO 101 which is a prerequisite to BIO 210.

#### ***First Semester – Fall***

|         |                        |     |
|---------|------------------------|-----|
| AHS 102 | Medical Terminology*   | 3.0 |
| BIO 101 | Biological Science I*  | 4.0 |
| ENG 101 | English Composition I* | 3.0 |

#### ***Second Semester - Spring***

|         |                           |     |
|---------|---------------------------|-----|
| BIO 210 | Anatomy & Physiology I*   | 4.0 |
| CPT 101 | Introduction to Computers | 3.0 |

|         |                                |     |
|---------|--------------------------------|-----|
| ENG 102 | English Composition II*        | 3.0 |
| PSY 201 | General Psychology*            | 3.0 |
| MAT 109 | College Algebra with Modeling* | 3.0 |
|         | or                             |     |
| MAT 120 | Probability & Statistics*      |     |

***Third Semester - Spring***

|         |                               |     |
|---------|-------------------------------|-----|
| PSY 203 | Human Growth & Development*   | 3.0 |
| BIO 211 | Anatomy & Physiology I*       | 4.0 |
| SPC 205 | Public Speaking*              | 3.0 |
|         | or                            |     |
| SPC 209 | Interpersonal Communications* | 3.0 |
|         | Humanities Elective**         |     |

***Fourth Semester - Fall***

|         |  |     |
|---------|--|-----|
| PTH 102 | Introduction to PT Intervention                | 2.0 |
| PTH 105 | Introduction to Kinesiology                    | 3.0 |
| PTH 115 | Pathology for Physical<br>Therapist Assistants | 3.0 |
| PTH 118 | Physical Agents & Modalities                   | 4.0 |

***Fifth Semester - Spring***

|         |  |     |
|---------|--|-----|
| PTH 101 | Physical Therapy<br>Professional Preparation | 2.0 |
| PTH 220 | Patient Assessment Techniques                | 4.0 |
| PTH 226 | Therapeutic Exercises                        | 3.0 |
| PTH 228 | Manual Therapy Techniques                    | 2.0 |
| PTH 234 | Clinical Education I                         | 3.0 |

***Sixth Semester - Summer***

|         |                              |     |
|---------|------------------------------|-----|
| PTH 242 | Orthopedic Management        | 4.0 |
| PTH 246 | Neuromuscular Rehabilitation | 5.0 |

***Seventh Semester - Fall***

|         |                                    |     |
|---------|------------------------------------|-----|
| PTH 264 | Clinical Education II              | 5.0 |
| PTH 270 | Special Topics in Physical Therapy | 3.0 |
| PTH 274 | Clinical Education III             | 5.0 |

**Total credit hours 87.0**

\*General Education course

\*\*Such as SPA 101 Elementary Spanish

Note: Please contact your advisor for other program options.