

Physical Therapist Assistant

Physical Therapist Assistant Associate in Applied Science

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Greenville Technical College Physical Therapist Assistant program is to meet the needs of the area by providing a pool of qualified graduates for entry-level positions who demonstrate knowledge, competence, professionalism and effective communication skills to enable them to participate successfully as members of an evolving health care community. Our commitment is to provide the highest quality educational opportunities available for students who desire to become physical therapist assistants. The faculty is committed to helping each student achieve his or her fullest potential through a rigorous academic curriculum and individualized clinical experiences. We believe in developing strong partnerships between the health care community and the academic program. We value life-long learning and commitment to continuing education. Through role modeling and mentoring, we encourage our students to participate in professional organizations and community service activities.

Entrance Requirements:

Acceptable placement test score(s); plus high school diploma or GED

Type of Program:

Phase I: Day, evening, online or weekend; Phase II: Day, with some evening labs required at FDTC expansion campus location

Professional Credentials:

Physical Therapist Assistant (subject to passing national licensure exam)

Program Accreditation:

The Physical Therapist Assistant program at Greenville Technical 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.

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 member of the health care profession. Physical therapist assistants work under the supervision of licensed physical therapists to provide physical therapy interventions that reduce physical disability, pain, movement dysfunction, and promote optimal health and function.
- This program is designed as a One-Plus-One program. Phase I includes all of the required general education and related courses that may be taken at Greenville Technical College or any articulating or regionally accredited college. Upon successful completion of all Phase I courses, qualified students are eligible to apply to Phase II, the final four semesters (full-time enrollment) or six semesters (part-time enrollment) of academic and clinical physical therapist assistant coursework.
- Phase II courses are taught at either Greenville Tech's Benson Campus located in Greer, SC or the FDTC PTA Expansion Program located at the Florence-Darlington Technical College's Health Sciences Campus PTA Expansion Program in Florence, SC.
- 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 for placement into Phase I courses.
 - Attend Career Talk advising seminar before the March 31 deadline for the year submitting Phase II PTA Weighted Admission Application.
 - Meet with a PTA program advisor to plan course progression.

- **Phase II Admission Requirements:**
 - Complete all of the admissions requirements of Phase I.
 - Take the TEAS entrance exam at Placement Testing Center in Admissions and Registration Center.
 - Submit a completed PTA Program Phase II Weighted Admission Packet to the PTA program director by March 31 of the year students anticipate admission into Phase II. Students must indicate which campus location (Benson or FDTC) to which they are applying. Application can be found on the PTA advising website: <https://www.gvltec.edu/pta/>.
 - Attain a minimum cumulative technical GPA of 2.50 for all 10 required Phase I courses, passing all Phase I courses with a minimum grade of "C" by the second attempt, (this includes W, WF, D or F grades) by the end of the spring semester before entering Phase II the following fall.
- Students are selected for PTA Program Phase II admission based upon competitive Weighted Admissions score ranking. Students with the highest scores are accepted on a space availability basis. Weighted admission criteria can be obtained at a Career Talk session. Minimum Weighted Admission Score to be considered for admission is 158/263.
- After acceptance into Phase II, before beginning clinical coursework, students will be required to
 - Submit a non-refundable \$100 dollar deposit, applied toward Phase II tuition, to secure seat in Phase II for the Fall Semester.
 - Attend new PTA program student orientation.
 - Have a negative 10-panel drug screen report.
 - Have a crime-free criminal background report. Students may be subject to more than one background check during the program based on affiliate requirements.
 - Submit a physical exam with documentation of required immunizations.
 - Submit documentation of current Healthcare Provider CPR certification.
 - Complete a Healthstream medical orientation unit.
 - Be able to attend all clinical experiences, which require driving to and from clinical sites.
 - Pass the PTA Program Physical Competency Assessment. Form located on <https://www.gvltec.edu/pta/> under the link, "Is PTA Right for You?"
- BIO 150 must be completed within five years of admission to Phase II and is offered only at GTC or York Technical College.

Recommended Program Schedule

PHASE I

First Semester - Fall (Full Time)

ENG	101	English Composition I*	3.0
AHS	102	Medical Terminology	3.0
PSY	201	General Psychology*	3.0
BIO	210	Anatomy & Physiology I*	4.0
MAT	120	Probability and Statistics*	3.0

Second Semester - Spring (Full Time)

PSY	203	Human Growth & Development*	3.0
SPC	205	Public Speaking*/t	3.0
BIO	150	Anatomy Review for Kinesiology*	1.0
BIO	211	Anatomy & Physiology I*	4.0
		Humanities Elective*	3.0

PHASE II

Third Semester - Fall (Full Time)

PTH	102	Introduction to Physical Therapy Intervention	2.0
PTH	105	Introduction to Kinesiology	3.0
PTH	115	Pathology for Physical Therapist Assistants	3.0
PTH	118	Physical Agents & Modalities	4.0

Fourth Semester - Spring (Full Time)

PTH	101	Physical Therapy Professional Preparation	2.0
PTH	220	Patient Assessment Techniques	4.0
PTH	226	Therapeutic Exercises	3.0
PTH	270	Special Topics in Physical Therapy	3.0
PTH	234	Clinical Education I	3.0

Fifth Semester - Summer (Part Time)

PTH	242	Orthopedic Management	4.0
PTH	246	Neuromuscular Rehabilitation	5.0

Sixth Semester - Fall (Part Time)

PTH	264	Clinical Education II	5.0
PTH	274	Clinical Education III	5.0

Total Required Credit Hours: 76.0

* General education courses

†Although SPC 205 is preferred, SPC 200 or SPC 209 will be accepted.

All courses listed under first and second semester are required prior to acceptance into Phase II.

Visit <https://www.gvltec.edu/gainful-employment/> for important information about the educational debt, earnings and graduation rates of students who attended programs.