

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT - DEGREE

Limited Entry, Associate of Applied Science Degree Program | mhcc.edu/PTA (<http://mhcc.edu/PTA/>)

Prerequisite Advising

Academic Advising & Transfer Center: 503-491-7315 | Room AC2253
(Student Services) | Advising.Questions@mhcc.edu

Faculty Advisers

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Physical therapist assistants (PTAs) work with people who are recovering from injury or illness, to help them regain movement and/or manage pain. PTAs help people with their plan of care, as prescribed by a physical therapist (PT), and may:

- Help patients with movement or exercise.
- Assist patients by using massage and/or stretching.
- Help people learn to safely use movement aids, such as walkers.
- Report patient status to the physical therapist.
- Tell patients and their family members what to do or expect after treatment.

Students who complete MHCC's PTA program may sit for the National Physical Therapy Exam, and can be licensed to practice in any state.

Please note: this program is *not* a stepping stone to a PT program. Students wishing to pursue a PT program should consult with four-year schools to explore this option.

Program Outcomes

At the completion of this program, students should be able to:

- Provide safe and effective entry-level physical therapy services under the general supervision of a licensed physical therapist, including plan of care review, selected interventions, tests and measures, therapeutic communication, client education, and accurate documentation
- Adhere to all legal practice standards, values-based behaviors, and standards of ethical conduct expected of the physical therapist assistant
- Employ critical thinking skills while making clinical decisions about the provision of physical therapy interventions in accordance with the established plan of care
- Contribute as an integral member of the health care team by providing collaborative patient-centered care
- Respond to individual and cultural considerations, needs, and values during the provision of physical therapy services
- Demonstrate the professional values of social responsibility and advocacy through active participation in community service and professional associations

For the most part, courses that fulfill general education requirements can be taken in any term.

Please note: All core (PTA) courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better, and must be completed within 5 years of starting the program.

First Quarter

Fall		Credits
MO111	Medical Terminology ★	4
PTA101 & 101L	Physical Therapy Interventions 1 and Physical Therapy Interventions 1 Lab	7
PTA105	Introduction to Physical Therapy	2
PTA121	Clinical Kinesiology	4
Credits		17

Second Quarter

Winter		
PTA102 & 102L	Physical Therapy Interventions 2 and Physical Therapy Interventions 2 Lab	7
PTA106	Therapeutic Communication and Cross-Cultural Communication in Physical Therapy	2
PTA123	Balance and Gait	3
Health and Physical Education requirement (https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/aas/#health)		1
Credits		13

Third Quarter

Spring		
PTA103 & 103L	Physical Therapy Interventions 3 and Physical Therapy Interventions 3 Lab	7
PTA107	Introduction to Clinical Practice	2
PTA122	Manual Therapy Techniques	3
Health and Physical Education requirement (https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/aas/#health)		1
Credits		13

Fourth Quarter

Summer		
PTA251	Clinical Applications I	1
PTA261	Clinical Affiliation I	8
Credits		9

Fifth Quarter

Fall		
PTA201 & 201L	Physical Therapy Interventions 4 and Physical Therapy Interventions 4 Lab	5
PTA262	Clinical Affiliation II	8
Health and Physical Education requirement (https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/aas/#health)		1
Credits		14

Sixth Quarter

Winter		
PTA202 & 202L	Physical Therapy Interventions 5 and Physical Therapy Interventions 5 Lab	7
PTA257	Evidence Informed Physical Therapy Practice	1

PSY201	General Psychology ★	4
Credits		12
Seventh Quarter		
Spring		
PTA203 & 203L	Physical Therapy Interventions 6 and Physical Therapy Interventions 6 Lab	4
PTA258	Licensure and Lifelong Learning	1
PTA263	Clinical Affiliation III	8
Credits		13
Total Credits		91

Pre-program courses + program courses = **103** total credits.

Exploring **physical therapy assistant** as your major? Learn more with MHCC's Career Coach (<https://mhcc.lightcastcc.com/careers/physical-therapist-assistant/?region=Greater%20Multnomah%20County%20Area&radius=100%20miles>), (<https://mhcc.lightcastcc.com/programs/psychology-major/209250/?region=Greater%20Multnomah%20County%20Area&radius=100%20miles>) which covers: skills needed for each career, wages, employment rates, and live job postings in the Greater Multnomah County Area.

Admission Information

Prospective students must satisfactorily meet program admission criteria and the application deadline to be considered for admission. For the most current information on prerequisite courses prior to applying for and entering the Physical Therapist Assistant program, please see [mhcc.edu/PTA/](https://www.mhcc.edu/PTA/) (<https://www.mhcc.edu/PTA/>). This information can be subject to change; it is the student's responsibility to verify completion of appropriate prerequisite courses. All classes outside the core curriculum (those not preceded by PTA) may be taken prior to admission to the Physical Therapist Assistant program.

Applicants to the Physical Therapist Assistant program must be physically and mentally able to cope with the rigors of the curriculum and the demanding nature of the physical therapy profession. Established academic and clinical requirements essential to the program of instruction apply to all students and cannot be waived. Attempts will be made to accommodate and retain qualified applicants with disabilities unless results of evaluations indicate that given reasonable accommodation an individual will still not be able to perform the essential required program functions.

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