

*Allied Health*

# Physical Therapist Assistant Technology

*As a physical therapist assistant you are qualified to work in a private office, school or health care facility under the supervision of a physical therapist. You will work directly with patients in need of therapeutic exercises to regain motion and strength after illness or injury. You will have the opportunity to learn several different methods of treatment in a hands-on setting. This dynamic career offers interaction with patients and other health professionals in both acute care and rehabilitative settings.*

*The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) of the American Physical Therapy Association, 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. The telephone number is (703) 706-3245.*

## **You'll Learn**

- How to complete therapeutic and rehabilitative exercises
- To utilize a variety of therapy techniques for patient care
- Comprehensive patient care under the supervision of a physical therapist
- Subject matter covered on licensure examinations
- Additional knowledge, skills and abilities essential to your success on the job

## **You'll Earn**

- An excellent starting salary ranging from \$35,000 to \$39,000 per year depending on geographic location
- Strong status in the job market
- Opportunities to specialize in your area of interest—sports medicine, neurology, orthopedics, pediatrics, etc.
- The option to advance your career through further education
- The opportunity for a flexible work schedule part- or full-time
- A choice of work environments including private offices, hospitals, schools, health care facilities and the home care setting

## **You'll Succeed**

- More than half of all new jobs created require education beyond high school.
- Employees with degrees have better chances for promotion.
- Associate degree holders generally earn 30 percent more than high school graduates (according to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau).
- College credit or advanced placement may be given for relevant work experience.
- Many credits from an associate degree can be applied toward a bachelor's degree.

# Get in, Get smart, Get going. . .

Delaware Tech operates on a semester system with new sessions in late August and mid-January, plus summer sessions beginning at the end of May and in mid-June. Non-technology courses may be taken on a part-time or full-time basis during any semester or the summer session. Some students may need refresher courses at the basic or pre-tech level; others may receive transfer credit for prior educational experiences. Counselors and advisors are available to help you schedule your courses.

Allied Health technology programs have a selective admission process which includes academic criteria of an algebra, biology and chemistry course at 2.0 or greater (high school or college) within the past five years and a GPA of 2.0 or greater. The prerequisite course noted below is a requirement for this specific program. Technology courses are sequential, offered only one time per year and are only open to students who have been admitted into the technology program.

People interested in entering Physical Therapist Assistant Technology must attend an Allied Health Information Session prior to initiating the process for admission into the technology. Information regarding these sessions may be obtained by calling (302) 888-5288. Visit the Allied Health Web site at [www.dtcc.edu/wilmington/ah](http://www.dtcc.edu/wilmington/ah).

## PROGRAM PREREQUISITE

Chemistry- high school level or above within last five years.

## TECHNICAL COURSES

**Introduction to Physical Therapist Assisting** covers the profession including history, role utilization standards and ethics of practice. Basic patient care procedures and documentation are included.

**Basic Techniques** studies the theory and skill development in body mechanics, transfers, gait training, assessment techniques and massage.

**Modalities** studies the theory and skill development in modalities, electrotherapy, pain and wound care management.

**Pathology/Treatment of Orthopedic Conditions** studies orthopedic conditions and underlying pathology with an emphasis on physical therapy rehabilitation of these conditions.

**Pathology/Treatment of Neurological Conditions** studies neurologic conditions and underlying pathology with an emphasis on physical therapy rehabilitation of these conditions.

**Functional Human Anatomy** is an in-depth study of the musculoskeletal system of man focusing on the structure and function associated with various physical therapy techniques.

**Kinesiology** studies the relationship between the muscular and skeletal system acting to provide motion through the biomechanical leverage system.

**Introduction to Pathology** presents information on diseases and their implications in physical therapy.

**Clinical Practice I, II, and III** provide clinical experience in a physical therapy setting for application and refinement of learned clinical skills on patients, under a clinical instructor's supervision.

**Special Topics for the PTA** studies advanced and current areas of the profession.

**PTA Management Issues** is an overview of non-patient care related topics and their clinical relevance.

## SUPPORT COURSES

Composition  
Algebra & Trigonometry  
Anatomy and Physiology I, II  
Ethical Issues in Health Care  
Medical Terminology  
Oral Communications  
Intro to Computers & Applications  
General Psychology  
Physics for Allied Health

## TO APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE

1. Obtain an admission application by calling (302) 888-5288. Admission applications are also available online at [www.dtcc.edu/prospective](http://www.dtcc.edu/prospective). Complete and return the application to the Wilmington Campus with a \$10 fee.
2. Request that your high school and/or college transcripts be sent to the Admissions Office.
3. Arrange to take the Computerized Placement Test (CPT) *unless you have already completed college-level Math and English courses with a "C" grade or better*. The CPT is administered by the Admissions Office (302) 454-3954 and is used to determine appropriate course placement.
4. Meet with a Delaware Tech counselor to discuss your CPT results and select your course schedule.
5. Remember to apply and register early for the best selection of courses.