

Madisonville Community College
Physical Therapist Assistant Program
Program Guide

This program prepares the individual to become a physical therapist assistant (PTA) who is able to perform selected components of interventions and data collection under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE*). The curriculum combines general education and physical therapy courses. Various facilities are utilized for clinical experiences. The graduate is eligible to sit for the national licensing examination for the physical therapist assistant. Enrollment in this program is limited; therefore, a selective admissions process is followed. Students enrolled in the Physical Therapist Assistant program must achieve a minimum grade of "C" in each required general education course; a minimum grade of "C" in each required PTA didactic course; and a grade of pass in each clinical practicum course to complete the program.

*Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)
American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)
1111 North Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-706-3245, email accreditation@apta.org, website: www.capteonline.org.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The physical therapist assistant works in a hands-on situation under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist by providing patient services for the prevention and alleviation of physical impairment and the restoration of function. *Therefore, in order to work successfully with patients, all applicants should possess:*

1. Sufficient visual acuity, such as observation, necessary for administering patient care and reading equipment gauges and settings used in treatments.
2. Sufficient auditory perception to receive verbal communication and to execute patient care through the use of monitoring devices.
3. Sufficient strength and gross and fine motor coordination to respond promptly and to implement patient care skills, such as the manipulation of equipment, and positioning and lifting patients.
4. Sufficient communication skills (speech, reading, writing) to interact with individuals and to communicate their needs promptly and effectively, as may be necessary in the patient's interest.
5. Sufficient intellectual and emotional functions to implement the plan of care.

If you have a documented disability and need any type of accommodation, you are required to register with the Disability Resource Coordinator. Contact Valerie Wolfe, Disability Resource Coordinator, Room 112 LRC, 270-824-1708.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

Students are admitted to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program once a year in the Spring Semester. Interested applicants must complete and submit a PTA Program Application Packet in order to be considered for admission. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the items listed below are included in the Application Packet and are on file in the PTA office no later than the deadline of October 1st.

1. Application to Madisonville Community College
2. Official transcripts of all previously attended colleges
3. ACT/SAT score (no more than 5 years old)
4. Physical Therapist Assistant Program Application
5. Clinical Experience Form
6. Mid-Term Grade Evaluation Form
7. Academic Plan
8. Letter of Application
9. Application Checklist
10. Pre-Admission Conference Verification Form

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

All applicants meeting the appropriate academic requirements and technical standards shall be considered equally for admission to a community college or to any academic program thereof regardless of race, color, religion, sex, marital status, national origin, sexual orientation, age, beliefs, mental or physical disability.

ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is a selective admissions program. The PTA Program accepts 16 students. Admission to Madisonville Community College does **NOT** imply admission to the PTA Program. Students who are interested in applying for admission to the Madisonville Community College Physical Therapist Assistant Program must meet the minimum standards set by (1) The Community College System Senate, and (2) Madisonville Community College. Meeting the minimum standards permits a student to be included in the qualified applicant pool, but does **not** guarantee admission to the PTA Program. Students who do not meet the minimum standards and who are not in the qualified applicant pool cannot be admitted to the PTA Program. The minimum standards to be admitted to the MCC PTA Program are:

1. Completion of all pre-requisite course work (ENG 101, MT 110, or MT 150, BIO 137, BIO 139, and PSY 100 or PY 110) with a grade of "C" or higher by the end of the semester of application.
2. Documentation of minimum of 8 hours of observation, volunteer or work experience in a physical therapy setting (4 hours must be in a hospital physical therapy department);
3. Submissions of valid ACT/SAT score;

4. Verification of attendance at a PreAdmission Conference, including a face-to-face meeting with a PTA Faculty advisor.
5. Submission of a PTA Program Application packet and associated materials by October 1.

After a qualified applicant pool has been established, students will earn points based on certain levels of performance. (Point System for Admission) Students with the highest total points on the Point System for Admission will be preferred for admission. "Preferred applicants" (50 points or higher) will be chosen above "Non-preferred applicants" (less than 50 points).

Selection of students for the Physical Therapist Assistant Program will be made by the President of the College or designee after considering the recommendations of the PTA Admissions Committee.*

**Enrollment in the PTA program may be limited because of insufficient faculty and financial resources at the college and/or the availability of campus or clinical facilities.*

The PTA Admissions Committee will make recommendations for admission based upon the following:

1. Cumulative (overall) Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher; Overall GPA is calculated based on **all** previous college coursework completed through the summer semester preceding the date of application. Mid-term grades for classes in which the applicant is enrolled during the semester of application will **NOT** be used in the calculation of an applicant's overall GPA
2. Cumulative KEY GPA of 3.0 or higher in BIO 137 (Human Anatomy & Physiology I) and BIO 139 (Human Anatomy and Physiology II). A mid-term grade will be used for KEY GPA calculation for applicants enrolled in BIO 139 or BIO 137 at the time of application.
3. ACT (SAT equivalent) composite score of 19 or above (no more than 5 years old)
4. Kentucky resident.
5. Students with a minimum of 16 clock hours of volunteer/work experience in PT setting,
6. Students who have taken a Physics and/or Medical Terminology course and received a grade of "C" or higher.

Other factors that may be considered by the admissions committee are:

1. Information regarding an applicant's likelihood of success in the Program and/or
2. Information regarding an applicant's ability to make a positive contribution to the profession and/or abide by the legal and ethical guidelines of physical therapy practice.

NOTIFICATION OF ADMISSION STATUS

ALL applicants will be notified by MAIL regarding selection status (i.e. each application will receive an "acceptance" or "rejection" letter). Telephone calls or personal requests regarding an applicant's selection status will **NOT** be acknowledged.

POST-ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

If admitted to the PTA program, students must:

1. Complete a Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Certification Course (1 and 2 person adult, child, and infant). Training is usually offered during a PTA Student Orientation period before PTA classes begin. The fee for CPR training is approximately \$35.

2. Submit results of a current TB Skin Test (often offered free to health care employees)
3. Provide documented proof of immunity to measles, mumps and rubella or vaccination against (MMR)
4. Purchase liability insurance coverage via the Kentucky Community & Technical College System (approximately \$20.00 per year). This is provided during PTA Student Orientation.
5. Purchase appropriate uniform attire to be worn during Clinical Practicums.
6. Purchase books and supplies for the academic year. Excluding Clinical Practicum expenses, anticipated cost is ~\$850.00.
7. Complete a HIV/AIDS Home Study Course, before PTA classes begin. This course must be approved by the Kentucky State Board of Physical Therapy. Materials and information for the approved course will be distributed during PTA Orientation. Cost is approximately \$25.00.
8. Provide documentation of Hepatitis B immunization or signed declination form.
9. Purchase an identification badge. Cost is approximately \$5.00.
10. Provide documented proof of medical insurance or signed waiver form.
11. Maintain current membership in the American Physical Therapy Association.
12. Dues are approximately \$80.00 per year.
13. Pay Tuition: See the current MCC Schedule of Classes for current tuition rates.

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED COSTS (General Education and Technical Courses)

ITEM	COST
Books/Supplies	\$700.00
Tuition	\$8500.00
ID Badge	\$5.00
APTA Dues	\$160.00
Lab Coat	\$30.00
HIV/AIDS Course	\$25.00
Liability Insurance	\$40.00
Cap & Gown	\$40.00
CPR Certification	\$35.00
TB Skin Test	\$6.00
Drug Test/Background Checks	\$ 50.00
Estimated Total Cost	\$9,591.00
State License Application Fee	\$170.00
State License Exam	\$350.00
Total License Fee	\$520.00

Students will be given more specific details regarding cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification training and HIV/AIDS schedules, liability insurance, immunizations, and program specific requirements and expenses upon admission to the PTA Program.

CLINICAL INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES

Clinical education is a critical component of the PTA Curriculum. The PTA Program is committed to ensuring that each student receives a variety of the highest quality clinical experiences possible by carefully considering a variety of factors in determining individual student clinical placements. These factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) The overall number and variety of clinical sites available for student placement,
- 2) The number and type of clientele served at individual clinical sites,
- 3) The geographical location of various clinical sites and the secondary costs of travel and/or housing associated with its location,
- 4) Student interest in a given physical therapy setting,
- 5) Student concerns regarding travel or other personal issues which may be associated with placement at given clinical sites, and
- 6) The compatibility of individual clinical instructors and students which may affect optimal learning.

No student will be placed at a clinical site without prior didactic training in the clinical skills required. Therefore, student clinical experiences will be scheduled as follows:

Clinical Practicum I. Semester 1- Integrated clinical experience.
½ day clinical (4 hrs. per week) for 15 weeks (Total, 60 contact hours)

Students will be placed at one of the following Trover Health Systems, Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation clinical sites:

- a) Madisonville Office
- b) Hopkinsville Office
- c) Princeton Office
- d) Dawson Springs Office

This experience is primarily for observation, skill monitoring, and the application and integration of theoretic concepts to clinical situations.

Clinical Practicum II. Semester 2 – Terminal clinical experience.
Full-time clinical (40 hrs. per week) for 4 weeks (Total, 160 contact hours)

Students will be placed in an outpatient setting with which the program has a current contract.

Clinical Practicum III. Semester 3 – Terminal clinical experience
2, full-time (40 hrs. per week) for 5 weeks each (Total, 400 contact hours)

All efforts will be made to place students in an acute care and rehabilitation setting with which the program has a current contract.

Students are encouraged to review information provided by the program regarding each clinical facility. After reviewing this information, students are encouraged to make recommendations to the ACCE for individual clinical placements based upon their individual goals and needs. The final decision regarding clinical placements for each student will be made by the ACCE/Program Coordinator.

To prevent a potential conflict of interest, students may not request a clinical affiliation in which 1) they have been employed in the PT department; 2) they have accepted employment after graduation; or 3) they have accepted scholarship money in return for employment after graduation, unless approved by the ACCE or Program Coordinator.

All costs for clinical education are the student's responsibility. This includes, but is not limited to: transportation, housing, meals, liability insurance, drug screenings, background checks, and immunizations or physicals. Students are expected to have reliable transportation to and from all clinical affiliations. Students must assume responsibility for securing housing, if needed, for their selected affiliation. The student should be prepared to travel to clinical sites.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT CURRICULUM

It is the student's responsibility to keep abreast of any changes in the PTA Program. If you have any questions about the program, contact the PTA program office at (270) 824-1805.

The following is an outline of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program curriculum:

ENG 101	Writing I	3 credit hours
ENG 102	Writing II	3 credit hours
BIO 137	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4 credit hours
BIO 139	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4 credit hours
PY 110	General Psychology -or-	3 credit hours
PSY 100	Introduction to Psychology	4 credit hours
PSY 223	Developmental Psychology	3 credit hours
MT 150	College Algebra -or-	3 credit hours
MT 110	Applied Mathematics	3 credit hours
	Computer Literacy	3 credit hours
	Humanities/Heritage/Foreign Language Course	3 credit hours
	Oral communications Course	3 credit hours
PTA 100	Orientation to Physical Therapy Practice	4 credit hours
PTA 150	Functional Anatomy & Kinesiology	6 credit hours
PTA 160	Medical Surgical Conditions	3 credit hours
PTA 170	Clinical Practicum I	1 credit hour
PTA 200	Modalities and Procedures in Physical Therapy	5 credit hours
PTA 220	Problems and Procedures in Physical Therapy	5 credit hours
PTA 240	Clinical Practicum II	2 credit hours
PTA 250	Neurological Rehabilitation in Physical Therapy	5 credit hours
PTA 260	Seminar in Physical Therapy	2 credit hours
PTA 280	Clinical Practicum III	5 credit hours
		Total 67 – 71 credit hours
***Preferred Courses		
AHS 115	Medical Terminology	3 credit hours
	Physics Course (PHY 171, 151, or 152)	3-4 credit hours
		Total 67-78 credit hours

***Courses are not required for Physical Therapist Assistant Program AAS Degree but are preferred for admission to the program.

Please note that an applicant must have a "C" or better in all classes to be considered for admission, or to remain enrolled in the PTA Program. All PTA courses require admission to the PTA Program prior to enrollment. Students must have completed all general education courses prior to enrollment in PTA 200.

CATEGORY	ACT SCORE (SAT Equivalent)		OVERALL GPA		KEY GPA (Anat I & Anat II)		PHYSICS		MED TERM		VOLUNTEER OR WORK EXPERIENCE				RESIDENCY		TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
	Score	Pts	Score	Pts	Score	Pts	Grade	Pts	Grade	Pts	# Hrs	Pts	Clinics	Pts	Status	Pts		
POINTS	≤17	0	2	1	2	1	Did not enroll	0	Did not enroll	0	8	0	1	0	Out of State	0	2	<i>Minimum Points Required</i>
	18	2	2.1 - 2.99	5	2.1 - 2.99	5					16 - 20	2						
	19 - 21	7	3.0 - 3.49	15	3.0 - 3.49	20	C	1	C	1	21 - 39	3	≥2	3	KY	4	50	<i>Minimum Points to be considered Preferred Applicant</i>
	22 - 24	10	3.5 - 3.99	20	3.5 - 3.99	25	B	3	B	3	≥ 40	5						
	≥ 25	15	4.0	30	4.0	35	A	4	A	4							100	<i>Maximum Points Possible</i>

CALCULATE PERSONAL TOTAL Enter <i>Point Values</i> for Each Category to the RIGHT	ACT SCORE (SAT Equivalent)	OVERALL GPA	KEY GPA	PHYSICS	MED TERM	VOL HRS	# CLINICS	RESIDENCY	0	APPLICANT SCORE
SAMPLE STUDENT	10	15	25	0	4	5	3	4	66	APPLICANT SCORE

Your Scores										APPLICANT SCORE
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