



PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

THE CAREER

Physical Therapist Assistants (PTAs) provide physical therapy services under the direction and supervision of a licensed physical therapist. PTAs help individuals of all ages who are ill, injured or have a health condition that limits the ability to perform daily activities needed for life. PTAs work in a variety of settings including hospitals, outpatient centers, home health, schools, work settings, and the sports and fitness areas. Care provided by a PTA may include teaching patients/clients exercises for mobility, strength and coordination, training for activities such as walking with crutches, canes or walkers, and the use of physical agents and electrotherapy such as ultrasound and electrical stimulation. PTAs must complete a 2-year Associate Degree and successfully pass the National Physical Therapy Examination for Physical Therapist Assistants to be licensed in most states including South Carolina.

CAREER OPTIONS

The nationwide average salary range for a licensed physical therapist assistant is \$33,000 – \$50,000 per year.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program consists of general education courses, science and physical therapist assistant courses taught at the college; on-campus and off-campus laboratories and full time clinical education experiences at available sites. The program is five consecutive semesters in length. Successful completion of all course work results in an earned Associate Degree in Applied Sciences/Physical Therapist Assistant.

ADMISSIONS

Applicants interested in the Physical Therapist Assistant program must first complete the college application process. After the college admission process has been completed, the prospective student makes an appointment to meet with a Health Science advisor. The Physical Therapist Assistant program has additional admission and application requirements. Applications for admission to the Physical Therapist Assistant program may only be obtained from Health Science advisors. Acceptance into the college does not guarantee admission into the program. For information regarding TCL's Physical Therapist Assistant program, please attend a free Health Sciences Information Session. Visit our website at www.tcl.edu/health or contact a Health Science advisor at 843.525.8267.

ENROLL ▪ REGISTER ▪ ATTEND

1. Apply to the College and for Financial Aid.
2. Complete the COMPASS placement assessment test.
3. Complete the TEAS test.
4. Call your academic advisor to make an appointment for advisement and to register.
5. Pay your tuition and fees. (*Verify financial aid.*)
6. Obtain all needed College IDs: Student ID, Vehicle Registration, and Blackboard ID. (*Get your books and course supplies.*)
7. Mark your calendar for the first day of class and plan to be there!

NOTE: SEE REQUIRED COURSES IN CATALOG.

Physical Therapist Assistant Program Granted Candidacy Status

Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) • IIII North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 • 703 706-3245

> The Technical College of the Lowcountry is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all qualified applicants for admissions or employment without regard to race, gender, national origin, age, religion, marital status, veteran status, disability, or political affiliation or belief.

Beaufort Campus ▪ 921 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, SC 29901 ▪ 843.525.8211

Hampton Campus ▪ H. Mungin Center ▪ 54 Tech Circle ▪ Varnville, SC 29944 ▪ 803.943.4262

New River Campus ▪ 100 Community College Dr. ▪ Bluffton, SC 29909 ▪ 843.470.6000

MCAS Beaufort Merritt Field ▪ Education Office ▪ 843.228.7494 | MCRD Parris Island ▪ Education Office ▪ 843.228.2659