

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT, ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE



Program Information

Are you patient, compassionate, and persevering? These are the qualities that can help you become a physical therapist assistant (PTA). As a PTA, you will work under the direction and supervision of physical therapists in a variety of settings, providing services for patients that help decrease their pain, improve their mobility, restore function, and minimize disabilities. San Jacinto College boasts a 100 percent pass rate on the national licensing exam in the graduating cohorts of 2019-2022, and from 2009-2016. Graduates have a high employment rate within six months of passing the licensing exam.

The San Jacinto College Physical Therapist Assistant program:

- Is a total of 66 credit hours, including three clinical affiliations, and the student is awarded an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree upon completion of the program. Successful completion of the program in two years prepares graduates for the national licensing exam for physical therapist assistants; and
- Trains students to help patients to regain strength, range of motion, function, and movement.

Program Accreditation

The Physical Therapist Assistant program at San Jacinto College is accredited by the:

Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)
3030 Potomac Ave, Suite 100
Alexandria VA 22305-3085

Telephone: 703-706-3242; 1-800-999-2782
Email: accreditation@apta.org
Website: <http://www.capteonline.org>

Career Opportunities

Employment of PTAs is expected to be good to care for and manage patients, especially the elderly population. Job prospects will also be more favorable in rural areas (BLS.gov (<http://BLS.gov>), 2019).

PTAs work under the supervision of physical therapists in a variety of settings including, but not limited to:

- Acute care,
- Hospitals,

- Rehab hospitals,
- Out-patient clinics,
- Aquatics,
- Pediatrics,
- Geriatrics, and
- Home health.

Earning Potential

Physical Therapist Assistant: \$76,428¹ per year

¹ Source: texaswages.com (<http://texaswages.com>), median salary Gulf Coast region, 2023

For more information, students may contact 281-998-6350, x3350 or email PTAprogram@sjcd.edu.

Campus

South Campus

Information

Physical Therapist Assistants (PTAs) work under the direction and supervision of physical therapists in a variety of settings. Opportunities include, but are not limited to, outpatient clinics, hospitals, long-term care facilities, pediatric centers, schools, and home health agencies. PTAs provide services for patients that help decrease pain, improve mobility, restore function, and minimize disabilities.

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Students needing to contact to program directly may call (281) 998-6350, x3350 or email pta@sjcd.edu.

The program has determined that its curriculum meets the state educational requirements for licensure or certification in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands secondary to its accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), based on the following: CAPTE accreditation of a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant program satisfies state educational requirements in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. Thus, students graduating from CAPTE-accredited physical therapist and physical therapist assistant education programs are eligible to take the National Physical Therapy Examination and apply for licensure in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. For more information regarding state qualifications and licensure requirements, students may refer to the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy website at www.fsbpt.org (<https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.fsbpt.org%2F&data=04%7C01%7Csusan.hinson%40sjcd.edu%7Ca00d1a834e45437c715108d96e47197d%7C514efd408efe4f15819f34e56acf1562%7C0%7C0%7C637662073918720479%7C%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljojV2luMzliLCJBtIl6lk1haWwiLC>).

%7C1000&sdata=yelsCAB5ZsnTUIShwGJNSihiWeF
%2F02fq2%2FCsGO0LZmk%3D&reserved=0).

The program is a total of 66 semester credit hours including three clinical rotations. The student is awarded an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree upon completion of the program. After graduation, the student applies to take the National Physical Therapist Assistant Examination. Individuals must pass the licensure exam to practice as a PTA in most states, including Texas.

Students enrolling into San Jacinto College programs with external learning experiences (i.e., clinical, practicum, externship, cooperative, etc.) will be required to comply with the immunization requirements and policies of the clinical/external learning sites to engage in all clinical/external learning experiences. Vaccination requirements at clinical/external learning sites are implemented pursuant to the independent authority of such facilities and are not mandated by San Jacinto College. Failure to meet the immunization requirements mandated by clinical/external learning sites may limit a student's ability to complete the program and/or may delay the student's graduation date. San Jacinto College does not process exemptions, and students should address potential vaccination exemptions directly with the clinical/external learning site.

Admission

Applicants to the program must meet the requirements for general admission to the College and must also meet program-specific requirements. For detailed information concerning admission requirements and deadlines for submitting applications and related documents, students may contact the Physical Therapist Assistant department.

Contact Information:

Email: ptaprogram@sjcd.edu

Phone: (281) 998-6350, x3350

Website: Physical Therapist Assistant (<https://www.sanjac.edu/programs/areas-of-study/health/pta/>)

For more information on the licensing process, students may visit the American Physical Therapy Association, (<https://www.apta.org>) which provides information on the profession of physical therapy.

For complaints regarding the PTA program or a PTA student, please contact the Program Director at kathryn.reeves@sjcd.edu or the Department Chair of Health Science at kira.beal@sjcd.edu.

In accordance with Texas House Bill 1508, the College informs all students in this program who may have a criminal background that a criminal history could keep graduates from being licensed by the state of Texas. Students with any questions about their background and licensure may speak with the Department Chair.

Plan of Study

3PH-THRPY

Prerequisites	Credits
ENGL 1301 Composition I ¹	3
Mathematics ¹	3
BIOL 2301 Anatomy and Physiology I (Lecture) & BIOL 2101 and Anatomy and Physiology I (Lab) ¹	4

BIOL 2302 & BIOL 2102	Anatomy and Physiology II (Lecture) and Anatomy and Physiology II (Lab) ¹	4
Credits		14
First Term		
PTHA 1201	The Profession of Physical Therapy	2
PTHA 1305	Basic Patient Care Skills	3
PTHA 1313	Functional Anatomy	3
PTHA 1321	Pathophysiology for the PTA	3
PSYC 2301	General Psychology ¹	3
Credits		14
Second Term		
PTHA 2201	Essentials of Data Collection	2
PTHA 2409	Therapeutic Exercise	4
PTHA 1431	Physical Agents	4
Language, Philosophy and Culture (Humanities) or Creative Arts (Fine Arts)		3
Credits		13
Third Term		
PTHA 1360	Clinical I-PTA	3
PTHA 2205	Neurology	2
PTHA 2217	Issues in Health Care	2
Credits		7
Fourth Term		
PTHA 2239	Professional Issues	2
PTHA 2431	Management of Neurological Disorders	4
PTHA 2435	Rehabilitation Techniques	4
Credits		10
Fifth Term		
PTHA 2460	Clinical II - PTA	4
PTHA 2461	Clinical III - PTA	4
Credits		8
Total Credits		66

Capstone Experience: PTHA 2461 Clinical III - PTA

¹ Applicants are encouraged to take the required courses identified with (1) prior to entering the PTA program.

Students must earn a C or better in all Physical Therapy (PTHA) and all science courses; the student will not be permitted to continue or to graduate from the program until that course has been repeated and a grade of C or above has been earned.