

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Associate in Science (A.S.) degree prepares students for rewarding careers helping patients return to optimal health under the direction of a physical therapist. The curriculum combines coursework and hands-on learning, focusing on kinesiology, patient care, therapeutic exercise, and the leading trends in physical therapy.

The PTA associate degree prepares students to become skilled in compassionate and ethical patient care, supporting their journey managing pain and gaining back mobility. With this, graduates from the PTA program are eligible to apply to sit for a state-administered national examination in order to become a licensed physical therapy assistant.

Beginning in Summer 2022, students will enter the prerequisite phase of the program (conditional offer) until they complete all admissions requirements.

Please note that admission to the professional-level Physical Therapist Assistant courses/program is highly competitive.

## **Program Requirements**

### Prerequisites

The following courses must be completed with a grade of C or better before the application deadline.

- BSC 2085C - Human Anatomy and Physiology I 4
- BSC 2086C - Human Anatomy and Physiology II 4
- POS 2041 – American Federal Government 3
  - or AMH 2020 – United States History From 1877 to the Present 3
- ENC 1101 - English Composition I 3
  - or ENC 1101C - English Composition I Enhanced 4
  - or ENC 1102 - Writing About Texts 3
- Humanities Credit Hours: 3
  - ARH 2000-Art in the Humanities 3
  - or PHI 2010-Philosophy in the Humanities 3
  - or MUL 2019-Music in the Humanities 3

- or LIT 2000 Literature in the Humanities 3
- or HUM 2020-Topics in the Humanities 3
- or THE 2000-Theatre in the Humanities 3
- MAC 1105 - College Algebra 3
  - or higher-level MAC prefix course
  - or MAP 2302 - Differential Equations 3
  - or MGF 1106 - Topics in College Mathematics 3
  - or MGF 1107 - Explorations in Mathematics 3
  - or STA 2023 - Elementary Statistics 3
- PHY 1020C - Physics for Liberal Arts with Laboratory 3
  - or higher-level PHY prefix course

Please review this checklist. If you answer yes to every item and have submitted transcripts to support your course completions, you could be ready for review and ranking for consideration for admittance to the professional phase of the Physical Therapist Assistant program.

#### CHECKLIST

- Submit official non-FSCJ transcripts to the College before the published application deadline for the term you wish to begin, if applicable.
- Submit official A.P., I.B., AICE, CLEP and/or DSST score reports to the College before the published application deadline for the term you wish to begin, if applicable. (A.P. – Advanced Placement, I.B. – International Baccalaureate, AICE – University of Cambridge)
- Ensure official HESI A2 (Health Education Systems, Inc Admission Test) scores have been submitted to the FSCJ Assessment Center before the published application deadline for the term you wish to be reviewed for admittance to the professional phase of the Physical Therapist Assistant program. Scores will be considered official if they meet the following:
  - Applicant has completed the 9-subtest administration in one sitting
  - Applicant has taken within the last 2 years
  - Scores have been submitted to the FSCJ Assessment Center before the published deadline
  - Applicant has achieved a minimum average score of 75% for the 9-subtest areas to be eligible to apply for the Professional Phase.

- Applicant has achieved a minimum score of 75% in each of the three listed HESI A2 subtests to be considered for the program.
  - Anatomy & Physiology
  - Grammar
  - Vocabulary

If the HESI test was taken at FSCJ, no action is required. Your scores will be automatically submitted. If you have Questions pertaining to the HESI and submitting your official scores please email north\_testing@fscj.edu or call 904.713.4529. **The HESI assessment can only be taken once every 90 days.**

- Complete the following courses with a grade of "C" or better by the published program deadline for the term you wish to begin. An overall minimum prerequisite GPA of 2.0 must be maintained.
  - Humanities Credit Hours: 3
    - ARH 2000-Art in the Humanities 3
    - or PHI 2010-Philosophy in the Humanities 3
    - or MUL 2019-Music in the Humanities 3
    - or LIT 2000 Literature in the Humanities 3
    - or HUM 2020-Topics in the Humanities 3
    - or THE 2000-Theatre in the Humanities 3
  - BSC 2085C - Human Anatomy and Physiology I 4
  - BSC 2086C - Human Anatomy and Physiology II 4
  - POS 2041 – American Federal Government 3
    - or AMH 2020 – United States History From 1877 to the Present 3
  - ENC 1101 - English Composition I 3
    - or ENC 1101C - English Composition I Enhanced 4
    - or ENC 1102 - Writing About Texts 3
  - MAC 1105 - College Algebra 3
    - or higher-level MAC prefix course
    - or MAP 2302 - Differential Equations 3
    - or MGF 1106 - Topics in College Mathematics 3
    - or MGF 1107 - Explorations in Mathematics 3
    - or STA 2023 - Elementary Statistics 3
  - PHY 1020C - Physics for Liberal Arts with Laboratory 3
    - or higher-level PHY prefix course

- Submit any additional documents to support your application the HCIC at [HCIC@FSCJ.edu](mailto:HCIC@FSCJ.edu) by the application deadline.
  - Work Verification letters should include the following
    - Typed on company letterhead
    - Dates of employment
    - Health related duties
    - Number of hours worked per week
  - Submit observation hours verification form
    - 10 hours inpatient observation
    - 10 hours outpatient observation
    - Or observation hours replacement paper
  - Submit signed Core Performance Standards
  - Emails containing supporting documents should be sent to the [HCIC@FSCJ.edu](mailto:HCIC@FSCJ.edu) email address and contain the following:
    - Program of study, term, and application attachment in the subject line
    - Student name and ID number in the body of the message
    - Documents included as attachments

If you answered no to any of the above checklist items, please meet with an academic advisor to discuss your education plan and next steps.

## COMPETITIVE REVIEW PROCESS

Students are ready for review by the admissions committee upon completion of all checklist requirements. The committee uses the Associate in Science in Physical Therapist Assistant Ranking Criteria below to review and rank candidates for admittance consideration. Please note that the admission process is highly competitive.

Grade Point Average: Applicants must earn a grade of C or better in each prerequisite course and have an overall minimum prerequisite GPA of 2.0.

Physical Therapist Assistant Ranking Rubric		Max Points
<b>Overall Cumulative GPA (minimum requirement 2.5)</b>		<b>20</b>
<b>Overall GPA</b>	<b>Points</b>	
2.5-2.99	10	
3.0-3.49	15	
>3.49	20	
<b>A grade of 'C' or better in all PTA prerequisite courses</b>		<b>140</b>
<b>Course Grade</b>	<b>Points</b>	
A	20 pts	
B	15 pts	
C	10 pts	
<b>Required Prerequisite Courses:</b>		
<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Course Code</b>	
Anatomy & Physiology I	BSC 2085C	
English Composition I	ENC 1101	
United States History From 1877 to the Present <b>or</b> American Federal Government	AMH 2020 <b>or</b> POS 2041	
Mathematics	General Education Requirements	
Humanities	ARH 2000 or PHI 2010 or MUL 2010 or LIT 2000 or HUM 2020 or THE 2000	
Anatomy & Physiology II	BSC 2086C	
Physics for Liberal Arts	PHY 1020C or Higher	
<b>HESI A2</b>		<b>50</b>
A complete HESI/A2 administration is required and consists of nine (9) sub-tests that must be completed in one sitting. The Average Combined Score of the 9 categories must be 75% minimum for consideration of the application. A minimum score of 75% for each of the following sub-tests is required: <i>Anatomy &amp; Physiology, Vocabulary, Grammar.</i>		
<b>Points are determined by adding the scores of the 3 Categories and dividing by 2.</b>		
<b>Bonus Points</b>		
<b>Bachelor's Degree or Higher</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Health Care Experience (Direct Patient Care) or Military Experience</b>		<b>10</b>
<b>Duration</b>	<b>Points</b>	
1 month	.25 pt	

2 months	.50 pt	
3 months	1.0 pt	
4 months	2.0 pts	
5 months	3 pts	
6 months	4 pts	
7 months	5 pts	
8 months	6 pts	
9 months	7 pts	
10 months	8 pts	
11 months	9 pts	
12 months or >	10 pts	
<b>Total Possible Points</b>		<b>230</b>



## PTA A.S. PROGRAM

### CLINICAL EXPERIENCE VERIFICATION FORM

**Form must be signed by PT/PTA**

**Criteria:** Prospective students must complete a **minimum of 20 hours** of observation, volunteer service, and/or work experience in physical therapy in a minimum of **two practice settings (one in-patient and one outpatient)** with **no less than 10 hours in each setting.**

**Directions:** Use one form for each setting. You may make copies of this form as needed.

### STUDENT INFORMATION (completed by student)

**Name of Student (Printed):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FACILITY INFORMATION (completed by student)**

**Name of Facility:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VERIFICATION BY THERAPIST (completed by PT or PTA)**

This student has either observed, volunteered or worked in the PT department at our facility for \_\_\_\_\_ hours.

This facility is primarily:            Inpatient                            Outpatient

PT/PTA: Comments:(optional)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PT/PTA Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

PT/ PTA Name (signed) \_\_\_\_\_

PT/PTA License # \_\_\_\_\_



## CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

The Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT) rates the strength demands of a PTA at the medium level. This translates into lifting or exerting a force of 20 to 50 pounds occasionally, 10 to 25 pounds frequently, and 10 pounds or less constantly. In addition, the physical demand ratings of several local employers state that the PTA is required to lift 100+ pounds on an occasional basis. According to the DOT, other physical demands required of the PTA on an occasional basis are climbing, crawling, and ability to see within a field of vision, and identify and distinguish colors. Physical demands required on a frequent basis are stooping, kneeling, crouching, reaching, handling, manipulation with fingers, feeling, talking, hearing, near visual acuity and visual accommodation. The PTA is not typically exposed to any unusual or extreme environmental conditions.

NOTE: Students accepted to the program are provided with a list of essential job functions. Applicants may request the list of essential job functions from the program manager.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Enter Institution Name:

Physical Therapist Assistant Program  
Program Financial Fact Sheet  
2021-2022

**Institutional Information**

Address: City: State:  
Zip Code: Cohort: For:

Length of Program in Weeks Excluding Breaks:  
Total number of weeks (excluding breaks) of student instruction/interaction (including classroom, laboratory, exams and clinical education.)  
Note: Total number of weeks includes weeks where either full or partial attendance is required. Insert total number of weeks.

Length of Program including breaks: Start Date: Anticipated Completion Date of all Program Requirements

**Clinical Education**

Does the program have a requirement for all students to complete at least one clinical education experience for which the students would be required to seek alternative housing or travel accommodations to attend?

Note: Students are responsible for costs associated with housing, travel and food during clinical education.

Additional Comments:

**Student Costs**

**Note: Annual costs are estimates and subject to increases. Students should contact the program for further information related to costs.**

Year 1 Year 2 Total

Annual Tuition Public Institution, In- district or In-state Student:

Annual Tuition Public Institution, Out-of-district or Out-of-state student:

Annual Tuition Private Institution Student:

Annual institutional fees for a full-time student in the technical phase of the program [Includes general institutional fees, i.e., health insurance, recreation, etc.]

Total expected cost of other program- related expenses [Includes: required texts, laboratory fees, and other program costs for the entire technical program.]

Total Cost of the Program for Students Scheduled to Graduate this Calendar Year [Includes: tuition, fees, other program costs for the entire technical program

Public In-State Institution Public Institution Out-of-state Private Institution

**Note: Students are encouraged to explore the cost of living for areas where they may choose to live.**

**One possible website: <https://livingwage.mit.edu/>**

- Does the institution offer financial assistance specific to PTA students?
- Does the program/institution offer scholarships specific to PTA students?
- Does the program offer federal work-study positions specific to PTA students?

Note: Other opportunities may exist at the institution for FINANCIAL SUPPORT-please contact the program for further information.

**APTA student members are encouraged to visit the APTA Financial Solutions Center at <https://www.apta.org/your-career/financial-management/financial-solutions-center>.**

**Student Debt Summary**

Average student debt from the PTA Program technical phase.