

# PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

HEALTH PROFESSIONS CAREER PATHWAY



## FIND YOUR CALLING BY HELPING OTHERS.

Physical therapy is one of the fastest growing career fields among allied health professions with one of the highest rates of satisfaction. High salaries, multiple practice settings, and opportunities for professional advancement make the field an attractive one.

A movement science lab in the Regional Health Professions Center provides students with a hands-on education in TCC's physical therapist assistant program. And the demanding curriculum will prepare you for a broad range of career opportunities—from acute care hospitals and skilled nursing facilities to fitness and wellness centers and public schools.

In Virginia, physical therapist assistants must pass the national licensing exam, administered by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. TCC's graduates have a 100% pass rate for the last several years.

## PROGRAM

### ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

Complete in as few as 5 semesters / 67 credits

TCC's nationally accredited PTA program includes three clinical rotations and qualifies graduates to sit for the national licensing exam, administered by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. Studies include: kinesiology, pathological conditions, therapeutic interventions, and orthopedic and neurologic rehabilitation.

## SELECTIVE ADMISSION

To qualify for this competitive program, you will need to apply to TCC, then complete and submit the Health Professions Program Application by April 15 for fall admission.

Additional requirements:

- Attend an information session, which is held the third Thursday of each month (except December) at 4 p.m. at the Regional Health Professions Center on the Virginia Beach Campus.
- Obtain Certification in CPR (can be completed at TCC)
- Place into Math Essentials (MTE) 5 College Algebra, or higher, based on your Virginia Placement Test (VPT) results.
- Complete the following pre-admission requirements with grades of C or better. More points are awarded for higher grades.
  - Health (HLT) 130 Nutrition and Diet Therapy
  - Psychology (PSY) 230 Developmental Psychology
  - Student Development (SDV) 101 Orientation to Health Care
  - Biology (BIO) 141 Human Anatomy and Physiology I
  - English (ENG) 111 College Composition I
- Demonstrate a minimum of 40 documented observation or work hours divided equally among two physical therapy practice settings (outpatient and acute care, skilled nursing, etc) under the supervision of a physical therapist or physical therapy assistant.
- Submit recommendations from two separate employers, professional associates, physical therapy clinicians or professors.

## TCC FAST FACT

TCC'S PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM IS ACCREDITED BY THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION IN PHYSICAL THERAPY EDUCATION (CAPTE).

## POSSIBLE CAREER PATHS

After you complete the program and pass the national licensing exam, you can find employment working as a physical therapist assistant in a variety of settings. You can also transfer your credits towards a degree from a four-year institution.

## IS THIS PROGRAM FOR YOU?

Yes, if you:

- enjoy working with people
- have the physical strength to transport, move or lift patients
- don't mind working on your feet

## PROGRAM AVAILABILITY

- Regional Health Professions Center in Virginia Beach, VA

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