

# Physical Therapist Assistant

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## Application and Information Packet 2009 - 2010

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**PTA Program mission statement:**

Consistent with the Dunwoody College of Technology mission, the mission of the PTA program is to graduate well-educated, competent, socially responsible quality graduates. The physical therapist assistants will be able to provide physical therapy treatment to patients who are experiencing pain or disability, temporary or permanent, under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist.

**Goal 1:** Strive for excellence as a physical therapist assistant.

Objective 1: *90 % of students will pass the physical therapist assistant licensing examination.*

- By September 1, 2011, 90% of the graduating physical therapist assistants will pass the licensing examination.
- At the completion of the third and final clinical affiliation, 100% of the physical therapist assistant students will be graded as “entry level,” in regards to overall performance.

Objective 2: *Maintain accreditation through CAPTE by taking required actions to come into compliance with recommendations from the reviewer/consultant and standards set forth by CAPTE.*

- By July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Dunwoody College will be accepted as a candidate for Accreditation of Physical Therapist Assistant Education Program.
- By July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Dunwoody will graduate the first class of PTA students from an accredited physical therapist assistant program.

**Goal 2:** Effective verbal and written communication skills.

Objective 1: *Student will provide accurate, logical, concise, and timely documentation that is consistent with guidelines and formats of State Practice Acts, practice setting, and other regulatory agencies.*

- 100% of students will be proficient in electronic medical record documentation by the first clinical affiliation.
- 75% of physical therapist assistant students will be graded as “entry level” per the CPI following the first clinical in regards to effective communication with patients caregivers, physical therapists, and other healthcare personnel.
- 100% of physical therapist assistant students will be graded as “entry level” per the CPI following the final clinical in regards to effective communication with patients, caregivers, physical therapists, and other healthcare personnel.
- The PTA graduate will effectively communicate with healthcare providers and the community on the role of the physical therapist assistant, as per the APTA.

**Goal 3:** Provide appropriate physical therapy interventions per the plan of care established from the physical therapist.

Objective 1: *Safe and appropriate patient handling skills and physical therapy treatments as directed by the plan of care established by the physical therapist.*

- By the conclusion of the final clinical, 100% of the students will provide safe and appropriate physical therapy treatments, as noted by the CI in the CPI.
- 100% of the students will be certified in CPR prior to their first clinical affiliation and able to provide basic First Aid per the guidelines.

Objective 2: *Collect data and analyze findings of physical therapy interventions. Distinguish if treatment is to achieving short and long term goals as identified by the physical therapist in the plan of care.*

- 75% of students completing the final clinical will be “entry level” as noted on the CPI in regards collecting and analyzing data and will have the ability to appropriately modify or withhold interventions secondary to a change in the clinical condition, within the physical therapist’s plan of care.
- 100% of students will write appropriate long term and short terms goals within the therapist’s plan of care by the final clinical affiliation as assessed by the PTA program faculty and the appropriate portions on the CPI assessed by the CI.

**Goal 4:** Engage in life-long learning.

Objective 1: *Students will be actively involved with the APTA.*

- 75% of PTA students will be APTA members.
- 90% of PTA graduates will maintain their license and attend appropriate clinical education courses necessary to comply with license regulations.

Objective 2: *Students will continually enhance their career in the healthcare setting.*

- 50% of PTA graduates will assume the role of clinical instructor.
- 75% of PTA graduates that become clinical instructors will be credentialed by the APTA.

Objective 3: *PTA graduates will be involved with administrative duties at their clinical setting.*

- Every time a PTA graduate supervises a physical therapy aide in patient related activities as assigned by the physical therapist, the PTA will adhere to legal guidelines as dictated by the APTA .
- The PTA graduate will participate in quality assurance and clinical outcome audits as directed by their clinical setting.

**Goal 5:** Respectful engagement with patients and healthcare providers in a diverse cultural setting.

Objective 1: *Students will engage in a community education project to a diverse population in need or complete a service learning experience in Antigua, Guatemala.*

- 100% of PTA students will complete a service learning project and document their experience in a reflection paper.

Objective 2: *Students will effectively communicate with diverse patient base and healthcare providers.*

- 100% of the time the student will use appropriate communication skills with a diverse patient base; these skills will include using appropriate eye contact, proper pronunciation and use of the patient’s name, speaking in a clear and appropriate tone of voice, and utilizing laymens terms for medical language the patient can understand.

**Occupational description per the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development:**

“Assist the physical therapist in providing physical therapy treatments and procedures. May, in accordance with State laws, assist in the development of treatment plans, carry out routine functions, document the progress of treatment, and modify specific treatments in accordance with patients status and within the scope of treatment plans established by a physical therapist. Generally requires formal training.”

**Careers:** Physical therapist assistants’ continue to be in demand in many settings. Per the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development statistics, the median salary for the Twin Cities area is \$20.14. This is compared to the median salary in the U.S. of \$22.11/ hour. Complete market information can be found at <http://www.deed.state.mn.us/lmi/tools/htm>.

**Estimated Costs:**

Costs of the program:	Lab costs	\$18,154
	Lecture	\$12,915
	Laptop and technology	\$3530
	Books (estimated)	\$1500
	TOTAL	\$36,150

**Length of Program:**

2 years full time

**Start time:**

Fall quarter for pre-technical courses and technical courses. The program will start in September, 2009.

**Prerequisites into PTA Program: 5 semester credits**

Human Biology with lab

**General Education: 25 credits + 5 prerequisites or recommended courses = 30 credits**

*General Education Courses:*

<i>ENGL 101 – English Composition</i>	<i>3 credits</i>
<i>SPEECH 101 - Speech</i>	<i>3 credits</i>
<i>ANATOMY 101 - Anatomy with lab</i>	<i>6 credits</i>
<i>PHYSIOLOGY 101 – Physiology with lab</i>	<i>6 credits</i>
<i>PSYCH 120 - Applied Abnormal Psychology</i>	<i>4 credits</i>
<i>HUMN 251 - Global Studies</i>	<i>3 credits</i>

**Progression through the program:** The student must all courses in each quarter with a “C” or better in order to continue to the next quarter in the program. If a student does not pass one or more course with a “C” or better, they will be dropped from the program and may readmit for the next year.

For specific questions on prerequisites and program core curriculum, please contact Yun Christensen, Registrar, at 612-381-3341.

**PTA Curriculum Plan: 105 credits**

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Year 1 (Fall 2009)**

PTA 100 - Medical Terminology	3 credits	
Anatomy 100– Anatomy	6 credits	
PTA 101- Intro to PTA Theory	2 credits	
PTA 102- Intro to PTA Lab	3 credits	
SPEECH 101 – Speech	3 credits	
PTA 103 – PTA Communications	1 credit	= 18 credits TOTAL

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Year 1 (Winter 2009)**

Physiology 100 – Physiology	6 credits	
PTA 104 – Kinesiology I Theory	2 credits	
PTA 105 – Kinesiology I Lab	2 credits	
HSCI 120 – Intro to Human Disease	3 credits	
HUMN 251 – Global Studies	3 credits	
ENGL 101 – English Composition	3 credits	=19 credits TOTAL

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Year 1 (Spring 2010)**

PTA 114 – Kinesiology II Theory	2 credits	
PTA 115 – Kinesiology II Lab	2 credits	
PTA 116 – Physical Therapy Interventions I Theory	3 credits	
PTA 117 – Physical Therapy Interventions I Lab	3 credits	
PTA 118 – Therapeutic Ex I Theory	3 credits	
PTA 119 – Therapeutic Ex I Lab	3 credits	
PTA 120 – Clinical Orthopedics	1 credit	= 17 credits TOTAL

**4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Year 1 (Summer 2010)**

PTA 126– Physical Therapy Interventions II Theory	3 credits	
PTA 127 – Physical Therapy Interventions II Lab	3 credits	
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Year 1 (Summer 2010)		
PTA 200- Clinical Affiliation #1 7/26-9/3/2010	5 credits	=11 credits TOTAL

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Year 2 (Fall 2010)**

PTA 228 – Therapeutic Exercise II Theory	3 credits	
PTA 229 – Therapeutic Exercise II Lab	3 credits	
PTA 230 – Neuro-Rehabilitation Theory	3 credits	
PTA 231 – Neuro-Rehabilitation Lab	3 credits	
PTA 233 – Clinical Geriatrics	1 credit	
PSYCH 120-Abnormal Psych	3 credits	=16 credits TOTAL

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Year 2 (Winter2010-session 1)**

PTA 205 – Special Topics I	4 credits	
PTA 203 – Leadership	4 credits	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Year 2 (Winter2010-session 2)		

PTA 201 - Clinical Affiliation #2 1/31-3/11/2011 5 credits =13 credits TOTAL

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Year 2 (Spring 2011-session 1)

PTA 204 – Clinical Pediatrics 1 credits  
PTA 206 – Special Topics II 4 credits  
PTA 207 – Professionalism in Health care 1 credit

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Year 2 (Spring 2011-session 2)

PTA 202 – Clinical Affiliation #3 5/2-6/10/2011 5 credits =11 credits TOTAL

#### **Admissions Criteria:**

- \_\_\_ General Biology, Human Biology within 5 years with a grade of C or better.
- \_\_\_ Two complete clinical site visit forms (from two different physical therapy settings).
- \_\_\_ Acceptance into Dunwoody College of Technology
- \_\_\_ ACT score of 20 or equivalent on SAT or Accuplacer (or AAS or bachelor degree)
- \_\_\_ Unremarkable background check

#### **Clinical Requirements: (these requirements are to be obtained just prior to the first clinical affiliation)**

- \_\_\_ Physical examination indicating good physical and mental health
- \_\_\_ Immunizations
- \_\_\_ CPR certification

#### **Recommendations:**

- \_\_\_ Able to lift 50 lbs per the OSHA category of “Heavy Job Description” as a physical therapist/physical therapist assistant
- \_\_\_ Computer literate

**Clinical:**

Prior to the student participation in each clinical experience, they must complete all course work up to the clinical affiliation with a grade of “C” or better, or have a “Contract for Student Achievement,” on file with the program director. Specifically, the student must pass final skills testing with a grade of “C” or better prior to the clinical. Students that do not pass final skills testing will re-test the final skills. If the student does not pass the final skills by the 2<sup>nd</sup> try, their clinical affiliation may be deferred to a later date. If this occurs, a Contract for Student Achievement will be filled out and actions taken per that contract to assure the student is competent and prepared to work with patients on a clinical affiliation.

1. Clinical affiliation 1 – assessment testing in Physical Therapy Interventions II
2. Clinical affiliation 2 – assessment testing in Therapeutic Exercise II
3. Clinical affiliation 3 – assessment testing in Professionalism in Healthcare

**Expectations for travel to the clinical site:**

It is expected the student may travel up to 40 miles one way to a clinical location. It is not guaranteed the clinical site is part of a major transit system. If the student needs accommodations for a closer location to his or her home, all attempts will be made to assist the student, but no guarantees in distance from the student’s home to the clinical site.

# Application for Admissions for Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Dunwoody College of Technology

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**APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2009 – AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2009**

**Mail to: Dunwoody College of Technology**

**Admissions Department**

**818 Dunwoody Blvd,**

**Minneapolis, MN 55403**

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Thank you for your interest in the PTA program at Dunwoody College of Technology. Please complete this application, review the check list in the application, and send your completed application to the address above.

This program is seeking accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

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Last name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID or Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

# Admission Criteria

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Applications will be collected until August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. At that time, the admissions panel will review all complete applications. The following is needed by the deadline to be considered a “complete application packet.”

\_\_\_\_\_ Application for Admission to Dunwoody College of Technology (\$50 application fee is due for new students to Dunwoody)

\_\_\_\_\_ Official, final, complete transcripts from all colleges attended (each in a sealed, unopened envelope from the institution. Sealed transcripts may be mailed with the Application for Admissions to the PTA program, or sent to Dunwoody College, to the attention of Yun Christensen.

\_\_\_\_\_ PTA Application form

\_\_\_\_\_ Assessment testing (Accuplacer) or ACT score or proof of attainment of a AAS or bachelor degree

\_\_\_\_\_ Completion of college level General Biology or Human Biology with a grade of “C” or better (completed in the last 5 years).

\_\_\_\_\_ Completion of two Site Visit forms (from two different types of physical therapy settings).

I certify that the information I have provided on this application form is complete, accurate, and true of the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Application Status Notification**

The students will be notified of acceptance or denial into the program via the mail by August 15<sup>st</sup>, 2009. The student has one week to respond to their intent to start the program in the fall of 2009.

### **Alternate list procedure**

Applicants that meet the requirements but were not admitted because the program was full, will be placed on an alternate list. Students on this list will be contacted via phone or mail if they have moved from the alternate list to the active list of students for fall of 2009. Student placed on the alternate list, not moved to the active list, will need to reapply for the following year.

### **Clinical Site Visits:**

Each applicant must job shadow a working PT or PTA at in two different clinical settings (out-patient, pediatrics, nursing home, hospital, home healthcare, aquatic therapy, etc). It is a privilege to shadow a working therapist, please adhere to the following guidelines:

1. The student is responsible for contacting the clinical site for an appointment to shadow. The student may say they are requesting the site visit as a part of the application procedure for the Dunwoody PTA Program.
2. The student must observe physical therapy and/or discuss the profession for four hours at each site.
3. The student must dress professionally (dress pants, shirt with sleeves, appropriate closed toe footwear).
4. The student will be punctual and ask relevant questions on the profession of physical therapy.
5. Any information about the clinical visit, or patients seen during your observation, is confidential and cannot be discussed with anyone other than the therapist that is being shadowed.
6. Complete the Site Visit form and send with the application.

# Physical Therapist Assistant Site Visit Dunwoody College of Technology

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Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Date attended: \_\_\_\_\_

I attended 4 hours of physical therapy observation: \_\_\_\_\_

What type of patients did you see at this facility? What type of treatments did you observe? What are your thoughts after your observation? (to be completed by the student)

To be completed by the therapist:

\_\_\_\_\_ The student arrived to the clinical site on time, and interacted with staff appropriately.

\_\_\_\_\_ The student was professional in dress, language, and attitude.

\_\_\_\_\_ The student asked appropriate questions and was engaged learning about physical therapy.

Signature and title of PT/PTA: \_\_\_\_\_ print: \_\_\_\_\_

Therapist comments:

# Physical Therapist Assistant Site Visit Dunwoody College of Technology

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Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Date attended: \_\_\_\_\_

I attended 4 hours of physical therapy observation: \_\_\_\_\_

What type of patients did you see at this facility? What type of treatments did you observe? What are your thoughts after your observation? (to be completed by the student)

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\_\_\_\_\_ The student asked appropriate questions and was engaged learning about physical therapy.

Signature and title of PT/PTA: \_\_\_\_\_ print: \_\_\_\_\_

Therapist comments: