

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program is designed to prepare qualified individuals for employment as entry-level physical therapist assistants. As a condition of admission to the College, students are subject to placement testing and mandatory placement for general education courses. Students enroll through open admission as Physical Therapy Pre-Professional. The first semester consists of general education and prerequisite coursework. Students are required to earn a grade of "C" in each course, and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher in order to meet the standards of the PTA Program. Interested applicants who wish to transfer into the College should see a PTA Program advisor for transcript evaluation. Science courses must have been completed within the past five years to be considered eligible for transfer. Students must complete an application packet as part of the competitive selection process. See "Special Admission Guidelines" for details.

Program graduates will be eligible to take the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) for PTAs. Upon successful completion of the NPTE, the graduate will be eligible for employment as a PTA under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist.



The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Northeast Community College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Avenue, Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22305-3085; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: [accreditation@apta.org](mailto:accreditation@apta.org); website [www.capteonline.org](http://www.capteonline.org). If needing to contact the program/institution directly, please call 402-844-7326 or email [PTA@northeast.edu](mailto:PTA@northeast.edu).

## Required Program of Study for Associate of Applied Science Degree (2 years)

### FRESHMAN YEAR

#### First Semester

Course	Credits
BIOS 2250 Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology I.....	4
ENGL 1010 English Composition I.....	3
PHYS 1070 Applied Physics for Allied Health.....	4
PTAS 1010 Medical Terminology for Physical Therapist Assistants.....	1.5
PTAS 1020 Introduction to Physical Therapy.....	1
SPCH 1010 Fundamentals of Communication.....	3
Social Science/Exploratory Studies*.....	2
	<u>18.5</u>

#### Second Semester

Course	Credits
BIOS 2260 Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology II.....	4
PSYC 1810 Introduction to Psychology.....	3
MATH 2170 Applied Statistics.....	3
PTAS 2550 Basic Physical Therapy Procedures.....	2
PTAS 2551 Basic Physical Therapy Procedures Lab.....	2
PTAS 2570 Exercise Principles.....	2
PTAS 2571 Exercise Principles Lab.....	1
PTAS 2520 Introduction to Clinical Management.....	1
	<u>18</u>

### SOPHOMORE YEAR

#### First Semester

Course	Credits
PTAS 2620 Clinical Management.....	3
PTAS 2650 Physical Agents.....	2
PTAS 2651 Physical Agents Lab.....	2
PTAS 2670 Orthopedic Assessment and Intervention I.....	3.5
PTAS 2671 Orthopedic Assessment and Intervention I Lab.....	2.5
PTAS 2690 Clinical Pathophysiology.....	3.5
PTAS 2691 Clinical Pathophysiology Lab.....	.5
	<u>17</u>

#### Second Semester

Course	Credits
PTAS 2700 Clinical Affiliation I.....	3.5
PTAS 2720 Advanced Clinical Management.....	.5
PTAS 2770 Orthopedic Assessment and Intervention II.....	2.5
PTAS 2771 Orthopedic Assessment and Intervention II Lab.....	1.5
PTAS 2790 Neurologic Rehabilitation.....	3
PTAS 2791 Neurologic Rehabilitation Lab.....	2
	<u>13</u>

#### Summer Session

Course	Credits
PTAS 2800 Clinical Affiliation II.....	5
PTAS 2900 Clinical Affiliation III.....	5
	<u>10</u>

\*See general education requirements

Total Credit Hours 76.5

## PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

Physical therapist assistants help physical therapists provide care to patients. Under the direction and supervision of physical therapists, they treat patients through exercise, massage, gait and balance training, and other therapeutic interventions. Physical therapist assistants record patients' progress and report the results of each treatment to the physical therapist.

All states require physical therapist assistants to have an associate degree from an accredited physical therapist assistant program and to have successfully completed the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) for PTAs.

This program has a selective admission process and will accept up to 24 of the top scoring applicants. Scores are based on the GPA in completed and in-progress prerequisite coursework; evaluations of a minimum of 16 hours of job-shadowing; a professional resume with cover letter; and for qualified individuals, a personal interview. The application process opens each year on April 1 and closes October 1. Please contact the PTA Program at 402-844-7325 for details on applying to the program.

Scholarships specific to this program include:

- Don Pfeil Scholarship
- Jacque Houska PTA Memorial
- Richard Chaffin Memorial

For a complete list of scholarships and their requirements, visit the Northeast website at <https://northeast.edu/Financial-Aid-and-Scholarships/Scholarships.aspx>

**Source:** <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/physical-therapist-assistants-and-aides.htm>

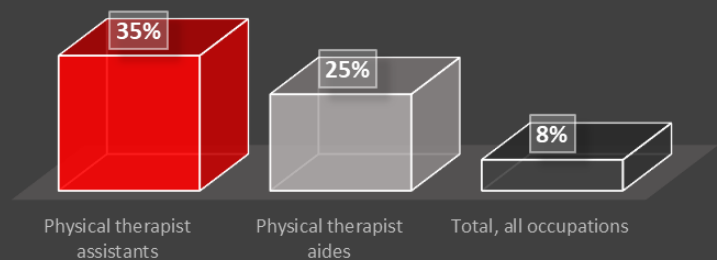


**Laura Schwanebeck, MPT**

Director of Physical Therapist  
Assistant Program  
*Health and Wellness Division*

Office: 402.844.7326  
[lauras@northeast.edu](mailto:lauras@northeast.edu)

### PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS % change in employment, projected 2020-30



*Note: All Occupations includes all occupations in the U.S. Economy.  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Projections program.*

**TUITION:** Estimated 2021-22 in-state tuition and fees for an associate degree in this program is \$9,563.