



**Health Sciences Division
Physical Therapist Assistant Program**

Dear PTA applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the PTA program. Physical therapy is an exciting and dynamic career with job possibilities in all types of health care environments. The PTA program is interesting, challenging, and action packed. I look forward to helping you answer any questions you may have about our program or the physical therapy profession.

Sincerely,

Melinda Cumbaa, PT, MS
PTA Program Coordinator

**PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM
GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE
APPLICATION INFORMATION**

DEADLINE: MAY 5

The physical therapist assistant (PTA) is a skilled technical health care worker who delivers physical therapy services under the supervision of the physical therapist (PT). PTAs carry out patient treatments designed by the PT that include training patients in therapeutic exercises and activities of daily living with or without assistive devices; application of physical agents such as heat, cold, electricity and traction; gait training; assisting in performing tests, evaluations and treatments administered by the PT; observation and reporting of patient's response to treatment. For more detailed information, see the current Gulf Coast State College General Catalog.

Employment opportunities can be found in a variety of settings including hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, home health agencies, schools, and outpatient PT clinics. Salaries generally start anywhere from \$32,000 - \$38,000 throughout the country, but may be higher or lower in some areas.

The Gulf Coast State College Physical Therapist Assistant Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education and accepts one class of 16-20 students per year in the fall semester. Applications will be accepted at any time throughout the year, but the application deadline is **MAY 5th** of the year of desired admission. The application deadline may be extended if the class is not filled. It is the student's responsibility to see that the application is complete. Proof of completion of all items listed as prerequisites (see prerequisites page), must be submitted with the Health Sciences PTA Application to Mr. Craig Wise, Assistant Coordinator of Health Sciences Admissions. His office is located on the second floor of the Health Sciences Building, room 200.

The satisfaction of minimum requirements does not automatically guarantee admission. Completed applications will be sent to the PTA Admissions Committee for review. All applicants will be notified in writing, after May 5th, whether they are accepted into the program, placed on an alternate list, or not accepted for the current year. **No acceptance results will be given out over the phone.**

Thank you for your interest in the Physical Therapist Assistant Program. If you have any questions, please contact Melinda Cumbaa at 850.913.3312 or 800.311.3685, ext. 3312, Kelli Walsingham at 850.769.1551, Ext. 6180 or 800.311.3685, ext. 6180, or Mr. Wise at 850.913.3311 or 800.311.3685, ext. 3311.

**GULF COAST
STATE COLLEGE
PTA PROGRAM**



Application
Deadline:
May 5

Submit the following items to GCSC Admissions and Records Office:

- Application for general admission to Gulf Coast State College and pay fee at time of submission. (IF NOT CURRENTLY ENROLLED AT GCSC)**

Failure to pay the college application fee at the time of submission can result in your ineligibility for program consideration, due to delays with processing.

Call 850.872.3892 locally or toll-free at 800.311.3685 Ext. 3892 or visit the college Office of Admissions and Records located in the Administration Annex to obtain an application for admission and receive information regarding the college admissions process. Applications are also available online at: <https://cpnta.gulfcoast.edu/csrs/>

- Provide official High School (or GED) and All College Transcripts to GCSC Admissions & Records Office**

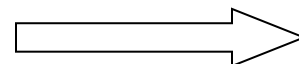
An official transcript is a transcript that is sent **directly** from the granting school/institution to the Gulf Coast State College Admissions and Records Office. Transcripts that have been in the student's possession (regardless of whether they are "sealed," stamped or in a sealed envelope) are not considered official and will not be accepted. Transcripts must be submitted from ALL post-secondary educational colleges or universities attended and must display all periods of enrollment. **The applicant is responsible for ensuring that all college transcripts are evaluated prior to the May 5th deadline.**

- Demonstration of Math/Algebra, English and Reading Competency**

Students may demonstrate this competency in one of the following quantitative methods:

Subject	PERT	CPT	ACT	SAT	College Course
Math/Algebra	113	72	19	440	MAT 0028 or higher w/grade of "C" or higher
English	99	83	17	Verbal 440	ENC 1101 or equivalent w/grade "C" or higher
Reading	104	83	18		

If the applicant wishes to use test scores to demonstrate competency for any of the above, and the test was not administered at Gulf Coast State College, the applicant must have an OFFICIAL score report sent to the GCSC testing office. **The applicant is responsible for ensuring that the scores are received and posted to their GCSC computer record prior to the May 5th deadline.** Computerized Placement Tests (CPT/PERT) are administered in the Admission and Records building, room 129. Study guides for the CPT/PERT are available for purchase in the college bookstore. The CPT/PERT may be taken two times per semester and the cost is \$5.00 per testing session. Please consult the Placement Testing Schedule at http://www.gulfcoast.edu/students/testing_center/cpt.htm or call 850.769.1551 Ext. 3533 for additional information.



Submit the following items to Division of Health Sciences (Room 200):

PTA Program Application Packet

Complete the following materials in this packet:

- ✓ PTA Application
- ✓ Technical Standards Form
- ✓ Work/Observation Form

EXTRA CREDIT

Completion of the general education courses with a minimum grade of “C” will earn extra credit for application into the PTA program

- ✓ BSC 2085 Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab
- ✓ BSC 2086 Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab
- ✓ OST 1257 Medical Terminology

If these courses are coming from another institution, the applicant is responsible for ensuring that they have been submitted via an official transcript, reviewed and posted to their GCSC computer record prior to the May 5th deadline. Courses taken at GCSC during the spring semester in which the application has been submitted will also be considered for extra credit. Multiple attempts at a course (W, D, F) will result in a reduction of admission points in this section.

Work/Observation Form – EXTRA CREDIT

Documented evidence of a minimum of 30 hours of work and/or observation in a PT environment; must include specific observation and signature of a PT or PTA; additional points will be considered for observation hours documented above the minimum, and hours spent in a variety of settings. **NOTE: This is optional but important!**

Additional documentation (if applicable) – EXTRA CREDIT:

- ✓ Any advanced degrees and/or certifications achieved (i.e. BS, BA, MA or MS) in a related field (i.e., exercise phys, *massage therapy, *athletic trainer certification)

(If achieved, must be included in official transcripts sent to GCSC Admissions and Records Office.)

Completion of a Bachelor's evaluation packet must be completed prior to May 5th deadline.

*Must submit a copy of license or certificate with application by May 5th deadline.

Only applications that are current and complete are considered for selection. It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure his/her application folder is complete prior to the deadline. Applications will only be considered after the deadline if a sufficient pool of qualified applicants does not exist.

Please contact us if you have any further questions:

Melinda Cumbaa, PT, MS

Coordinator, PTA Program

Gulf Coast State College

mcumbaa@gulfcoast.edu

Office: 850.913.3312

Toll-free: 1.800.311.3685 Ext. 3312

Kelli Walsingham, PTA, AS

Assistant Coordinator, PTA Program

Gulf Coast State College

kwalsingham@gulfcoast.edu

Office: 850.769.1551, Ext. 6180

Toll free: 1.800.311.3685 Ext. 6180

Mr. Craig Wise

Assistant Coordinator, Health Sciences Admissions

Gulf Coast State College

cwise@gulfcoast.edu

Office: 850.913.3311

Toll-free: 1.800.311.3685 Ext. 3311

GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM CURRICULUM

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

Hrs.		Cr.	Hrs.		Cr.
ENC 1101	English I.....	3	BSC 2086	Anatomy & Physiology II.....	3
ENC 1102	English II.....	3	BSC 2086L	Anatomy/Physiology II Lab.....	1
BSC 2085	Anatomy & Physiology I.....	3	PSY 2012	General Psychology.....	3
BSC 2085L	Anatomy/Physiology I Lab.....	1	OST 1257	Medical Terminology.....	2
	Humanities Elective.....	3			

NOTE:

General education courses may be taken during the PTA Program, however, applicants are **strongly** encouraged to **begin** work on the general education courses prior to entry into the program. Completion of A & P I prior to starting the PTA program is suggested but not required. Extra points will be awarded for a "C" or better in A & P I, A&P II, or Medical Terminology if completed prior to the application deadline.

COMPLETE PROGRAM:

FRESHMAN

CREDIT HOURS

FALL

BSC 2085	Anatomy and Physiology I	3
BSC 2085L	Anatomy and Physiology I Lab	1
	Humanities Elective	3
OST 1257	Medical Terminology	2
PHT 1000	Introduction to Physical Therapy	3
PHT 1102	Applied Anatomy for PTA's	1
PHT 1200	Basic Skills in Patient Care	2
PHT 1200L	Basic Skills in Patient Care Lab	<u>2</u>
		17

SPRING

BSC 2086	Anatomy and Physiology II	3
BSC 2086L	Anatomy and Physiology II Lab	1
PHT 1124	Functional Human Motion	3
PHT 1124L	Functional Human Motion Lab	2
PHT 1220	Introduction to Therapeutic Exercise	2
PHT 1220L	Therapeutic Exercise Lab	2
PHT 1131	Assessment, Measurement and Documentation	1
PHT 1131L	Assessment, Measurement and Documentation Lab	<u>2</u>
		16

SUMMER

ENC 1101	English Composition I	3
PSY 2012	General Psychology	3
PHT 2224	Therapeutic Interventions I: Medical/Surgical Disabilities	2
PHT 2224L	Therapeutic Interventions I Lab	1

CREDIT HOURS

SUMMER (cont.)

ENC 1102	English Composition II	3
PHT 2211	Therapeutic Modalities	2
PHT 2211L	Therapeutic Modalities Lab	<u>2</u>
		16

SOPHOMORE

FALL

PHT 2225	Therapeutic Interventions II: Orthopedic Disabilities	3
PHT 2225L	Therapeutic Interventions II Lab	2
PHT 2226	Therapeutic Interventions III: Neurological Disabilities	3
PHT 2226L	Therapeutic Interventions III Lab	2
PHT 2801	PTA Clinical Practice I	<u>3</u>
		13

SPRING

PHT 2810	PTA Clinical Practice II	5
PHT 2820	PTA Clinical Practice III	5
PHT 2931	Seminar	<u>2</u>
		12

**Typical Physical Therapist Assistant Schedule
(Following Curriculum as Designed)**

On Campus Hours Per Week			Off Campus Hours Per Week		
Semester	Class Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Prep.	Clinical Hours	Total
Fall 1	14	6			20
Spring 1	9	14			23
Summer A2	20	5			25
Summer B	12.5	10			22.5
Fall 2	8.25 (for 11 weeks)	11 (for 11 weeks)	4	40 (for 4 weeks)	19.25 for 11 weeks 40 for 4 weeks
Spring 2	15 (for 2 weeks)		4	40 (for 14 weeks)	44

★ The PTA Program is designed as a full-time course of study and students are required to complete courses in the designated sequence. Most classes are offered during daytime hours with only a few evening courses.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

Gulf Coast State College (GCSC) students who are granted conditional acceptance into a Health Sciences program must receive a satisfactory criminal background check prior to final acceptance into the program. The background check will be scheduled and performed at the discretion of the Division of Health Sciences at GCSC. Information and instructions on how to complete the background check will be sent by the program coordinator. Criminal background checks performed through other agencies will not be accepted. The student must also be aware that clinical agencies may require an additional background check prior to clinical access. It is possible to graduate from a program at GCSC but be denied the opportunity for licensure because of an unfavorable background check. An applicant must consider how his / her personal history may affect the ability to meet clinical requirements, sit for various licensure exams, and ultimately gain employment. Most healthcare boards in the State of Florida make decisions about licensure on an individual basis. You may visit the Florida Department of Health website (www.doh.state.fl.us/) for more information regarding licensure. We offer this information so that you can make an informed decision regarding your future.

Please read the following information carefully:

Any student who has been found guilty of, regardless of adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere, or guilty to, any offense under the provision of 456.0635 (see below) may be **disqualified** from admission to any Health Sciences program. In addition to these specific convictions, there are other crimes which may disqualify applicants from entering into the Health Sciences programs and / or clinical rotations.

456.0635 (2) Medicaid fraud; disqualification for license, certificate, or registration

Each board within the jurisdiction of the department, or the department if there is no board, shall refuse to admit a candidate to any examination and refuse to issue or renew a license, certificate, or registration to any applicant if the candidate or applicant or any principal, officer, agent, managing employee, or affiliated person of the applicant, has been:

- (a) Convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a felony under chapter 409, chapter 817, chapter 893, 21 U.S.C. ss. 801-970, or 42 U.S.C. ss. 1395-1396, unless the sentence and any subsequent period of probation for such conviction or pleas ended more than 15 years prior to the date of the application;
- (b) Terminated for cause from the Florida Medicaid program pursuant to s. 409.913, unless the applicant has been in good standing with the Florida Medicaid program for the most recent 5 years;
- (c) Terminated for cause, pursuant to the appeals procedures established by the state or Federal Government, from any other state Medicaid program or the federal Medicare program, unless the applicant has been in good standing with a state Medicaid program or the federal Medicare program for the most recent 5 years and the termination occurred at least 20 years prior to the date of the application.

ADMISSIONS PROCEDURE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

1. Initial Advising and Application

Distribution of applications will be handled through the Health Sciences Administrative Office (room 200, **Health Sciences** building). Applicants assume all responsibility for completion of application materials. **Incomplete applications will not be considered in the student selection process.** Mr. Craig Wise, Assistant Coordinator-Health Sciences Admissions (850.913.3311), will be the initial contact person for applicants to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program. Melinda Cumbaa (850.913.3312) or Kelli Walsingham (850.769.1551, Ext. 6180) can answer questions related to the physical therapy profession.

2. Admissions Committee

Each member of the Admissions Committee will review and rate each application independently, assigning points according to the standards, on each admission criterion. Points will be added to obtain an overall score for the application. The applicants will be ranked from highest to lowest.

When all members of the committee have individually completed review of the applications, the committee will meet as a group to select the class and alternates. The admissions committee adheres to the Gulf Coast State College's policies for non-discrimination in student selection. Should there be tied scores, the admissions committee will use a majority committee vote as the deciding factor in final student selection.

The next 8-10 applicants (by ranked score) will be placed, in order, on an alternate acceptance list for the current program year only, and will be offered admission should a vacancy become available prior to the first day of required class attendance. **No waiting list is maintained for subsequent year's enrollment and interested individuals must renew and update their applications for the next year.** Procedures for compliance with non-discrimination policies and procedures guaranteeing students due process may be found in the GCSC Student Handbook.

3. The top 16-20 students will be offered a **conditional** admission to the program pending a background check. Should a health problem or disability be identified which appears to make compliance with the technical standards impossible, the applicant will be requested to meet with the admissions committee and a representative from disabled student services to discuss a possible way of adapting the program to enhance the applicant's chances of succeeding in the required course and clinical work. (See policies re: Disabled Student Services in the GCSC Student Handbook, or in the GCSC General Catalog). If it appears the applicant will probably not succeed in the program, final acceptance will be withdrawn.

3. All applicants to the PTA program will be notified in writing whether or not they are accepted into the current class. **PLEASE BE SURE THAT THE ADDRESS ON THIS APPLICATION FORM IS THE MAILING ADDRESS TO WHICH YOU WISH US TO MAIL YOUR ACCEPTANCE LETTER.** If your mailing address changes after you have submitted this application, **PLEASE** be sure to notify Craig Wise, 850-913-3311 or Glenda Broxson, Administrative Assistant, PTA , 850.873.3542, of this change **as well as** the Office of Admissions and Records. Accepted students will be provided with a form, which must be signed and returned to the PTA program coordinator within 2 weeks, which confirms their acceptance of a space in the PTA class.

**Physical Therapist Assistant Program
Estimated Student Expenses
(Based on 2011 - 2012 fees)**

Registration will not be officially completed until all fees are paid in full by the dates identified in the college calendar. **Students are responsible for all fees for courses not dropped by the student during the refund period.**

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program requires 74 credit hours of instruction.

***In-State Estimate**

Matriculation fee, per credit hour.....	\$72.92
Student Activity fee, per credit hour	7.29
Capital Improvement fee, per credit hour	7.29
Financial aid fee, per credit hour.....	3.65
Technology Fee	3.65
TOTAL, PER CREDIT HOUR	\$94.80
Parking Fee.....	2.00
ID/Access Fee	1.95
TOTAL, PER CREDIT HOUR	98.75
74 credits x 98.75 =	7,307.50

***Out-of-State Estimate**

Matriculation fee, per credit hour.....	\$72.92
Tuition, per credit hour.....	221.42
Student Activity fee, per credit hour	7.29
Capital Improvement fee, per credit hour	24.69
Financial aid fee, per credit hour.....	14.72
Technology Fee	14.72
TOTAL, PER CREDIT HOUR	\$355.76
Parking Fee.....	2.00
ID/Access Fee	1.95
TOTAL, PER CREDIT HOUR	359.71
74 credits x 359.71 =	26,618.54

Graduation fee for all graduates	20.00
Graduation reapplication fee	7.00

Lab fees [includes liability/accident insurance] (approximately).....	80.00
Uniform and equipment expenses	75.00 - 100.00
TOTAL	207.00

Travel/living expenses for clinical training are the personal responsibility of the student and will vary depending on the location of the clinical site. Students are NOT guaranteed local placements.

Textbooks	1,300.00
Background Check / Fingerprinting Fee.....	80.00
Add in orientation fees.....	64.00
TOTAL.....	1,444.00

ESTIMATED cost for the program -

In-state.....	\$ 8,958.50
Out-of-state	\$28,269.54

*** Fees are subject to change without notice.
Page 18 of the 2011-2012 catalog.**

GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE - HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION

APPLICATION FOR PTA PROGRAM ADMISSION

5230 West U.S. Highway 98
Panama City, FL 32401-1058
(850) 872-3827 or 913-3311 Toll Free: 1-800-311-3685
Fax: (850) 747-3246

Answer ALL Questions: Please TYPE or PRINT – (Please submit form as soon as possible)

Name: _____
First
Middle
Last
Maiden Name

Home Address: _____
Street & Number
City
State
Zip
County

Social Security Number or GCSC Student ID #- _____ Female Male

Permanent or Mailing Address (If different from above): _____

E-Mail: _____ Home Phone: () _____

Business Phone: () _____ Cell Phone: () _____

EDUCATION

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT(s) must be received by the Office of Admissions & Records.
ALL schools and colleges attended must be listed for the application to be complete. Use additional sheets if necessary.

Name of School	Location of School	From (Month/ Year)	To (Month/ Year)	Did you Receive Diploma, Degree, or Certificate?	What was your Major / Minor?
High School or GED:					
Vocational / Other Technical Program					
College or University:					
College or University:					

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Type	Issued by Which State or Agency?	License / Cert. Number	Date Issued/Expired

PTA TECHNICAL STANDARDS:

The practice of physical therapy is a physically demanding occupation. All applicants must, therefore, meet the following technical standards to be admitted into the Physical Therapist Assistant Program:

1. Able to tolerate being physically active the entire working day.
2. Able to lift 70 pounds as needed.
3. Able to transfer, lift and guard patients safely, providing appropriate assistance.
4. Able to bend, stoop, squat and lift numerous times daily.
5. Able to carry out fine motor and manual dexterity skills with tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.
6. Mental acuity and judgment skills to adequately and safely perform job requirements.
7. Able to see and hear adequately in order to respond to auditory and visual cues for the observation, monitoring and assessment of patients.
8. No medical problems such as brittle diabetes, uncontrolled seizures, etc. which could endanger self or others if such should occur while providing patient care.
9. Critical thinking ability sufficient for sound clinical judgment.
10. Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, educational, cultural and intellectual backgrounds.
11. Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in both verbal and written form.

I have read the above and feel that it is within my ability to carry out the duties, responsibilities and qualifications of a Physical Therapist Assistant.

SIGNATURE

DATE

**GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM**

PHYSICAL THERAPY EXPERIENCE FORM

NAME: _____

II. WORK EXPERIENCE in Physical Therapy:

Paid Employment in a Physical Therapy Department. (Be specific in number of hours completed)

<u>Facility Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>PTA or PT Signature</u>	<u>License #</u>

Total Hours of Work Experience	
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