



ALLIED HEALTH Physical Therapist Assistant

Careers

Physical therapist assistants work under the supervision of a physical therapist. Their duties include assisting the physical therapist in implementing treatment programs according to the plan of care, training patients in exercises and activities of daily living, conducting treatments, using special equipment, administering therapy and other treatment procedures, and reporting to the physical therapist on the patient's responses.

Physical therapist assistants work with the physical therapist to provide services that help to improve mobility, alleviate functional limitations and prevent or correct disabilities.

PTAs can assist patients who desire to overcome conditions such as pain, arthritis, orthopedic injuries, neurological conditions, medical illness, pediatric problems and conditions related to aging. Physical therapist assistants serve in many types of settings, including schools, private offices, hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, outpatient clinics and long-term care facilities.

Job Outlook

Employment is expected to grow much faster than average because of increasing consumer demand for physical therapy services. Employment of physical therapist assistants and aides is expected to grow by 29 percent over the 2006-16 decade, much faster than the average for all occupations. The impact of Federal limits on Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement for therapy services may adversely affect the short-term job outlook for physical therapist assistants and aides. However, long-term demand for physical therapist assistants and aides will continue to rise, as the number of individuals with disabilities or limited function grows. The increasing number of people who need therapy reflects, in part, the increasing elderly population.

Earnings

Median annual earnings of physical therapist assistants were \$41,360 in May 2006. The middle 50 percent earned between \$33,840 and \$49,010. Median annual earnings of physical therapist aides were \$22,060 in May 2006. The middle 50 percent earned between \$18,550 and \$26,860.

Physical Therapist Assistant Careers

Educational Opportunities in Physical Therapist Assisting at LCCC

Associate of Applied Science in Physical Therapist Assisting

The program prepares students who, under the direction of a physical therapist, are able to perform competently and in a professional manner, selected physical therapy procedures and skills. The program may be completed in two years (5 consecutive semesters) if taken on a full-time basis. Many LCCC students choose to study on a part-time basis. However, when a student begins the program, it must be completed over five consecutive semesters. Also, the curriculum provides students with practical experience gained at clinical sites, such as rehabilitation centers, hospitals and other health care institutions.

Note: LCCC's Physical Therapist Assisting Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association.

Other Educational Opportunities in Allied Health at LCCC

- Certificate of proficiency in emergency medical services — paramedic
- Certificate of proficiency in medical assisting
- Certificate of proficiency in phlebotomy
- Certificate of proficiency in licensed practical nursing
- Associate of applied science in nursing
- Associate of applied science in clinical laboratory science technology
- Associate of applied science in dental hygiene
- Associate of applied science in diagnostic medical sonography
- Associate of applied science in radiologic technology
- Associate of applied science in surgical technology
- Associate of science (leading to programs such as pre-dentistry, pre-med, pre-optometry and pre-pharmacy)
- Associate of technical studies in nuclear medicine

Other Related Educational Opportunities in Allied Health through LCCC's University Partnership

Bowling Green State University

Bachelor of Science in Biology

This baccalaureate degree program is designed to provide the training in the major areas of biology while allowing sufficient flexibility to accommodate the specific interests of individual students. All majors are required to take the biology core plus genetics. The degree program requires a student

to take at least one course in each of three major areas: Biology of Organisms; Ecology, Evolution and Behavior; Cell and Regulatory Biology. Additional courses allow the student to be exposed to the broad spectrum of biology through an array of advanced courses. The degree program, with some modifications, also allows students to meet the course requirements for pre-professional (medical, dental, veterinary) graduate study.

University of Akron

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN Completion Program)

The University of Akron nursing program prepares students to provide patient care, to direct others in giving care and to become members of comprehensive health care teams. With a combination of experience and education, Akron nursing graduates can obtain employment as clinical specialists in a variety of areas.

Youngstown State University

Bachelor of Science in Applied Science in Allied Health

The baccalaureate degree is intended to serve professional health-related, associate-degree graduates who wish to upgrade their academic credentials. The program provides students additional knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that will enhance their career mobility in the health-care setting. The program is based on a two-plus-two concept where the associate-degree courses provide the technical education for the first two years of the baccalaureate-degree program. Following graduation with an associate's degree, the student articulates directly into the plus-two component of the program. The plus-two component consists of a core of multi-disciplinary courses, student-selected minor and general university requirements.

Master of Health and Human Services

The Master of Health and Human Services program accommodates students from health and human service professions who require the skills and abilities for supervisory/managerial positions or who desire competence in health promotion.

Certificate in Health Care Management

The program accommodates students from health and human service professions who require the skills and abilities for supervisory/managerial positions or who desire competence in health promotion.

About Lorain County Community College

Lorain County Community College is one of Ohio's leading colleges delivering distance learning education via the Internet. The College has expanded its delivery of its programs and services through the opening of the Learning Center at St. Joseph Community Center in Lorain, the LCCC Wellington Center, Lorain County Growth Partnership in downtown Elyria and the Midpoint Campus Center in Brunswick. Partnerships with Lorain County's K-12 school districts have also led to important developments for the community. More than 1300 high school students participate in the Post Secondary Enrollment Options program by enrolling in LCCC classes, making LCCC the state's largest community college provider of PSEO. More than 35 percent of Lorain County's top high school graduates choose to attend LCCC.

LCCC is one of Ohio's fastest growing colleges because of the variety of learning opportunities it provides. Students can choose from more than 80 educational programs. Students can complete the first half — and sometimes more — of a bachelor's degree. The University Partnership brings eight universities to the LCCC campus offering 37 bachelor's and master's degree programs. With the University Partnership at LCCC, the College partners with the state's finest universities to bring the best in bachelor's and master's degree programs right to the LCCC campus. Students can earn degrees that get them jobs immediately. Students can upgrade, retrain and improve current life skills. Students can learn in the classroom, at home and over the Internet.

LCCC offers a complete college experience. We understand that there's more to college life than attending classes. We offer many of the programs, sports, and activities available at large four-year universities and colleges. But, students will not have to stand in line behind juniors and seniors in the classroom, on the playing field, or in leadership positions. Students can immediately act in a play, sing in a musical group, serve as editor for the college newspaper, plan social activities, compete on the playing field, or set policy as a student government member.

In addition to providing a great education for those who enter college with aspirations of a degree, LCCC helps those who have changed their career goals, who want to broaden their horizons, and who want to return to work. LCCC provides learning and training for those who want to move up but find they need new or improved skills for the kind of professional opportunities they seek.

LCCC faculty is recognized locally and nationally for their work as professors and in other areas. They all have advanced degrees and real-world experience and understand their primary responsibility at LCCC is to teach classes. Classes are small. Individual attention is plentiful.

An LCCC education, prepares students for real jobs and real futures. To find out more, call (800) 995-LCCC or visit LCCC's Connections Center, the Learning Center at St. Joseph Community Center in Lorain, the LCCC Learning Center in Wellington, the Lorain County Growth Partnership in downtown Elyria or the Midpoint Campus Center in Brunswick for all of your enrollment service needs, including admissions, registration, advising and counseling.



**Lorain County
Community College**



**The University
Partnership**

of Lorain County Community College

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