



# ALLIED HEALTH Physical Therapist Assistant

# Careers

**P**hysical 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. 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.



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**1 (800) 995-LCCC**  
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# 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 (five consecutive semesters) if taken on a full-time basis. Also, the curriculum provides students with practical experience gained at clinical sites, such as rehabilitation centers, hospitals and other health care institutions.

## Other Educational Opportunities in Allied Health at LCCC

- 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 through LCCC's University Partnership

### **Youngstown State University**

#### *Bachelor of Science in Applied Science Major in Public Health*

The Public Health major offers the Bachelor of Science in Applied Science (B.S.A.S.) degree. The public health program integrates classroom and experiential learning in many of its courses. Public health graduates are employed in public health agencies, non-profit organizations, hospitals and other health and care settings, and governmental agencies.

There are five standard areas in public health training that enable students to perform the essential services of public health. These are epidemiology, biostatistics, health services administration, environmental health and behavioral science/health education. The curriculum for the YSU bachelor's degree in public health addresses each of the five core areas through multiple courses. This curriculum enables mastery at the bachelor's level of the nationally recognized Public Health Core Competencies, and requires an internship tailored to the area of public health interests

of each student. This contemporary major also includes two 3 semester hour courses in bioterrorism, mass causality and crisis management in public health. Most of the professional courses for the degree can be completed through a combination of interactive videoconferencing and online distance learning options.

The B.S.A.S. in public health can also prepare the student to become a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES). CHES assess individual and community health needs; plan and implement effective health education and health promotion programs; coordinate and manage the provision of health education and promotion services; effectively communicate health and health education needs, concerns and resources; and conduct program evaluation.

#### *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 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  
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**The University  
Partnership**

*of Lorain County Community College*

1005 N Abbe Road  
Elyria, OH 44035  
[www.lorainccc.edu](http://www.lorainccc.edu)