



Physical Therapy Aide

Approved by New York State Education Department (NYSED)



PHYSICAL THERAPY AIDES are a part of the rehabilitation team that help patients recover from injuries, improve their mobility and function, resume their daily activities and be able to enjoy life again. The student will gain the knowledge and skills necessary to assist Physical Therapists and Physical Therapy Assistants to set up and maintain treatment areas, organize equipment, assist patients to prepare for treatment and observe patients performing exercises as prescribed by the Physical Therapist. Additional skills will include CPR, customer service, office management procedures, as well as those performed during the required clinical internship.

**Additional medical requirements are necessary for full participation in this program including but not limited to a physical (beyond what the school requires) and vaccinations i.e. flu, COVID-19. These requirements are subject to change as per current health guidelines.*

Work Environment

Physical Therapy Aides require a moderate amount of strength because of the physical demands of the position: Lifting, kneeling, stooping, bending and standing for long periods of time are all part of the day. The hours and days physical therapy aides work vary according to the facility they work in allowing some to work in part time shifts. Many offices have evening and weekend hours to coincide with patient schedules.

Career Opportunities

Nursing Care Facilities
Hospitals
Long Term Care Facilities
Rehabilitation Centers
Physical Therapy Offices
Clinics
Offices of Physicians

Advanced Standing Available*

Five Towns College
Herkimer County Community College
Nassau Community College
New York Institute of Technology
Pennsylvania College of Technology
SUNY Canton

*College credits may be earned by meeting the criteria of articulation agreements (see listing in Handbook) Tech has established with SELECT colleges. In addition, check directly with the post-secondary institutions for any additional credits they may offer.

Helpful Preparatory Courses

- Living Environment
- Medical Terminology

Academic Credits integrated:

Tech Math, Tech Phys Sci, Eng. 12, Health, PE, CFM, Comp App

CTE Endorsement

Students must successfully meet academic and attendance criteria for a two-year Wilson Tech Certificate of Completion, be High School diploma eligible, and pass the following exam: YouScience: Introduction to Physical Therapy.

Student Supplies

Additional supplies will need to be purchased for this program including a uniform.

Average Annual Wage

Salaries are subject to market fluctuations.

For the most current updates on local & national wages go to job search engines on the internet and www.careerzone.ny.gov

Course Requirements

Students must have a complete physical in order to participate in the clinical component.

Course Outline

- History of Physical Therapy
- Body Mechanics
- Set up and maintain treatment area
- Workplace Safety
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Communication Skills
- Assisting with Ambulation and Gait Training
- Range of Motion
- Transferring and Transporting of Patients
- Infection Control
- Law and Ethics
- Customer Service
- Common physical disorders and treatment
- Therapy treatments and exercise
- Mobility training
- Physical Agents and Modalities
- Vital Signs
- Growth & Development