

ASSOCIATE DEGREE*

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

Get Your Career on Its Feet.

Working under the supervision of physical therapists, physical therapist assistants help the injured, the elderly and anyone else whose ability to move is impaired. They work in hospitals, home-care agencies, rehabilitation facilities, outpatient clinics and nursing homes.

In the Physical Therapist Assistant program at Carrington College® students are exposed to a combination of classroom study, laboratory practice and hands-on practice through a clinical experience program. They include anatomy, physiology, kinesiology and patient communication. The program, which admits 24 students per cohort, culminates in an Associate of Science degree.†

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of physical therapist assistants and aides is expected to grow 41% from 2012-2022.‡



Duties May Include:

- Performing manual muscle testing
- Performing joint range of motion measurements
- Measuring neuromotor function
- Performing orthotic and prosthetic training
- Administering modalities – ultrasound, electrical stimulation, iontophoresis, neuromuscular electrical stimulation and transcutaneous electrical stimulation
- Executing therapeutic exercises for strength, balance, flexibility and endurance
- Responding to acute changes in physiologic state, vital signs, sensory response and arousal
- Performing manual therapy techniques: soft tissue mobilization, therapeutic massage, passive range of motion
- Performing intermittent venous compression techniques
- Administering biofeedback techniques and treatments

Possible Employment Opportunities:

- Hospitals – inpatient and outpatient clinics
- Private practice and specialty clinics
- Home health agencies
- Outpatient rehabilitation centers, offices and clinics
- Pediatric hospitals
- U.S. Military
- Sports teams – professional and university level
- Paralympics
- Olympics
- Nursing homes

For comprehensive consumer information visit carrington.edu/ccc/pta

* Program availability varies by location. Carrington College reserves the right to update information as it becomes available. Information is current at the time of printing. For the most updated information, visit carrington.edu.

† Carrington College prepares students to take appropriate certification and licensure exams related to their individual majors. The College does not guarantee students will successfully pass these exams or be certified or licensed as a result of completing the program.

‡ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook (2014-15 Ed.)



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COLLEGE®**

**877-623-1442
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ASSOCIATE DEGREE - PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Physical Therapist Assistant program, graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate the skills and knowledge to successfully provide physical therapy interventions across a broad range of clinical settings under the guidance of a physical therapist.
- Achieve adequate academic preparedness* to sit for the National Physical Therapy Exam for PTAs.
- Demonstrate ability to use technology and electronic communication.
- Demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking, information management, personal and professional development, communication skills, respect and responsibility.

Additional Admission Requirements

Candidates for admission must:

- Successfully complete admission testing
- Attend a mandatory information session
- Undergo a background check and drug screening
- Provide two professional letters of recommendation

The following are additional requirement for this program prior to students participating in clinical education:

- Undergo a physical exam
- Provide proof of Tuberculosis clearance, positive MMR x 2, Varicella or titer, Tetanus Diphtheria, Pertussis (DTAP) and Hepatitis B x 3 vaccinations or signed waiver
- Provide proof of CPR certification (American Heart Association Basic Life Support Health Care Provider)

Applicants meeting all program admission requirements will be selected using points earned from the following

1. Entrance examination score
2. Work or volunteer-related experience in a health care facility

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS – Pleasant Hill

Physical Therapist Assistant Courses		Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Practical Hours	Semester Credit Hours
AP 103	Anatomy and Physiology 1 with Lab [†]	48	30	0	4
AP 203	Anatomy and Physiology 2 with Lab [†]	48	30	0	4
CLT 100	Computer Literacy [‡]	48	0	0	3
ENG 101	English Writing and Composition [‡]	48	0	0	3
KIN 211	Kinesiology with Lab [†]	30	30	0	3
MAT 151	College Algebra [‡]	48	0	0	3
PHY 220	Physics with Lab [†]	48	30	0	4
PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology [‡]	48	0	0	3
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology [†]	48	0	0	3
SPH 205	Interpersonal Communication [†]	48	0	0	3
PTA 112	Fundamentals of Physical Therapist Assisting with Lab	30	30	0	3
PTA 224	Physical Therapy Data Collection and Documentation with Lab	30	30	0	3
PTA 189	Pathophysiology for the Physical Therapy Assistant	48	0	0	3
PTA 153	Physical Agents and Massage with Lab	30	30	0	3
PTA 177	Management of Orthopedic Disorders with Lab	48	30	0	4
PTA 210	Management of Neurologic Disorders with Lab	48	30	0	4
PTA 223	Advanced Concepts for the PTA with Lab	48	30	0	4
PTA 230	Clinical Applications across the Lifespan	30	0	0	2
PTA 240	Ethics and Jurisprudence	30	0	0	2
PTA 199	Clinical Education 1	0	0	90	2
PTA 259	Clinical Education 2	0	0	280	6
PTA 289	Clinical Education 3	0	0	320	6
PTA 298	Licensure Review	30	0	0	2
Total for Degree		834	300	690	77

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[†] Science-based general education course that must be completed for progression into the technical portion of the PTA program. The course may be transferable from another accredited institution if completed within the previous five years with a grade of 2.0 or higher.

[‡] General education course

Approximate time to complete the associate degree program: 80 weeks (not including breaks)