

ACCREDITATION STATUS

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Mendocino College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22305-3085; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: <http://www.capteonline.org>. If needing to contact the program/institution directly, please call Aura Weis at 707-467-1057 or email PTA@mendocino.edu.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is designed to prepare graduates to meet the requirements to practice as a physical therapist assistant in a variety of health care settings. The student is awarded an Associate of Science degree upon successful completion of the program. The program is competency-based and provides sequential learning experiences progressing from theoretical to applied using patient simulations in the laboratory and finally to actual patient treatments in clinical education centers. The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is a total of 77-78 credit-hours, including general education requirements, and can be completed in five semesters. The program has four semesters of technical coursework (46 credit-hours) preceded by a pre-requisite semester. Included within the technical courses are three clinical education experiences. Students will complete theory classes online and attend lab classes on campus. Graduation from the program qualifies the student for examination for the National Physical Therapy Exam (NPTE) for Physical Therapist Assistants administered by The Federal of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT). After successful completion of the examination and all requirements of the Physical Therapy Board of California, graduates may be licensed to work as physical therapist assistants in California.

Required Courses – Prerequisites:

		Units
BIO 230	Human Anatomy	5
BIO 231	Human Physiology*	5
or BIO 202	Human Biology*	3
& BIO 202L	Human Biology Lab*	1
HLH 104	Medical Terminology	3
KIN 100	Introduction to Physical Therapy	1

*Students must complete either BIO 231 or BIO 202 and BIO 202L

Required Courses – Major:

		Units
COM 203	Introduction to Public Speaking	3
or COM 210	Interpersonal Communications	3
PSY 205	Introductory Psychology	3
or PSY 210	Life Span Development Psychology	3
or CDV 200	Child Growth and Development: Conception through Adolescence	3
PTA 101	Physical Therapy Practice for the PTA	2
PTA 102	Pathology	3
PTA 103	Patient Care Skills Theory	2
PTA 103L	Patient Care Skills Lab	1
PTA 104	Clinical Kinesiology Theory	2
PTA 104L	Clinical Kinesiology Lab	1
PTA 105	Therapeutic Exercise Theory	2
PTA 105L	Therapeutic Exercise Lab	1
PTA 106	Therapeutic Agents Theory	2
PTA 106L	Therapeutic Agents Lab	1
PTA 107	Orthopedic Management Theory	2
PTA 107L	Orthopedic Management Lab	1
PTA 108	Neurology and Development Theory	2
PTA 108L	Neurology and Development Lab	1
PTA 109	Neurologic Management Theory	2
PTA 109L	Neurologic Management Lab	1
PTA 110	Advanced Procedures Theory	2
PTA 110L	Advanced Procedures Lab	1
PTA 111	Professional Integration	2
PTA 118	Clinical Development	3
PTA 121	Clinical Practicum II	6
PTA 122	Clinical Practicum II	6

Total Major Units
Total Degree Units

46
77 – 78

Program Level Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Work under the supervision of a physical therapist in an ethical, legal, and competent manner.
2. Demonstrate the ability to promote optimal outcomes for patients by competently performing assessment techniques and treatment interventions from within the physical therapist's plan of care.
3. Recognize the relationship between concepts learned from liberal arts and basic science coursework and physical therapy knowledge and skills.
4. Demonstrate effective oral, written, and nonverbal communication in a culturally competent manner with patients and their families, colleagues, and other health care providers.
5. Demonstrate a commitment to professional growth and lifelong learning.

Career Opportunities in PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

Completing the Physical Therapist Assistant Associate of Science can lead to a variety of opportunities. Following graduation and successful completion of the licensure exam, physical therapist assistants (PTAs) can work in a wide variety of healthcare settings to provide physical therapy services under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist.