

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM APPLICATION



Fall 2012

Application deadline is May 1, 2012



RETURN APPLICATIONS

Physical Therapist Asst. Program
Pueblo Community College
900 W. Orman Ave.
Pueblo, CO 81004 (719) 549-3433

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Pueblo Community College is accredited by The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) of the American Physical Therapy Association, 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria Virginia 22314; phone; 703-706-3245; email accreditation@apta.org; website; www.capteonline.org

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**PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM APPLICATION FALL 2012
APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MAY 1, 2012**

Welcome!!

You have indicated that you are interested in pursuing a degree and career as a physical therapist assistant at Pueblo Community College. Included in this packet is the application process for admissions into the PTA Program. The PTA Program is five semesters in length starting each fall semester. **This application is valid only for Fall 2012 admissions with anticipated graduation in May 2014.**

Applications will be accepted through May 1, 2012. All applications with all required materials must be current and complete. The applications must be received or postmarked by **5:00 PM, May 1, 2012. It is the student's responsibility to see that all the application materials have been received by the deadline. Incomplete or late applications will NOT be processed for summer selection by the Physical Therapist Assistant Program.** Applicants are urged to contact the PTA Program Office for advisement and/or assistance prior to or during the application period.

What do I need to do to apply?

1. Apply for Admissions to Pueblo Community College meeting all college admission requirements
 - a. Applications are available in Admissions Department (719-549-3010) or online at www.pueblocc.edu
2. Submit the following to PTA Program, PCC, 900 W Orman Ave, Pueblo, CO 81004:
 - a. PTA application form and *Essential Functions Form* (blue pgs or pages 6-8)
 - i. Applicants with previous college experience complete A on page 6, all of page 7, and **read and sign page 8**
 - ii. Applicants from high school OR no previous college experience complete B on page 6, all of page 7, and **read and sign page 8.**
 - b. Student copies of college transcripts
 - iii. Student copies of unofficial transcripts will be accepted for review with the PTA application
 - iv. Official copies must be received in the Admissions Department for transfer of previous college credits. Official copies must be requested by the student. Students may apply for the PTA Program and then request official transcripts at a later date. It is suggested, however, that students attend to this as soon as possible.
 - v. ACT or SAT scores or Accuplacer reading scores
 - c. PT and PTA Interview Report. Please see yellow page or **page 9** for specific instructions related to this component.
 - d. Submit a short essay (no more than one page) as to why you are pursuing the physical therapist assistant degree. Please include why you have chosen Pueblo Community College to help reach your goal of becoming a PTA.

3. Two (2) forms of recommendation on the required green form or **pages 10-11**. Recommendation forms need to be complete by non-related acquaintances. Applicants need to complete the top portion in reference to confidentiality. **Recommendations may be mailed to the PTA program or enclosed with the application with the signature of the reference source across the sealed flap of the envelope.**

Evaluation and Selection of Applicants:

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program has a selective admissions policy due to the limited number of clinical sites available to the program. A maximum of twenty (20) applicants will be chosen for the Fall Semester 2012. A list of alternates will be maintained and will be notified of any vacancy through the first week of Fall Semester classes.

Final admission of all applicants will be awarded at the discretion of the PTA Admissions Committee.

Using the following information, applicants may total their application in categories A through E to assess their own qualification status.

Selection will be based on the following:

- A.** 15 Points (maximum) - The GPA of the PTA general education and related courses.

(Example: The GPA is 4.0-3.9 = 15 pts, 3.8- 3.7 = 14 pts, 3.6=13 pts, 3.5 = 12 pts, 3.4 = 11 pt etc.)

- B.** 10 Points (maximum) - College cumulative GPA and test scores according to the following table: (NOTE: A minimum cumulative college GPA of 2.25 is required for PTA application to be accepted.) The three (3) items listed in the table may be added up to 10 points. For example: college GPA is 3.2 = 4 points, and Accuplacer score is 92 = 5 points; Total is 9/10 points.

Applicants are **not required** to take the ACT or SAT tests. The applicant has the opportunity to take or use their score from high school and utilize three items to total a maximum of 10 points in this category.

5 Points	4 Points	3 Points
College GPA 3.6 or higher	College GPA 3.5-3.0	College GPA 2.9-2.25 (Minimum GPA)
and/or	and/or	and/or
ACT Composite 25 or higher (SAT comparable score)	ACT Composite 24-20 or (SAT comparable score)	ACT Composite 19-18 or (SAT comparable score)
and/or	and/or	and/or
*Accuplacer Reading Score 85+	* Accuplacer Reading Score 84 - 75	*Accuplacer Reading Score, 74 -71

- Students must have a **minimum of 80** on the Accuplacer **or prior college level** English/reading before final acceptance into the PTA Program.

- C. 30 Points (maximum) PT and PTA Interview Report, (yellow form, page 9). Three different clinicians and three different types of physical therapy settings. This report will be scored and ranked.
- D. 25 Points (maximum) - Forms of Recommendation, (green, pages 10-11)
- Two forms of recommendation. Please use the forms in the application packet. Recommendation forms need to be completed by non-related acquaintances. These forms will be scored and ranked.
- E. 10 Points (maximum): Essay as to why you are pursuing the physical therapist assistant degree at Pueblo Community College. This is scored only on spelling and completion, content will not be scored.

Categories A through E listed above need to be received or postmarked by 5 PM, **May 1, 2012** to be considered and will be tallied after the application deadline. Applicants will be notified in writing of their interview status. **All interviews are conducted personally and NO telephone interviews are permitted. Applicants are responsible for all expenses incurred.**

- F. 60 Points (maximum) - Personal interview for finalists.

The interview will assess the applicant's desire and motivation to pursue the field of physical therapy, communication skills, commitment to learning, and interpersonal skills needed for success in the program and the field of physical therapy.

After I apply, what should I expect?

After your PTA Application with unofficial transcript, ACT, SAT or Accuplacer scores, the *Essential Functions form*, (2) forms of recommendation PT/PTA Interview report and the short essay are received, a letter will be mailed that indicates your interview date by the 2nd week of May 2012, **with interviews being scheduled the last part of May/first of June.** After interviews have taken place you will be notified of your **conditional acceptance** with a definitive deadline to complete all requirements. You must **return the yellow conditional acceptance form** by the date indicated in the letter to "reserve" your place for Fall 2012 while you continue to work on completing one or all of the requirements listed below.

1. Effective February 2005, all Colorado Community College Health Students (including PTA students) **MUST** complete a background check and pass a drug screen **BEFORE** they can begin/register for the health program. The information and procedure to complete this **will be sent to you once you have been conditionally accepted into the program (after the interview process).** The current cost is \$59.00 for the background check and \$25.00 for the drug screen, the cost is the responsibility of the student.
2. Completion of a 4 credit college level Human Anatomy and Physiology (BIO 201) course **and** a 4 credit college level physics course (Conceptual Physics) with a "C" or above at a regionally accredited college, both courses need to include a lab portion.

3. Evidence of College level reading through one of the following means:
 - a. Accuplacer score of 80+ **OR**
 - b. ACT Reading score of 17 **OR**
 - c. SAT score of 430 **OR**
 - d. Completion of College English Composition with a “C” or higher **OR**
 - e. Completion of College Reading with a “C” or higher

Are there any PTA courses I can take before I start the PTA Program in Fall 2012?

Open enrollment is available in selected PTA classes (PTA 115, 124, 134, 205 and/or HPR 117) while completing any of the conditions. Enrollment in any open enrollment PTA course does not guarantee acceptance into the PTA Program. All other PTA courses require program admission for enrollment.

Who should I contact for additional questions?

Please contact Kathy Stanko, Administrative Assistant for the PTA Program at 719-549-3280 or the PTA Chair, Mary Chavez at 719-549-3433 for further assistance. You can also contact the Chair via e-mail at mary.chavez@pueblocc.edu. Visit the PTA Program web page at www.pueblocc.edu and see our great facilities for your physical therapist assistant education

Pueblo Community College Physical Therapist Assistant Program Information

Mission

The PTA Program mission is to provide students with the opportunity to gain skills and knowledge and to instill professional and ethical responsibilities in preparation for entry level employment as a physical therapist assistant in an ever-changing health care environment.

Philosophy

The PTA Program at Pueblo Community College reflects belief in fostering dignity, self-worth, integrity, teamwork, and professional growth while pursuing a problem-solving approach to effectively deal with the dynamics of providing health care.

Please see our program’s website for more information, including course descriptions and costs at:

<http://www.pueblocc.edu/Academics/AreasStudy/HealthProfessions/PhysicalTherapistAssist/>

Good Luck to you!!



NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Pueblo Community College and the Physical Therapist Assistant Program is an equal-opportunity educational institution which does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, sex, or disability in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, Age Discrimination Act, and Title II of the ADA. The College has designated the Director of Human Resources as its Affirmative Action Officer with the responsibility to coordinate its civil rights compliance activities and or grievance procedures. For information, contact the Director of Human Resources, 900 West Orman Avenue, Room CA-210, Pueblo, CO 81004, telephone and TDD (719) 549-3220; or the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Region VIII, Federal Office Building, 1244 North Speer Boulevard, Suite 310, Denver, CO 80204, telephone (303) 844-2981, TDD (303) 844-3417. Compliance to USC Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504, as well as the applicable Non-Discrimination Laws of the State of Colorado are strictly adhered to by the PTA Program.

ADA NOTICE

Any student eligible for and needing academic adjustments or accommodations because of a disability should inform the PTA Chair during the first week of attending the program. A copy of the letter of accommodation must be presented to the Chair and instructors at the beginning of each semester.

**PUEBLO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM
APPLICATION**

Date: _____ Last 4 digits S.S.# _____

Name: Last _____ First _____ MI _____
Maiden _____

Mailing Address _____ Apt. _____

City State Zip

Phone _____ **(Home)** _____ **(Cell)** _____ **(Work)** _____

Email address: _____

A. College Students Applying: (Attach copy of all transcripts).

List all Colleges/Universities that you have attended and are including an unofficial or student copy of your transcript from that college/university.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CITY, STATE</u>	<u>DEGREE EARNED</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

B. No College Experience/High School Students Applying:

High School Graduation Date _____ Name of High School _____
GED Completion Date _____

List science courses you have taken in the past two (2) years _____

**PUEBLO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM
APPLICATION**

Applicant Check List **Initial each line indicating your compliance with each step.**

_____ 1. Submit application for admission to Pueblo Community College, Admissions Office, 900 W Orman Ave, Pueblo, CO 81004. **DO NOT** submit with PTA application.

Submit #2 - 7 to the Physical Therapist Asst. Program, Pueblo Community College, 900 W. Orman Ave. Pueblo, CO 81004

_____ 2. PTA application and *Essential Functions Form*. (**Blue pgs &/or pgs 6-8, total of 3 pgs**)

_____ 3. Unofficial transcripts of previously attended colleges and PCC that reflect PTA general education courses and cumulative GPA (attached to the application)

_____ 4. Evidence of college level reading (ACT, SAT or Accuplacer, or College level reading, English course)

_____ 5. Two (2) forms of recommendation. (**Green pgs &/or pgs 10-11**)

_____ 6. PT and PTA Interview Report with APTA page (**Yellow pg &/or pg 9**)

_____ 7. Submit a short essay (no more than one page) as to why you are pursuing the physical therapist assistant degree at Pueblo Community College.

_____ 8. I understand there is a background check process with a fee of \$59.00 and drug screen with a \$25 (\$32.50 in Canon City) fee which is required for final admissions into the PTA Program. More information will come from the program after conditional acceptance.

_____ 9. I understand after my application has been reviewed I will be contacted regarding my status for an interview.

It is the student's responsibility to see that all the application materials have been received by the deadline. Incomplete or late applications will NOT be processed for selection by the Physical Therapist Assistant Program.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the information furnished is true and complete - without evasion or misrepresentation. I understand that, if it is found to be otherwise, it is sufficient cause for rejection or dismissal. Further, I have read the requirements for program admission and, if selected, I accept full academic and financial responsibility for enrollment within the program.

Date

Signature

<p><u>RETURN APPLICATIONS</u> Physical Therapist Asst. Program Pueblo Community College 900 Orman Ave. Pueblo, CO 81004 (719) 549-3433</p>

ESSENTIAL FUNCTION	TECHNICAL STANDARD	EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITY
Critical Thinking	Thinks critically and problem solves by assessing and utilizing scientific evidence for safe and effective physical therapy practice.	Questions logically, recognizes and differentiates facts, illusions, and assumptions, and distinguishes the relevant from the irrelevant. Able to measure, calculate, analyze, reason, and synthesize information. Identifies and prioritizes issues in a responsive manner.
Interpersonal Skills	Interacts effectively with patients, families, colleagues, other health professionals, and the community in a culturally aware manner.	Establishes rapport and interacts professionally with patients/families, colleagues, faculty and other health care providers. Utilizes therapeutic communication techniques (attending, clarifying, coaching). Reacts with empathy, compassion and sensitivity to the diverse needs of others.
Observation skills	Observes, comprehends, interprets, and participates in demonstrations, laboratory activities, and clinical experiences for safe and effective clinical practice.	Through functional use of vision, olfactory, hearing, and somatic abilities is able to assess the patient, comprehend and interpret the information, and report the results to the supervising physical therapist.
Communication abilities	Communicates effectively with diverse audiences and for a variety of purposes and situations.	Utilizes appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication skills. Utilizes correct grammar, expression, accurate spelling, and legible handwriting as applicable in oral, written and electronic formats. Provides effective, concise, and organized oral and written information and education to all pertinent individuals.
Motor Abilities	Possesses sufficient motor function and endurance to safely perform data collection skills and therapeutic interventions in a physical therapy setting.	Able to move about the work environment throughout the day. This may include various work spaces, movement to different floors and onto different levels and surfaces. Able to frequently lift using biomechanical techniques. Must be capable of lifting fifty (50) pounds dead weight alone.
Hearing Ability	Possesses sufficient auditory ability to safely perform data collection skills and therapeutic interventions in a physical therapy setting.	Hears patient concerns and emergency signals. Hears and interprets verbal instructions from others.
Visual Ability	Possesses sufficient visual acuity to safely perform data collection skills and therapeutic interventions in a physical therapy setting.	Observes patient conditions; observes patient/responses, Reads charts, computer screen, dials, labels, and gauges. Observes laboratory and clinical demonstrations. Displays visual/spatial skills sufficient for patient safety and comfort.
Tactile Ability	Possesses sufficient tactile and fine motor abilities to safely perform data collection skills and therapeutic interventions in a physical therapy setting.	Discriminates muscle tone, tissue temperature, soft tissue changes and performs appropriate hands-on interventions such as soft tissue mobilization, facilitation, or passive range of motion. Fine motor skills for effective and efficient patient management such as handling of therapeutic equipment and accurate documentation.
Professionalism	Exhibits appropriate professional attitude, appearance, conduct, and responsibility	Respects others' opinions and beliefs. Abides by all aspects of student codes of conduct and professional code of ethics. Appropriate grooming, hygiene and dress for the healthcare setting. Complies with all legal and ethical standards and guidelines. Seeks out, utilizes and provides constructive feedback. Demonstrates effective use of time and resources. Tolerates and reacts calmly to stressful situations. Exercises professional judgment when prioritizing other's needs. Demonstrates flexibility and teamwork. Exhibits accountability for outcomes and actions. Follows through on commitments. Self-assesses, self-corrects, identifies personal needs, seeks resources for own learning and personal/professional growth.
Environmental Safety	Recognizes and protects self, patients, and others from environmental risks and hazards.	Follows universal precautions, safety/security procedures and protocols; works safely with potentially hazardous body fluids; utilizes disinfectants and cleaning agents; tolerates frequent handwashing and tolerates wearing of gloves, masks and safety eyewear.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM ESSENTIAL SKILLS OF A PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

The following physical, cognitive and environmental performance standards are encountered and expected of physical therapist assistant students in classroom, lab, and clinical activities

I have read the above and understand the expectations of the PTA for performance standards in the PTA Program.

Student Signature

Date

**Pueblo Community College
PTA Application Process for the
PT &/or PTA Interview Report**

Part of the PTA Program application process is for the PTA Program applicant to conduct three (3) separate interviews, involving at least one PT, one PTA and the third can be a PT or a PTA. The physical therapy clinicians that are interviewed need to represent and be currently working in a variety of physical therapy settings such as; one outpatient, one acute care and one long term care setting. You also need to navigate the American Physical Therapy Association's (APTA) website to print a copy of their handout titled the ***“Role of a Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA)”***. This can be accessed through: www.apta.org then on the following links; “Careers & Education” then “About PT/PTA Careers” then “Who are PTA's” then “Learn more about the role of a PTA” which will take you to the page that needs to be printed and submitted with your application. You do not need to be an APTA member or need to login in order to access this document.

Questions you should ask during the interview with a PT or a PTA:

1. What do you like and what do you dislike about your career in physical therapy?
2. How does the working relationship between a PT and a PTA work in your setting?
3. Can you please give a general description of a typical work day/type of patients seen?
4. What was the educational requirement for your degree as a PT or as a PTA?

Please submit your written report with all components as you would any college level report.

This report will be scored and ranked as part of the application process. Things that will be scored include but are not limited to:

- Spelling and grammar
- Thoroughness of questions answered
- Number of interviews (3) completed
- Variety of physical therapy sites visited and interviewees questioned (3)
- Enclosure of a copy of APTA's handout on the Role of a Physical Therapist Assistant.

Please have each PT and PTA interviewed sign at the bottom of this page and include this document with your report:

<hr/> Interviewee #1	<hr/> Date of interview	<hr/> Phone #
<hr/> Interviewee #2	<hr/> Date of interview	<hr/> Phone #
<hr/> Interviewee #3	<hr/> Date of interview	<hr/> Phone #

3. Compared to all the persons I could recommend, I would rate this person in the:

___(top 1%) ___(top 5%) ___(top 10%) ___(top 25%) ___(top 50%) ___ (other)

PLEASE SPECIFY WHY:

Signature _____

_____ Date

Name (printed) and Title _____

Email _____

Phone # _____

Please return this form by 5:00 PM, May 1, 2012 to:

Physical Therapist Assistant Program
Pueblo Community College
900 West Orman Avenue
Pueblo, CO 81004
(719) 549-3433

PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME ACROSS THE SEALED FLAP OF THE ENVELOPE !!!!