

Physical Therapist Assistant Program

This is a 69-credit Associate in Applied Science degree program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. It is designed to prepare individuals for employment in physical therapy settings under the supervision of a Physical Therapist. Graduates are eligible to take the national licensure examination necessary for practice as a licensed Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA).

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The art and science of Physical Therapy focuses on the health needs of individuals across the life span. Learning is a dynamic process in which the student and instructor develop a professional association that facilitates student success in both didactic and clinical experiences. Based on specialized knowledge and skills related to movement of the human body, the Physical Therapist Assistant program at Union County College will produce altruistic, culturally sensitive graduates who strive for lifelong learning opportunities. Ultimately a highly qualified and professional practitioner will emerge.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program transforms our community by preparing highly qualified, entry-level professionals who promote safe and ethical professional practices within the scope of Physical Therapy. The Program is committed to excellence in providing an evidence based Physical Therapy education, encouraging graduates to continue the pursuits of lifelong learning and relevant professional contributions.

PROGRAM GOALS AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program curriculum is therefore designed to prepare highly qualified entry level licensed physical therapist assistants who:

1. Demonstrate the ability to deliver safe, appropriate and effective interventions to the population they serve under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist within the scope of PTA practice.
2. Demonstrate the ability to deliver appropriate communication and educate populations they interact and serve.
3. Contribute to the continuous improvement of the profession by actively pursuing career development activities.
4. Utilize human, fiscal and system resources appropriately to provide efficient, ethical physical therapy service.
5. Demonstrate professionalism, accountability, integrity and cultural competence in all duties associated with being a physical therapist assistant.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Program Acceptance Rates:

Admission cohort	# of applicants	% of acceptance rate
Class of 2022	101	31%
Class of 2023	71	45%
Average (2022-2023)	86	37%

The program accepts 32 students each admission cycle.

Graduation Rates:

Graduation Rates	Percent
Class of 2022	96%
Class of 2023	87.5%
Average (2022-2023)	91.75%

Licensure Rates: Ultimate Pass Rate

Licensure Rate	Percent
Class of 2022	74.1%
Class of 2023	95%
Average (2023-2024)	84.5 %

Employment Rates: Based on available completed surveys or telephone surveys

Employment Rate	Percent
Class of 2022	100%**
Class of 2023	84.2%***
Average (2022-2023)	92.1%

Based on the number of students who have passed the licensure examination until January 17, 2024, and not on the number of students who have graduated from the program. Two students passed the licensing exam last week and do not have their license from the State of NJ

** Based on the number of students who have passed the licensure examination until January 17, 2024, and not on the number of students who have graduated from the program



The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Union County College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 303 Potomac Avenue, Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: <http://www.capteonline.org>. If needing to contact the program directly, please call 908.412.3542 or email Sohal.Hallur@ucc.edu

Union County College is #1 among New Jersey community colleges in non-credit Continuing Education enrollments, serving more than 26,000 learners aged 4 to 94 with certificate programs, and courses in professional development, health, fitness, leisure and personal enrichment. Accredited by The Middle States Commission on Higher Education

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Rev: January 2024

