Naugatuck Valley Community College

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM
Why should you be involved in physical therapy?
Exciting Rewarding
Working with people
Teamwork
Responsibility
Endless opportunities
HELPING OTHERS

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r35FQ73uoJ4
What is a PTA?
A PTA is a health care provider who works under the direction and supervision of a Physical Therapist (PT).

The education of a PTA requires that the candidate earn an Associate Degree meeting criteria set by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).
The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Naugatuck Valley Community College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: http://www.capteonline.org. If needing to contact the program/institution directly, please call 203-596-2168 or email jgangaway@nv.edu
Why should you choose NVCC?
Our Mission

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program is committed to high standards as it educates students with the knowledge, clinical skills, professional behaviors, and core values essential to evidence-based and culturally competent care.
Our Vision

The program emphasis on technology and communication facilitates learning in the classroom and the clinic as the program endeavors to educate students who:

- strive for excellence as physical therapist assistants
- commit to high ethical standards
- appreciate and value racial, social, economic, and cultural diversity
- utilize critical reflection
- invest in community involvement
- engage in lifelong learning
Our Faculty
Our facilities
What does the curriculum look like?
Associate of Science Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

- **Five semester program**
  - Including admission requirements
- **Two year curriculum in PTA Program**
  - Art and science courses integrated with specialized physical therapy studies
  - Academic and clinical coursework
  - Critical thinking and decision-making
  - Professional behaviors
  - Effective communication skills
  - Documentation
First Semester (Spring)

PTA* H120  Introduction to Physical Therapy  3 credits
PTA* H125  Physical Therapy for Function  4 credits
PTA* H130  Clinical Anatomy/Kinesiology  3 credits
BIO* H212+ Anatomy & Physiology II#  4 credits

14 credits

+ Must be completed within the past 5 years with a C+ or higher.
## Second Semester (Fall)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PTA* H145</td>
<td>Physical Agents in Physical Therapy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA* H150</td>
<td>PT Interventions I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA* H155</td>
<td>Pathology for PTA I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG* 102</td>
<td>Literature and Composition or</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or 200</td>
<td>Advanced Composition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 13
# Third Semester (Spring)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PTA* H251</td>
<td>PT Interventions II</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA* H255</td>
<td>Pathology for PTA II</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA* H258</td>
<td>PTA in the Healthcare Arena</td>
<td>2 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Aesthetic Dimensions / Written Communication</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 13 credits
Fourth Semester (Fall)

PTA* H260  Physical Therapy Seminar  2 credits
PTA* H262  PTA Internship II  5 credits
PTA* H265  PTA Internship III  5 credits

General Education Credits  23 credits
PTA Credits  40 credits
Total Program Credits  63 credits
How do I apply?
PTA Application

It is your responsibility to carefully read the PTA Application

- All admission requirements must be completed by **6/1/2020**, including submission of proof of documentation of meeting the requirements.
  - Including but not limited to any CLEP test, course substitutions, and credit by exam.

- Official final transcripts from **all** previously attended colleges/universities, regardless of age of transcripts and applicability to the PTA Program must be submitted by the deadline. This includes college credits earned while in high school.
## Admission Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIO* H211+</td>
<td>Anatomy &amp; Physiology I#</td>
<td>4 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG* H101+</td>
<td>English Composition</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective+</td>
<td>Mathematics #</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(higher level than MAT* H136/H137)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY* H111+</td>
<td>General Psychology I</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Must be completed within the past 5 years with a C+ or higher.
PTA Admission Requirements for the January 2021 cohort

- **Mathematics Elective:**
  - Higher level than H136/H137 (higher than Intermediate Algebra)
  - Minimum C+
  - Within 5 years prior to entering program
    “Five (5) years prior” is defined as having completed the course during Spring semester 2016 or later.

- **Anatomy & Physiology (A & P) I**
  - Bio H211 (4 credits)
  - Minimum C+
  - Within 5 years prior to entering program
    “Five (5) years prior” is defined as having completed the course during Spring semester 2016 or later.
PTA Admission Requirements
for January 2021 cohort

- English Composition, ENG H101
  - Minimum C

- Introduction to Psychology, PSY 111
  - Minimum C
PTA Admission Requirements for January 2021 cohort

• ATI TEAS
  ATI TEAS with score equivalent to 60% or higher required
  ○ Official test scores must be submitted by the application deadline, if not taken at a CT Community College. Test scores will be valid for three (3) years and must be taken between 6/1/17 to 6/1/20.

  ○ Students with higher scores on these tests are stronger candidates.

  ○ Students can take test multiple times-highest score utilized.
PTA Admission Requirements for January 2020 cohort

ATI TEAS Test Info

Testing schedules and registration info, visit:
www.atitesting.com

- A study manual for the test visit:
www.atitesting.com

Any further questions, contact Jessica Miller (jmiller1@nv.edu) or the testing center:
203-575-8215
PTA Admission Requirements for January 2020 cohort

Applicants will be considered stronger candidates for admission if they have the following by the application deadline:

- Earned a Bachelor’s degree.

AND/OR

- Completed all general education courses in the PTA curriculum according to program requirements.
PTA Admission Requirements for January 2020 cohort

- **PTA GPA: 2.7 Minimum**
  - Calculation specific to PTA applicants
  - May differ from your college GPA
  - Calculated according to courses required for admission
PTA Admission Requirements for Incoming January 2020

- All applicants should attend a PTA Information Session and sign into session.

- Documented observation hours:
  - Minimum 10 hours in an in-patient physical therapy setting
  - Minimum 10 hours in an out-patient physical therapy setting
  - Totaling **minimum 20 hours**
    - More hours does not give you an advantage!

- **MUST BE HANDED IN BY THE APPLICATION DEADLINE OR YOU WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADMISSION**

Submit with your application to the Admissions Office.
## Ranking Formula for Admission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PTA GPA</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A &amp; P I</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(higher level than H136/H137)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATI TEAS</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

+1 point: earned Bachelor’s degree by 6-1-20  
+1 point: completed all general education courses (ENG 102/200, BIO 212, AD/WC course) in PTA curriculum by 6-1-20

Applicants will be ranked with the top 30 accepted into the program.
Admissions Decisions

- Competitive selective admissions program
- Up to 30 applicants admitted each year
- Any student denied admission this admission cycle, will need to REAPPLY in the following application cycle.
Admissions Counselor

Erika Carrington

Ecarrington@nv.edu

203-575-8128

Admissions office – K (Kinney Hall) 500
Observation of a PTA Laboratory Class

- Meet PTA faculty
- Interact with current PTA students
- Appreciate the type of information & skills you will be learning
- Not required but recommended

Please contact Cheryl Marie at 203-596-2157 or cmarie@nv.edu, to schedule an observation.
What do I need to know if I’m accepted?
Accepted Students

- Must declare intent to attend by deadline

- Prior to enrolling must:
  - Complete a criminal background check with fingerprinting
  - Pass a drug test

- Students who do not pass the **background check/fingerprinting** may be excluded from clinical sites and may not be able to meet the competencies required for the program.

- Students who do not pass the **drug test** will not be allowed to enroll. Their spot will be given to the next person on the wait list.
Program Requirements

- Complete & submit all health requirements according to deadlines given.

- Become student member of the American Physical Therapy Association. ($90/year)

- Obtain certification in First Aid & Healthcare Provider CPR.
  - American Heart Association or American Red Cross
Program Requirements

- A grade of "C" or higher must be attained in all physical therapy courses and all courses required for the degree.

- Students must maintain a 2.33 or higher PTA GPA while in the program.

- A grade of "P" (pass) must be attained in all clinical education components to meet the degree.
Additional Requirements

- Tuition & Fees
- Books
- Criminal background check & drug test (annual)
- Professional attire for clinical education experiences
- Licensure review courses
- Transportation
- Annual physical / PPD
  - Complete & verify all required immunizations
- Purchase of goniometers/PTA kit 1st or 2nd semester
Clinical Education

- Clinical learning is held at a variety of healthcare sites throughout Connecticut (CT) and these clinical sites are assigned at the discretion of the PTA faculty.

- Students may be required to travel over seventy-five (75) minutes to their experiences.

- Students are required to provide their own transportation, living expenses (as necessary), and any other expenses while on clinical education experiences.
Considerations for Success

- Sufficient reading time, study time and practice.
- Attendance to Open Lab.
- Additional 2-3 days on campus outside of class time.
- Curriculum more challenging each semester.
- Work hours to minimum-students who work more than 20 hours per week, in general, struggle and have difficulty continuing to be successful in the program.
Considerations for Success

- You are entering a healthcare career **program of study**—not just taking additional classes.
- You will be preparing to take a national licensure exam.
- You will have the responsibility for caring for patients.
- In addition to learning knowledge and skills, you will be expected to demonstrate professional behaviors in all classes & clinical experiences.
Further Questions???

- Current & former NVCC students contact:
  - Center for Academic Planning & Student Success (CAPSS) office
  - 203-575-8025

- New students, contact:
  - Admissions office
  - 203-575-8080
Reminders

Please note: this information is in regard to the 2020 application cycle for the incoming 2021 class.

Admission requirements may change without notice.

It is your responsibility to ensure you are aware of the most updated information.
PTA Program Information Sessions

- Check PTA webpage, www.nv.edu/pta, for upcoming information sessions.

- Sessions are held at NVCC in Founders Hall, F 207 (PTA Classroom).

- RSVP not required.
Remember......
OPPORTUNITIES
ARE ENDLESS!!!!!!!
Thank You For Your Time

Good Luck in Your Future Goals!!

The PTA Faculty & Staff