

ACCREDITATION STATUS

Graduation from a physical therapist assistant education program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; phone; 703-706-3245; accreditation@apta.org is necessary for eligibility to sit for the licensure examination, which is required in all states.

Mendocino College is seeking accreditation of a new physical therapist assistant education program from CAPTE. The program is planning to submit an Application for Candidacy, which is the formal application required in the pre-accreditation stage, on June 1, 2019. Submission of this document does not assure that the program will be granted Candidate for Accreditation status. Achievement of Candidate for Accreditation status is required prior to implementation of the program; therefore, no students may be enrolled in the program courses until Candidate for Accreditation status has been achieved. Further, though achievement of Candidate for Accreditation status signifies satisfactory progress toward accreditation, it does not assure that the program will be granted accreditation.

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 68 credit-hours, including general education requirements, and can be completed in five semesters. The program itself is a four semester program after completion of the pre-requisite coursework. Included within the professional courses are three clinical 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
	AND	
BIO 202L	Human Biology Lab	1
HLH 104	Medical Terminology	3
KIN 100	Introduction to Physical Therapy	1

Required Courses – Major:

		Units
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 120	Clinical Practicum I	4.5
PTA 121	Clinical Practicum II	4.5

Total Major Units**44.5****Total Degree Units****78.5 – 79.5*****Program Level Student Learning Outcomes:***

1. Pass the National Physical Therapy Exam (NPTE) for Physical Therapist Assistants at a rate of 85% for eligible students who take the exam.
2. Based on the PTA CPI Performance Criteria, demonstrate competency in the following: 1) Perform entry-level competencies as a physical therapist assistant as outlined by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), and the Physical Therapy Board of California. 2) Practice interventions of therapeutic exercise, therapeutic techniques, physical agents, mechanical modalities, electrotherapeutic modalities, and functional training in a competent manner consistent with the plan of care established by the physical therapist. 3) Demonstrate expected clinical behaviors in a professional and culturally competent and sensitive manner and that are consistent with established core professional values and established ethical and legal guidelines.