

# PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT (ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE, A.A.S.)

## Overview

The physical therapist assistant performs patient rehabilitation under the supervision of a physical therapist. PTAs treat neurologic, orthopedic and cardiopulmonary dysfunctions, providing pediatric, athletic, and geriatric rehabilitation, treatment for wounds and burns, and more.

The PTA program includes didactic and laboratory preparation, extended opportunity to practice and apply learned skills in affiliated clinical settings, and education necessary for graduates to sit for required state licensing examinations and to function competently as entry-level practitioners.

Four semesters and two summer sessions compose the program. Upon graduation, students receive the Associate of Applied Science degree. PTA students are encouraged to consider the advantages of obtaining a bachelor's degree from Missouri Western.

Admission to the program is limited and must be made independently to the university and to the PTA program. Admission to the university does not guarantee admission to the program. Selection is competitive and is based on applicants' grades, ACT (or TEAS or SAT) scores, completion of the Missouri high school core program or equivalent, science and math preparation, letters of recommendation, personal essays, and observation of physical therapy in practice.

One class is admitted each year in the fall semester. Applications are available online at [www.missouriwestern.edu/pta](http://www.missouriwestern.edu/pta) (<http://www.missouriwestern.edu/pta/>) with the application deadline of March 31st.

## Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>General Studies</b>		
Students must complete General Studies courses ( <a href="http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/university-information/academic-standards-regulations/associate-degree-certificate/#associate-general-studies">http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/university-information/academic-standards-regulations/associate-degree-certificate/#associate-general-studies</a> )		15
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
PTA 100	Introduction to Physical Therapy	1
PTA 110	Patient Care Skills	3
PTA 120	Modalities	3
PTA 130	Functional Anatomy	2
PTA 140	Measurements and Procedures	3
PTA 160	Clinical Kinesiology	2
PTA 165	Therapeutic Exercise	2
PTA 185	Clinical Education I	3
PTA 255	Clinical Orthopedics	3
PTA 260	Clinical Neurology	4
PTA 265	Diseases and Dysfunctions	3
PTA 270	Psychosocial Aspects of Physical Therapy	1

PTA 280	Clinical Rehabilitation	3
PTA 285	Clinical Education II	5
PTA 290	Clinical Education III	5
PTA 295	Clinical Seminar	1
BIO 101	Principles of Biology	4
BIO 250	Anatomy and Physiology	5
PSY 101	General Psychology	3

NOTE: The above is expanded upon in the Physical Therapist Assistant handbook that has been developed for use by students.

## University Graduation Requirements

1. Earn a minimum of 62 credit hours (100 level and above, maximum of 6 CED credit hours applicable).
2. Earn 20 of the last 30 credit hours at MWSU in institutional course work (exclusive of credit by examination).
3. Participate in required departmental and campus wide assessments.
4. Fulfill the Missouri Constitution requirement.
5. Successfully pass the Missouri Higher Education Civics Achievement exam.