



ARAPAHOE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

*Program Application Fall 2021
Sturm Collaboration Campus
Castle Rock, Colorado*

Application Deadline is 5:00 pm on May 15, 2021

Note: An acceptance letter from Arapahoe Community College into the college does not mean that an applicant has been accepted into the PTA Program. Completion and submission of the information in this packet does not automatically guarantee acceptance into the program.

____ Accuplacer Scores. (All students regardless of any consideration must submit a copy of the Accuplacer taken at Arapahoe Community College within the last 3 years.)

____ Copies of all college transcripts. Copies must be attached to this application in addition to copies sent to the Records Office. This includes current ACC students. If your ACC transcript includes transfer credit for general education courses completed at another institution, the full transcript for that institution is still required. **Points will only be awarded for coursework reflected on an ACC transcript as of May 31, 2021.**

____ Highlight each general education course on the copy of the institution transcript you are attaching to this application.

____ Documentation of all volunteer or work-related hours in a PT clinic.*

____ 4. Attach signed copy of the Informed consent page and the PTA Essential Functions acknowledgment page.

Please note that letters of recommendation are to be returned directly to the program. Any letter of recommendation attached to the PTA program application, will not be considered.

IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THAT ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS ARE COMPLETE AND HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY 5:00 pm ON MAY 15, 2021. APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER MAY 15, 2021 WILL BE CONSIDERED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

*Three visitation forms are provided in this packet. If you need more, please make Xerox copies. If you complete your hours in less than three facilities, do not ask for duplicate information from a facility.

**Arapahoe Community College
Physical Therapist Assistant Program
Application for Admission – Fall 2021**

Please provide a handwritten answer to question below in the space provided.

Think of the attributes or characteristics that you look for in health care professional. Describe why an individual with those attributes makes a good health care professional. Also then identify the qualities you feel you yourself possess, and describe how they will enhance your role as a student within this program and a future medical professional.

**Arapahoe Community College
Physical Therapist Assistant Program
Physical Therapy Setting Visitation Report**

Note to the clinician: As part of the admission process for the Physical Therapist Assistant program at Arapahoe Community College, each prospective student is to spend time observing, volunteering, or working in a physical therapy setting. During this time, the student is to interact with a Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant and gain a better understanding of the Physical Therapy profession and the roles and responsibilities of PTs and PTAs. Knowing your schedule is busy, your help is greatly appreciated. When the individual has completed his/her visitation, please complete this form and return it to the student.

If you have any questions regarding the PTA program or any aspect of our admission procedures, please contact: Paula Provence, PT at (303) 797-5897 or via e-mail at paula.provence@arapahoe.edu.

Student's Name: _____

Clinical Setting's Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

1. Student was punctual with his/her appointment. _____ yes _____ no
2. Student was dressed appropriately. _____ yes _____ no (explain)
3. Student's behavior was appropriate. _____ yes _____ no (explain)
4. Student's interest appeared _____ high _____ low
5. Number of hours student spent in your setting: _____
6. Any additional comments:

Clinician Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

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Clinician Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

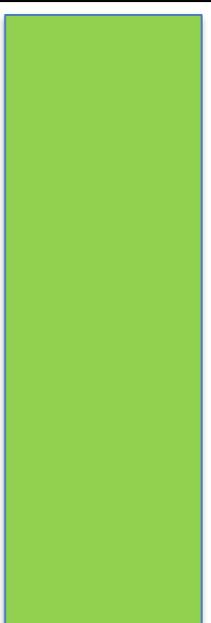
Title: _____

Date: _____

Note: On April 1, 2021, the PTA program will re-evaluate the ability to schedule visitations. If, due to coronavirus restrictions, applicants are unable to schedule visitations in PT clinics, we will approve the following exploration of physical therapy instead.

A Career In Physical Therapy

Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants work in a variety of settings with patients of all ages. The diagnoses of our patients may be neurological, orthopedic, cardiopulmonary, after surgery or general medical ones.

	<h3>Engage</h3>
	
	<p>You can be me</p> <p>View the video above on a career in Physical Therapy.</p>

	<h3>Explore</h3>
	<p>In this article about PTs and PTAs there is a description of 11 different areas of practice. Explore these options for a PTA career.</p> <p>Physical Therapist Assistant - Cliff Stanford shows a day in the life of a PTA in an outpatient orthopedic clinic.</p> <p>Phyllis-case study – This video shows physical therapy in an ICU and an acute care (hospital) setting</p> <p>Aquatic Physical Therapy – See how aquatic therapy is used to help an individual who suffered a stroke.</p>

	<h2 style="text-align: center; background-color: #c0392b; color: white; padding: 5px;">Investigate</h2> <p>Research at least two other areas of practice that are new to you from the article above.</p>
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	<h2 style="text-align: center; background-color: #76923c; color: white; padding: 5px;">Share</h2> <p>Create a presentation, in any format you'd like, that shares what you've learned about physical therapy. Include what area of practice is most interesting to you and which area of you find the least interesting. Submit your presentation along with your application in lieu of the visitation hours you were unable to obtain due to COVID 19 restrictions.</p>
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**Arapahoe Community College
Physical Therapist Assistant Program
2021 Letter of Recommendation**

I, _____ request that you complete this evaluation of me and send it to the address indicated. I have indicated below whether or not the form will remain confidential.

CONFIDENTIAL – I hereby waive my right of access to your confidential recommendation and understand the recommendation will be held in confidence.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

1. How many years and in what capacity have you known the applicant? _____
2. Please circle the rating that best describes the applicant in each of the skills below.

Interpersonal skills				Not Observed _____	
0	1	2	3	4	5
Engages in non effective or judgmental interactions with persons in the clinical/classroom/work setting and loses focus in unexpected or new situations.		Usually engages in effective and on judgmental interactions with most persons in the clinical /classroom/ work setting and maintains focus in unexpected/new situations.		Consistently engages in highly effective and non judgmental interactions with all persons in the clinical/classroom/work setting and responds exceptionally well to unexpected/new situations.	

Communication skills				Not Observed _____	
0	1	2	3	4	5
Exhibits poor written, verbal and nonverbal communication skills and lacks ability to modify information to meet the needs of various audiences/purposes.		Exhibits acceptable written, verbal and non verbal communications skills and is usually capable of modifying information to meet the needs of various audiences/purposes.		Exhibits superior written, verbal and non verbal communication skills and readily modifies information to meet the needs of various audiences/purposes.	

Character/Integrity				Not Observed _____	
0	1	2	3	4	5
Exhibits questionable or poor conduct concerning integrity, ethics, regulations and procedures, and represents the organization in an incompetent and negative manner.		Usually exhibits acceptable conduct concerning integrity, ethics, regulations, policies and procedures, and represents the organization in a competent and positive manner.		Exhibits outstanding conduct concerning integrity, ethics, regulations, policies and procedures, and actively promotes/represents the organization in a highly competent/commendable manner.	

Organizational Skills				Not Observed _____	
0	1	2	3	4	5
Rarely develops and follows plan or process for completing work and tasks. Rarely establishes priorities and manages time to achieve goals. Organizational methods cause stress.		Usually develops and follows plan or process for completing work and tasks. Usually establishes priorities and manages time to achieve goals. Organizational methods sometimes increase rather than reducing stress.		Consistently develops and follows plan or process for completing work and tasks. Establishes priorities and manages time to achieve goals. Organizational methods help reduce stress.	

Initiative				Not Observed _____	
0	1	2	3	4	5
Rarely looks for and acts on new ideas and opportunities for learning, demonstrating discomfort, and lacks a positive, enthusiastic attitude toward new ideas, situations and concepts.		Usually looks for and acts on new ideas and opportunities for learning, often demonstrating a sense of comfort, and a positive, enthusiastic attitude toward new ideas, situations and concepts.		Consistently looks for and acts on new ideas and opportunities for learning, demonstrating a sense of comfort, and a positive, enthusiastic attitude toward new ideas, situations and concepts.	

Leadership**Not Observed**

0	1	2	3	4	5
Rarely promotes and motivates teamwork and competence, rarely manages change and applies personal strengths and influences positive progress.		Usually promotes and motivates teamwork and competence, usually manages change and applies personal strengths and influences positive progress.		Consistently promotes and motivates teamwork and competence, manages change and applies personal strengths and influences positive progress.	

Teamwork**Not Observed**

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Rarely works a part of the team to achieve a common goal and rarely demonstrates encouragement, trust, courtesy, acceptance of personal differences and seldom completes an appropriate share of the work.		Usually works a part of the team to achieve a common goal and usually demonstrates encouragement, trust, courtesy, acceptance of personal differences and sometimes completes an appropriate share of the work.		Consistently works a part of the team to achieve a common goal and demonstrates encouragement, trust, courtesy, acceptance of personal differences and completes an appropriate share of the work.	

Responsibility**Not Observed**

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Demonstrates a poor level of commitment, is not dependable, not punctual, not aware of personal limitations, and does not accept responsibility for actions and outcomes.		Demonstrates an appropriate level of commitment, is usually dependable, punctual, aware of personal limitations, and usually accepts responsibility for actions and outcomes.		Demonstrates a high level of commitment over and above normal responsibilities, very dependable, always punctual, acutely aware of personal limitations, and accepts full responsibility for actions and outcomes.	

Problem solving**Not Observed**

0	1	2	3	4	5
Does not regularly recognize and define problems, analyze data, develop and implement solutions and evaluate outcomes.		Frequently recognizes and defines most problems. Analyzes data, develops and implements solutions and evaluates outcomes.		Consistently and insightfully recognizes and defines problems, analyzes data, develops and implements solutions, and evaluates outcomes.	

Critical thinking**Not Observed**

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Does not identify, articulate, or analyze problems, does not distinguish relevant from irrelevant, does not recognize/differentiate among facts, illusions and assumptions and does not present ideas.		Frequently identifies, articulates and analyzes problems, distinguishes relevant from irrelevant, recognizes/differentiates among facts, illusions and assumptions, and presents ideas.		Readily identifies, articulates, and analyzes problems, consistently and accurately distinguishes relevant from irrelevant, recognizes/differentiates among facts, illusions, and assumptions, and generates original ideas.	

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____

Position/Title: _____

Company/Facility: _____ Phone: _____

Please return this form to:

Physical Therapist Assistant Program
 Arapahoe Community College
 5900 S. Santa Fe Drive, P.O. Box 9002
 Littleton, CO 80160

Letters of Recommendation must arrive by May 15, 2021 for consideration in an application.

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Physical Therapist Assistant Program
2021 Letter of Recommendation**

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Arapahoe Community College
Physical Therapist Assistant Program
2021 Informed Consent Page

Please read all items listed carefully, and then provide your signature confirming your understanding of the application material and procedures/guidelines.

I have read all of the material contained in the PTA information packet and PTA application packet and understand the application. An application packet that is incomplete or does not meet application program requirements will not be considered for admission.

I understand that after my application is accepted and verified, it is my responsibility to notify the PTA Program and Enrollment Services immediately of any change in my address, telephone number or status.

I understand it is my responsibility to: follow proper application procedures, provide transcripts in the required time line, and keep informed on revisions regarding degree requirements, program requirements, progression requirements, selection process, and I will ensure course equivalency by following guidelines established in the student handbook for verification.

I understand that the PTA program admission policies are based on published college policies, subject to change.

I understand that if I am notified of being admitted into the program, my failure to submit “Confirmation of Acceptance” or continued interest letter with the Program Coordinator in the allotted time frame constitutes grounds to withdraw my name from the eligibility list.

I acknowledge that I have read “Additional Program Requirements Once Accepted” portion of the information packet and accept these requirements.

I understand that due to the high number of program applicants, candidates are not guaranteed notification of missing application items. It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure all items are received by the application deadline.

I understand that the PTA program is rigorous and requires a commitment to attendance, study time and skills practice that is generally greater than other courses of study.

I certify that all information provided in this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge. Once submitted this application packet becomes the property of Arapahoe Community College and cannot be returned. I understand that if I am applying for a scholarship and a copy of my application is required, it is my responsibility to make copies of the application prior to submitting to Arapahoe Community College.

I understand that coronavirus considerations may lead to changes in the ACC PTA program and/or the application process.

Student’s Name (Print)

Student’s Signature

Date

**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

ESSENTIAL FUNCTION	TECHNICAL STANDARD	EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITY
Critical Thinking	Thinks critically and problem solves by assessing and utilizing scientific evidence for safe evidence based 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 with patients, families, colleagues, classmates, other health professionals, and the community in a culturally aware manner.	Establishes rapport and interacts professionally with patients/families, colleagues, classmates, 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 evidence based 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 effective 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 motor function and endurance abilities to safely perform data collection skills and therapeutic interventions in a physical therapy setting.	Complete an 8-10-hour shift sustaining activity up to 4 hours at a time. Walk, bend, stand, and reach consistently throughout an 8-10-hour shift. Lift frequently with the proper body mechanics throughout an 8-10-hour day and dead lift 25-50 pounds alone and ASSIST with the management of 150-350 pounds. Transfer clients (patients) safely. Possess the coordination, speed and agility necessary to safely guard and assist with ambulation (gait), exercise or other rehabilitation activities.
Hearing Ability	Possesses 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 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 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. Contributes to classroom and clinic equipment maintenance and upkeep.

I have read the **PTA PROGRAM ESSENTIAL SKILLS OF A PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT**, and I certify that I have the ability to perform these functions. I understand that a further evaluation of my ability may be required and conducted by the Physical Therapist Assistant program director and/or faculty to evaluate my ability for admission into, retention in, and progression through the program.

I understand that if my health changes during the Physical Therapist Assistant program so that I am no longer able to meet, with or without accommodations, the Essential Functions of the program, I may be dismissed from the program.

Signature: _____

Date: _____