

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) is a technically educated health care provider who works under the supervision of a physical therapist. The PTA performs duties and carries out treatment plans as directed by the physical therapist. Duties of the PTA are varied and include, but are not limited, to the application of physical modalities, exercise programs, gait training, functional activities, and patient education. Work in physical therapy includes physical activity such as bending, lifting patients, and prolonged standing and walking. Physical therapist assistants utilize various rehabilitative techniques to help patients whose abilities have been impaired by an accident, injury, illness, disease or other health-related conditions that limit movement and functional abilities. Clients include adult and pediatric patients with orthopedic and neurologic injuries and various medical conditions. Employment settings include acute care and rehabilitation hospitals, outpatient clinics, schools, nursing homes, home health and sports medicine clinics. The Physical Therapist Assistant is an important member of the dynamic rehabilitation team and will interact with other health care providers including occupational therapists and assistants, nurses, speech pathologists, and physicians.

### DEPARTMENT FACULTY

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### PRE-PROGRAM ADVISORS

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### Statement of Equal Opportunity

Jefferson State has filed with the Federal Government an Assurance of Compliance with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Regulations issued thereunder, to the end that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity sponsored by this institution. It is also the policy of Jefferson State to be in accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 which provides that "no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

### Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the official policy of the Alabama State Department of Postsecondary Education, including postsecondary institutions under the control of the Alabama State Board of Education, that no person in Alabama shall, on the grounds of race, color, disability, sex, religion, creed, national origin, or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program, activity, or employment.



## Physical Therapist Assistant Program

Shelby-Hoover Campus  
4600 Valleydale Road, GSB 316  
Birmingham, Alabama 35242  
[www.jeffersonstate.edu/pta](http://www.jeffersonstate.edu/pta)  
Phone 205.983.5995

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage PAID  
Birmingham, AL  
Permit 2447

# Physical Therapist Assistant Program

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## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program is a two-year course of study leading to an Associate in Applied Science degree. Graduates are eligible to sit for the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) for Physical Therapist Assistants.

The Program requires one year of prerequisite general education coursework and one year of core PTA coursework. This is a pre-admit program and requires a specific application process for admission into the professional phase of the program. Once admitted, a student will have the option to follow an On-Campus program or a hybrid Online track program. The On-Campus classes are all enhanced and/or supported by the Blackboard course-management system. The Online-track program conducts lecture courses via Blackboard course management system but cannot be completed entirely online. The Online-track program requires students to be at the Shelby-Hoover Campus for all laboratory sessions. Online lecture courses may also require students to visit instructional sites for various requirements or to complete exams, quizzes, and or clinicals.

Class size for both program tracks is limited; qualified students are ranked for admission based on a point system. The deadline for applications is January 15<sup>th</sup>. Published guidelines and requirements are subject to change without notice. Updated information will be posted on the Jefferson State web site as available.

## PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program at Jefferson State 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](mailto:accreditation@apta.org); website: [www.capteonline.org](http://www.capteonline.org)

## PREREQUISITES AND REQUIREMENTS

Students must possess and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or above on all college credit from all institutions; complete all required PTA general education courses with a grade of "C" or better; and currently possess and maintain a GPA of 2.50 or above for required PTA general education courses.

ENG 101	English Composition (3)
BIO 201**	Human Anatomy and Physiology I (4)
BIO 202**	Human Anatomy and Physiology II (4)
PSY 200	General Psychology (3)
PSY 210	Human Growth and Development (3)
AHUM	Humanities/Fine Arts Elective (3)
SPH 106/107	Speech (3)
OAD 211	Medical Terminology (3)
MTH Elective	Math 100 or higher; not 116, 231 Or 232

\*\*5-year limit; an exception may be made if student can provide documentation of having passed BIO 230 Human Pathophysiology with at least a C within last 5 years

Required: ACT exam with a composite score of 21 or higher; achieved within 3 years of the application deadline **or have proof of earning a bachelor's degree or higher.**

Required: The alternative activity must be completed by all applicants. This helps potential students research the world of physical therapy by exposing them to reliable websites prior to starting the program. The document must be submitted with the application. The applicant will earn 5 points for correct completion of this document towards their admission total.

## WEBSITE

[www.jeffersonstate.edu/pta](http://www.jeffersonstate.edu/pta)

## PROGRAM COSTS

Estimated costs for each track are the same. The estimated costs for the On-Campus and Online programs are listed below. Please note that Tuition and Fees are subject to change by the State Board of Education without notice. The list below does not include textbooks, uniforms, liability insurance, health insurance, medical screening fees, and other fees associated with testing, transportation/lodging on clinical rotations, professional membership dues, small lab supplies or other incidentals.

Pre-requisite Coursework (In State)  
29 credit hours x \$166 \$4,814.00  
Pre-requisite Coursework (Out of State)  
29 credit hours x \$291 \$8,439.00

Professional Coursework (In State)  
40 credit hours x \$166 \$6,640.00  
Professional Coursework (Out of State)  
40 credit hours x \$291 \$11,640.00

Jefferson State Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award the Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and the Associate of Applied Science degrees. Contact the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call (404) 679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Jefferson State Community College.

