



PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

People who work in the physical therapy field enjoy a certain type of gratification, oftentimes helping patients recover from serious injuries. Whether it's back or neck issues, arthritis, or just simply pains and strains, the rewards of helping someone regain their mobility is great.

What's more, physical therapy assistants are in demand. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, employment of physical therapist assistants is expected to increase 41 percent from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the average for all occupations.*

At ECPI University's College of Health Science, you earn an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant in just 1.5 years through ECPI University's year-round program.



Outcomes

- ▶ Prepare graduates for entry-level practice as physical therapist assistants who will work under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist in an ethical, legal, safe, and effective manner.
- ▶ Prepare graduates who are competent in the implementation of comprehensive treatment plans developed by the supervising physical therapist and prepare to effectively monitor and modify the plan of care within the knowledge and limits of practice and communicate with the supervising therapist in a timely manner regarding the patient's status.
- ▶ Provide a learning environment that recognizes individual differences and promotes caring behaviors in the health care community.
- ▶ Promote critical thinking skills to effectively address patient care problems and to adapt the rapidly changing challenges in healthcare and physical therapist assistant.
- ▶ Provide graduates with strong educational foundations for lifelong personal and professional growth.
- ▶ Prepare graduates to take the national licensure exam.

Possible Career Track

- ▶ Hospitals
- ▶ Extended Care Facilities
- ▶ Outpatient Clinics
- ▶ Fitness Centers
- ▶ Rehabilitation Facilities
- ▶ Occupational Environments
- ▶ Skilled Nursing Facilities
- ▶ Schools
- ▶ Homes
- ▶ Sports Training Facilities

*The information in this section comes from "Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2013-2014 Edition"