Physical Therapist Assistant Program

Mission

The mission of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program is to graduate knowledgeable, skilled, competent, professional, and service-oriented entry level Physical Therapist Assistants who, under the direction and supervision of the Physical Therapist, provide quality physical therapy care that meets the needs of employers and the general public.

Vision

The vision of the PTA Program is committed to student success. The program seeks to provide students with the knowledge to demonstrate technical competence in entry level physical therapy skills, make sound clinical decisions, and provide safe, effective, and compassionate physical therapy care to a diverse patient population. The program seeks to graduate individuals that exemplify professionalism in health care.

Philosophy

- The PTA program believes that physical therapy is an essential component in the promotion of health, the prevention of disability and restoration of function following injury or illness, and that the physical therapist assistant, practicing under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist, is a vital member of the health care team who promotes awareness of the profession.
- We believe our mission is fulfilled by a scientific educational plan with a strong clinical component which presents instruction in a logical sequence and provides ample opportunity for knowledge acquisition and the development of critical-thinking, problem-solving, and psychomotor skills. We also believe in curriculum which emphasizes the humanistic aspects of patient care as well as professional behaviors that facilitate positive therapeutic relationships with patients including respect and sensitivity for ethnic, cultural, and spiritual differences.
- We believe learning is a shared process in which both the student and instructor accept responsibility for the learning objectives. As adult learners, PTA students are expected to actively participate in the learning process, effectively communicate their needs to appropriate individuals, and fully utilize the opportunities provided by the educational program. We believe learning is more likely to occur in an atmosphere in which students feel respected and accepted.
- We believe PTA education responds to changes in health care and incorporates those changes into the educational plan. Therefore, the Program collaborates with clinical education facilities, graduates and employers, and values active input from all in the community which it serves.
Student Learning Goals

Upon successful completion of the PTA program the student will:
1. Provide safe and effective treatments under the direction and supervision of the physical therapist.
2. Exhibit ethical, legal, and professional behavior that adheres to the practice standards of a PTA.
3. Demonstrate clinical competencies of an entry level PTA.
4. Communicate effectively with patients, families and healthcare team members regarding physical therapy.

PTA Program Outcomes

- At least 80% of PTA graduates will pass the licensure exam on the first attempt.
- At least 80% of employers will rate the CCC PTA graduate as being adequately prepared for entry into practice.
- At least 90% of graduates will be employed or have the potential for employment as a PTA within 6 months of graduation.
- At least 90% of CCC PTA graduates will indicate satisfaction with the overall adequacy of preparation for entry level PTA practice.
- The attrition rate of enrolled students in the PTA Program will be 30% or less per cohort.
- The Program attains and maintains full CAPTE accreditation status at all times.

The learning goals and program objectives are established to help ensure overall success of the educational program and its students and as a means of evaluating program effectiveness in supporting the mission of Calhoun Community College.