O*NET OnLine

MSC - PTA Program - Mental & Physical Demands This form is provided to make prospective students aware of the job demands . Applicants are asked to review this information, sign, and include in their application packet. Updated 2013

Custom Report for:
31-2021.00 - Physical Therapist Assistants

Bright Outlook

Assist physical therapists in providing physical therapy treatments and procedures. May, in accordance with State laws, assist in the development of treatment plans, carry out routine functions, document the progress of treatment, and modify specific treatments in accordance with patient status and within the scope of treatment plans established by a physical therapist. Generally requires formal training.

Sample of reported job titles: Certified Physical Therapist Assistant (CPTA), Home Health Physical Therapist Assistant, Licensed Physical Therapist Assistant (LPTA), Outpatient Physical Therapist Assistant, Per Diem Physical Therapist Assistant (Per Diem PTA), Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA), Physical Therapist Assistant and Nurse Aide, Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA), Physical Therapy Technician (Physical Therapy Tech), Staff Physical Therapy Assistant

View report: Summary | Details | Custom

Tasks | Tools & Technology | Knowledge | Skills | Abilities | Work Activities | Work Context | Work Styles | Work Needs | Additional Information

Tasks

Save Table (XLS/CSV)

All of the following tasks are required of physical therapist assistants. The applicants signature at then end of this form ensures that the applicant is aware of the physical and mental requirements and that they identify themselves as able to complete these tasks.

Importance	Category	Task
94	Core	Instruct, motivate, safeguard, and assist patients as they practice exercises or functional activities.
94	Core	Observe patients during treatments to compile and evaluate data on their responses and progress and provide results to physical therapist in person or through progress notes.
90	Core	Confer with physical therapy staff or others to discuss and evaluate patient information for planning, modifying, or coordinating treatment.
88	Core	Administer active or passive manual therapeutic exercises, therapeutic massage, aquatic physical therapy, or heat, light, sound, or electrical modality treatments, such as ultrasound.
87	Core	Measure patients' range-of-joint motion, body parts, or vital signs to determine effects of treatments or for patient evaluations.
86	Core	Communicate with or instruct caregivers or family members on patient therapeutic activities or treatment plans.
85	Core	Transport patients to and from treatment areas, lifting and transferring them according to positioning requirements.
83	Core	Secure patients into or onto therapy equipment.
79	Core	Train patients in the use of orthopedic braces, prostheses, or supportive devices.
79	Core	Assist patients to dress, undress, or put on and remove supportive devices, such as braces, splints, or slings.

75	Core	Clean work area and check and store equipment after treatment.
73	Core	Fit patients for orthopedic braces, prostheses, or supportive devices, such as crutches.
73	Core	Monitor operation of equipment and record use of equipment and administration of treatment.
69	Core	Attend or conduct continuing education courses, seminars, or in-service activities.
66	Core	Perform clerical duties, such as taking inventory, ordering supplies, answering telephone, taking messages, or filling out forms.
79	Supplemental	Perform postural drainage, percussions, or vibrations or teach deep breathing exercises to treat respiratory conditions.
72	Supplemental	Administer traction to relieve neck or back pain, using intermittent or static traction equipment.
59	Supplemental	Prepare treatment areas and electrotherapy equipment for use by physiotherapists.

back to top

Tools & Technology Save Table (XLS/CSV)

Tools used in this occupation:

Lower extremity prosthetic devices — Above-the-knee prosthetics; Below-the-knee prosthetics

Patient care beds or accessories for specialty care — Rotating bed; Standing cages; Standing tables; Tilt tables

Patient lifts or accessories — Hoyer lifts; Total lift chairs

Therapeutic balls or accessories — Medicine balls; Swiss exercise balls

Walkers or rollators — Front-wheel walkers; Hemi walkers; Platform walkers; Reciprocating walkers (see all 5 examples)

Technology used in this occupation:

Accounting software — Billing software; Bookkeeping software

Action games — Video game software; Virtual reality game software

Data base user interface and query software — dBASE; FileMaker Pro software; Microsoft Access

Medical software — BioEx Systems Exercise Pro; Rehab Documentation Company ReDoc Suite; Summit Software CarePoint; TherAssist (see all 13 examples)

Spreadsheet software — Microsoft Excel

See all 82 T2 categories

back to top

Knowledge Save Table (XLS/CSV)

Importance	Knowledge
75	**Customer and Personal Service** — Knowledge of principles and processes for providing

customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction.

68 **English Language** — Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.

67 **Medicine and Dentistry** — Knowledge of the information and techniques needed to diagnose and treat human injuries, diseases, and deformities. This includes symptoms, treatment alternatives, drug properties and interactions, and preventive health-care measures.

65 **Psychology** — Knowledge of human behavior and performance; individual differences in ability, personality, and interests; learning and motivation; psychological research methods; and the assessment and treatment of behavioral and affective disorders.

62 **Therapy and Counseling** — Knowledge of principles, methods, and procedures for diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of physical and mental dysfunctions, and for career counseling and guidance.

58 **Education and Training** — Knowledge of principles and methods for curriculum and training design, teaching and instruction for individuals and groups, and the measurement of training effects.

52 **Biology** — Knowledge of plant and animal organisms, their tissues, cells, functions, interdependencies, and interactions with each other and the environment.

51 **Sociology and Anthropology** — Knowledge of group behavior and dynamics, societal trends and influences, human migrations, ethnicity, cultures and their history and origins.

back to top

Skills

Save Table (XLS/CSV)

Importance	Skill
69	**Active Listening** — Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times.
66	**Monitoring** — Monitoring/Assessing performance of yourself, other individuals, or organizations to make improvements or take corrective action.
66	**Social Perceptiveness** — Being aware of others' reactions and understanding why they react as they do.
66	**Speaking** — Talking to others to convey information effectively.
60	**Service Orientation** — Actively looking for ways to help people.
56	**Coordination** — Adjusting actions in relation to others' actions.
56	**Critical Thinking** — Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
56	**Reading Comprehension** — Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents.
53	**Active Learning** — Understanding the implications of new information for both current and future problem-solving and decision-making.
53	**Instructing** — Teaching others how to do something.
53	**Judgment and Decision Making** — Considering the relative costs and benefits of potential actions to choose the most appropriate one.

50 **Learning Strategies** — Selecting and using training/instructional methods and procedures appropriate for the situation when learning or teaching new things.

50 **Time Management** — Managing one's own time and the time of others.

50 **Writing** — Communicating effectively in writing as appropriate for the needs of the audience.

back to top

Abilities

Save Table (XLS/CSV)

Importance	Ability
75	**Oral Comprehension** — The ability to listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences.
75	**Oral Expression** — The ability to communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand.
69	**Problem Sensitivity** — The ability to tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong. It does not involve solving the problem, only recognizing there is a problem.
69	**Speech Clarity** — The ability to speak clearly so others can understand you.
69	**Written Comprehension** — The ability to read and understand information and ideas presented in writing.
66	**Near Vision** — The ability to see details at close range (within a few feet of the observer).
66	**Speech Recognition** — The ability to identify and understand the speech of another person.
60	**Deductive Reasoning** — The ability to apply general rules to specific problems to produce answers that make sense.
60	**Information Ordering** — The ability to arrange things or actions in a certain order or pattern according to a specific rule or set of rules (e.g., patterns of numbers, letters, words, pictures, mathematical operations).
53	**Inductive Reasoning** — The ability to combine pieces of information to form general rules or conclusions (includes finding a relationship among seemingly unrelated events).
53	**Static Strength** — The ability to exert maximum muscle force to lift, push, pull, or carry objects.
53	**Trunk Strength** — The ability to use your abdominal and lower back muscles to support part of the body repeatedly or continuously over time without 'giving out' or fatiguing.
53	**Written Expression** — The ability to communicate information and ideas in writing so others will understand.
50	**Arm-Hand Steadiness** — The ability to keep your hand and arm steady while moving your arm or while holding your arm and hand in one position.
50	**Category Flexibility** — The ability to generate or use different sets of rules for combining or grouping things in different ways.
50	**Far Vision** — The ability to see details at a distance.
50	**Finger Dexterity** — The ability to make precisely coordinated movements of the fingers of one or both hands to grasp, manipulate, or assemble very small objects.
50	**Fluency of Ideas** — The ability to come up with a number of ideas about a topic (the number of ideas is important, not their quality, correctness, or creativity).

50 **Manual Dexterity** — The ability to quickly move your hand, your hand together with your arm, or your two hands to grasp, manipulate, or assemble objects.

50 **Multilimb Coordination** — The ability to coordinate two or more limbs (for example, two arms, two legs, or one leg and one arm) while sitting, standing, or lying down. It does not involve performing the activities while the whole body is in motion.

50 **Perceptual Speed** — The ability to quickly and accurately compare similarities and differences among sets of letters, numbers, objects, pictures, or patterns. The things to be compared may be presented at the same time or one after the other. This ability also includes comparing a presented object with a remembered object.

50 **Visualization** — The ability to imagine how something will look after it is moved around or when its parts are moved or rearranged.

back to top

Work Activities

Save Table (XLS/CSV)

Importance	Work Activity
87	**Assisting and Caring for Others** — Providing personal assistance, medical attention, emotional support, or other personal care to others such as coworkers, customers, or patients.
84	**Documenting/Recording Information** — Entering, transcribing, recording, storing, or maintaining information in written or electronic/magnetic form.
83	**Getting Information** — Observing, receiving, and otherwise obtaining information from all relevant sources.
80	**Communicating with Supervisors, Peers, or Subordinates** — Providing information to supervisors, co-workers, and subordinates by telephone, in written form, e-mail, or in person.
76	**Performing General Physical Activities** — Performing physical activities that require considerable use of your arms and legs and moving your whole body, such as climbing, lifting, balancing, walking, stooping, and handling of materials.
75	**Establishing and Maintaining Interpersonal Relationships** — Developing constructive and cooperative working relationships with others, and maintaining them over time.
73	**Evaluating Information to Determine Compliance with Standards** — Using relevant information and individual judgment to determine whether events or processes comply with laws, regulations, or standards.
73	**Updating and Using Relevant Knowledge** — Keeping up-to-date technically and applying new knowledge to your job.
72	**Making Decisions and Solving Problems** — Analyzing information and evaluating results to choose the best solution and solve problems.
70	**Identifying Objects, Actions, and Events** — Identifying information by categorizing, estimating, recognizing differences or similarities, and detecting changes in circumstances or events.
70	**Processing Information** — Compiling, coding, categorizing, calculating, tabulating, auditing, or verifying information or data.
70	**Thinking Creatively** — Developing, designing, or creating new applications, ideas, relationships, systems, or products, including artistic contributions.
70	

Training and Teaching Others — Identifying the educational needs of others, developing formal educational or training programs or classes, and teaching or instructing others.

68 **Analyzing Data or Information** — Identifying the underlying principles, reasons, or facts of information by breaking down information or data into separate parts.

67 **Monitor Processes, Materials, or Surroundings** — Monitoring and reviewing information from materials, events, or the environment, to detect or assess problems.

67 **Organizing, Planning, and Prioritizing Work** — Developing specific goals and plans to prioritize, organize, and accomplish your work.

65 **Handling and Moving Objects** — Using hands and arms in handling, installing, positioning, and moving materials, and manipulating things.

64 **Judging the Qualities of Things, Services, or People** — Assessing the value, importance, or quality of things or people.

62 **Interpreting the Meaning of Information for Others** — Translating or explaining what information means and how it can be used.

61 **Interacting With Computers** — Using computers and computer systems (including hardware and software) to program, write software, set up functions, enter data, or process information.

59 **Coaching and Developing Others** — Identifying the developmental needs of others and coaching, mentoring, or otherwise helping others to improve their knowledge or skills.

59 **Performing for or Working Directly with the Public** — Performing for people or dealing directly with the public. This includes serving customers in restaurants and stores, and receiving clients or guests.

58 **Coordinating the Work and Activities of Others** — Getting members of a group to work together to accomplish tasks.

57 **Developing Objectives and Strategies** — Establishing long-range objectives and specifying the strategies and actions to achieve them.

55 **Communicating with Persons Outside Organization** — Communicating with people outside the organization, representing the organization to customers, the public, government, and other external sources. This information can be exchanged in person, in writing, or by telephone or e-mail.

55 **Developing and Building Teams** — Encouraging and building mutual trust, respect, and cooperation among team members.

55 **Inspecting Equipment, Structures, or Material** — Inspecting equipment, structures, or materials to identify the cause of errors or other problems or defects.

54 **Provide Consultation and Advice to Others** — Providing guidance and expert advice to management or other groups on technical, systems-, or process-related topics.

54 **Resolving Conflicts and Negotiating with Others** — Handling complaints, settling disputes, and resolving grievances and conflicts, or otherwise negotiating with others.

50 **Scheduling Work and Activities** — Scheduling events, programs, and activities, as well as the work of others.

back to top

Work Context

Save Table (XLS/CSV)

Context	Work Context

100 **Contact With Others** — How much does this job require the worker to be in contact with others (face-to-face, by telephone, or otherwise) in order to perform it?

95 **Work With Work Group or Team** — How important is it to work with others in a group or team in this job?

94 **Physical Proximity** — To what extent does this job require the worker to perform job tasks in close physical proximity to other people?

87 **Face-to-Face Discussions** — How often do you have to have face-to-face discussions with individuals or teams in this job?

85 **Indoors, Environmentally Controlled** — How often does this job require working indoors in environmentally controlled conditions?

84 **Deal With External Customers** — How important is it to work with external customers or the public in this job?

79 **Telephone** — How often do you have telephone conversations in this job?

78 **Importance of Being Exact or Accurate** — How important is being very exact or highly accurate in performing this job?

76 **Coordinate or Lead Others** — How important is it to coordinate or lead others in accomplishing work activities in this job?

76 **Exposed to Disease or Infections** — How often does this job require exposure to disease/infections?

75 **Freedom to Make Decisions** — How much decision making freedom, without supervision, does the job offer?

74 **Frequency of Decision Making** — How frequently is the worker required to make decisions that affect other people, the financial resources, and/or the image and reputation of the organization?

74 **Structured versus Unstructured Work** — To what extent is this job structured for the worker, rather than allowing the worker to determine tasks, priorities, and goals?

72 **Spend Time Standing** — How much does this job require standing?

71 **Impact of Decisions on Co-workers or Company Results** — How do the decisions an employee makes impact the results of co-workers, clients or the company?

64 **Time Pressure** — How often does this job require the worker to meet strict deadlines?

63 **Responsible for Others' Health and Safety** — How much responsibility is there for the health and safety of others in this job?

62 **Spend Time Using Your Hands to Handle, Control, or Feel Objects, Tools, or Controls** — How much does this job require using your hands to handle, control, or feel objects, tools or controls?

61 **Electronic Mail** — How often do you use electronic mail in this job?

58 **Spend Time Walking and Running** — How much does this job require walking and running?

56 **Deal With Unpleasant or Angry People** — How frequently does the worker have to deal with unpleasant, angry, or discourteous individuals as part of the job requirements?

54 **Level of Competition** — To what extent does this job require the worker to compete or to be aware of competitive pressures?

52 **Importance of Repeating Same Tasks** — How important is repeating the same physical activities (e.g., key entry) or mental activities (e.g., checking entries in a ledger) over and

over, without stopping, to performing this job?

51 **Frequency of Conflict Situations** — How often are there conflict situations the employee has to face in this job?

50 **Duration of Typical Work Week** — Number of hours typically worked in one week.

back to top

Work Styles

Save Table (XLS/CSV)

Importance	Work Style
92	**Concern for Others** — Job requires being sensitive to others' needs and feelings and being understanding and helpful on the job.
91	**Integrity** — Job requires being honest and ethical.
90	**Dependability** — Job requires being reliable, responsible, and dependable, and fulfilling obligations.
87	**Cooperation** — Job requires being pleasant with others on the job and displaying a good-natured, cooperative attitude.
86	**Attention to Detail** — Job requires being careful about detail and thorough in completing work tasks.
83	**Adaptability/Flexibility** — Job requires being open to change (positive or negative) and to considerable variety in the workplace.
82	**Self Control** — Job requires maintaining composure, keeping emotions in check, controlling anger, and avoiding aggressive behavior, even in very difficult situations.
77	**Initiative** — Job requires a willingness to take on responsibilities and challenges.
75	**Persistence** — Job requires persistence in the face of obstacles.
75	**Stress Tolerance** — Job requires accepting criticism and dealing calmly and effectively with high stress situations.
74	**Achievement/Effort** — Job requires establishing and maintaining personally challenging achievement goals and exerting effort toward mastering tasks.
74	**Independence** — Job requires developing one's own ways of doing things, guiding oneself with little or no supervision, and depending on oneself to get things done.
73	**Analytical Thinking** — Job requires analyzing information and using logic to address work-related issues and problems.
73	**Social Orientation** — Job requires preferring to work with others rather than alone, and being personally connected with others on the job.
69	**Innovation** — Job requires creativity and alternative thinking to develop new ideas for and answers to work-related problems.
63	**Leadership** — Job requires a willingness to lead, take charge, and offer opinions and direction.

back to top

Work Needs

Save Table (XLS/CSV)

Extent	Work Need

88 **Social Service** — Workers on this job have work where they do things for other people.

72 **Moral Values** — Workers on this job are never pressured to do things that go against their sense of right and wrong.

72 **Security** — Workers on this job have steady employment.

69 **Achievement** — Workers on this job get a feeling of accomplishment.

66 **Supervision, Human Relations** — Workers on this job have supervisors who back up their workers with management.

63 **Co-workers** — Workers on this job have co-workers who are easy to get along with.

63 **Working Conditions** — Workers on this job have good working conditions.

59 **Ability Utilization** — Workers on this job make use of their individual abilities.

56 **Company Policies and Practices** — Workers on this job are treated fairly by the company.

56 **Compensation** — Workers on this job are paid well in comparison with other workers.

53 **Activity** — Workers on this job are busy all the time.

53 **Recognition** — Workers on this job receive recognition for the work they do.

53 **Social Status** — Workers on this job are looked up to by others in their company and their community.

53 **Variety** — Workers on this job have something different to do every day.

back to top

Sources of Additional Information

Disclaimer: Sources are listed to provide additional information on related jobs, specialties, and/or industries. Links to non-DOL Internet sites are provided for your convenience and do not constitute an endorsement.

- Physical Therapist Assistants and Aides. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition*.

back to top

I have reviewed the information provided regarding the mental and physical demands associated with the being a Physical Therapist Assistant.

If accepted to the program, I understand that I must meet the physical and mental demands requried of the PTA. If I am unable to meet the physical and mental demands of the PTA, then I will be unable to complete the PTA program.

_____ _____

Signature Date

_____

Printed Name