

TO: Prospective Student
FROM: Denise Abrams, Chairperson
SUBJECT: Physical Therapist Assistant Program at SUNY Broome Community College

Thank you for your recent request for information on the PTA program at Broome Community College. Here is a fact sheet that describes the program requirements as well as the prerequisite requirements. Specific course descriptions can be found in the College catalog online at www.sunybroome.edu.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

This program prepares students to carry out a planned patient care program under the supervision of a Physical Therapist in a variety of health-care settings. Treatments given include: exercises for increasing strength, endurance, coordination and range of motion; the use of heat, cold, electricity, sound and water to relieve pain and stimulate muscle activity; instruction in activities of daily living; and the use of assistive devices such as walkers, crutches and wheel chairs.

The volunteer/service learning requirement is described on the last page. This requirement exists in one form or another in all PTA and PT programs and is probably the most important thing you should undertake immediately. This will enable you to make an informed decision about your career choice.

The Physical Therapist Assistant program at BCC participates in a competitive admissions process. More information regarding the process can be found on the program website or by contacting the admissions office at (607) 778-5001.

Program information can be accessed via our website <http://www.sunybroome.edu/PTA>. If you still have questions about the PTA program at SUNY Broome, please feel free to call me at (607) 778-5060 for additional information.

DEPARTMENT NAME: Physical Therapist Assistant
CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Denise Abrams, PT
TELEPHONE: (607) 778-5060
WEBSITE: <http://www.sunybroome.edu>
DEGREE OFFERED: Associate in Applied Science
Email: abramsdm@sunybroome.edu

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

For specific information please reference the college website

(<http://catalog.sunybroome.edu/content.php?catoid=1&navoid=22>)

Level 3 Math - Regents or equivalent - 74 min. grade (Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II with Trig.)

Biology - Regents or equivalent - 74 min. grade

Chemistry – 74 min. grade

50 hours volunteer/service learning work in a **HOSPITAL** setting where physical therapy is practiced (must be met prior to enrolling in PTA classes). Good health and physical condition to meet job demands.

JOB OUTLOOK: Salaries are competitive with or better than those of other two-year degree programs in the health care field. Jobs continue to be available in every area of the USA although placement is competitive.

CAREER OR TRANSFER GOALS: This program is not designed as a transfer program to an upper-division Physical Therapy program leading to the master's degree or doctoral program. However, students can continue their studies, earn a bachelors degree and apply to an upper-division program. If you would like to discuss options for continuing in the career of physical therapy, please contact me for an appointment.

PTA Program Outcomes:

Communication

1. Utilize proper verbal, non-verbal and written communication.

Individual and Cultural Differences

2. Adjust behavior appropriately out of respect for individual and cultural differences with each patient/client and health care provider in an effective, appropriate and capable manner.

Behavior and Conduct

3. Display professional and ethical behavior.

Plan of Care/Intervention

4. Provide basic, safe, patient care and comfort.
5. Integrate knowledge and skills gained in biology, anatomy, physiology, kinesiology, psychology, physics, pathology, and pathophysiology and apply them to PT interventions.
6. Perform Physical Therapy Interventions and data collection, with excellence, according to the Scope of practice of the Physical Therapist Assistant, as directed in the plan of care, under the supervision of a licensed Physical Therapist.

Education

7. Demonstrate teaching and learning in physical therapy practice.

Administration

8. Participate in administration activities including: professional interaction with the health care team members; provision of accurate and timely documentation for billing and reimbursement; participate in quality assurance activities; and discuss organizational planning and operation of the PT department.

Social Responsibility

9. Discuss the Psychosocial Aspects of Health Care.

Career Development

10. Recognize that life-long learning is a continuum and identify life-long learning opportunities.

Outcomes measurement

11. Through observation, data collection, communication and problem solving, participate in determining patient/client progress toward a specific outcome as established in the plan of care by the Physical Therapist.

Critical Thinking/Clinical Problem Solving

12. Select appropriate patient/client interventions within the plan of care established by the Physical Therapist.

BROOME COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT DEPARTMENT
CURRICULUM PLAN

FALL SEMESTER

BIO 131 - Human Biology I	4 CREDITS
ENG 110 - Written Expression	3 CREDITS
PSY 110 - General Psychology	3 CREDITS
PTA 100 - Intro to Physical Therapy I	4 CREDITS
PTA 104 – Basic Musculoskeletal Anatomy	1 CREDIT
PHY 118 - Physics for Physical Therapist Asst	4 CREDITS
TOTAL	19 CREDITS

SPRING SEMESTER

BIO 132 - Human Biology II	4 CREDITS
PTA 101 - Intro to Physical Therapy II	4 CREDITS
PTA 102 - Intro to Rehabilitation	4 CREDITS
PTA 103 - Physical Agents and Massage	4 CREDITS
MDA 114 - Standard First Aid Management of Emergencies	<u>1</u> CREDIT
TOTAL	17 CREDITS

SUMMER TERM

PTA 110 - Clinical Affiliation I	3 CREDITS
PSY 210 – Human Developmental	<u>3</u> CREDITS
TOTAL	6 CREDITS

FALL SEMESTER

PTA 201 - Kinesiology	4 CREDITS
PTA 202 - Therapeutic Exercise	4 CREDITS
PTA 210 - Clinical Affiliation II	<u>4</u> CREDITS
TOTAL	12 CREDITS

SPRING SEMESTER

PTA 213 - Senior Seminar I	5 CREDITS
PTA 224 - Senior Seminar II	1 CREDIT
PTA 220 - Clinical Affiliation III	<u>6</u> CREDITS
TOTAL	12 CREDITS

TOTAL CREDITS	66
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOLUNTEER/SERVICE LEARNING REQUIREMENT

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program at Broome Community College is a challenging and demanding program. For this reason it is necessary for prospective students to be as certain as possible of their career choice prior to enrolling in this curriculum. The traditional way to confirm your career choice is to perform a minimum number of volunteer clinical hours prior to enrollment in PTA courses.

As a PTA you will be part of the PT profession. Service to the community is a large part of your commitment to the profession. To prepare you for this commitment, these hours will be considered service learning hours. While providing service to the community through volunteering, you are asked to keep a journal of your experience and learning opportunities. Reflect in your journal on various conditions and illnesses you observe, how hospital personnel interact, how PT provides a service to the public, what the role of the PTA is, how important is communication, what is the hospital clinic's mission. How do they achieve this mission? As a volunteer, how did you help them meet their mission, etc.? You must maintain **confidentiality** in all of your entries.

You need to make your own arrangements at a **hospital** of your choice. You should contact the volunteer coordinator or the director of the physical therapy department for further information. Most of the facilities in the Binghamton area are familiar with such requests. Simply tell them that you are a student interested in physical therapy and that you need to complete **50 hours** of volunteer work and ask what to do next.

You may spend more than 50 hours in volunteer time if you wish. Additional experience may be gained in nursing homes, private therapists' offices, Broome Developmental Center, Handicapped Children's Association of the Southern Tier, or any other setting where physical therapists work. At the end of your time at a facility ask for documentation of the time you have spent there. Forward a copy of the documentation of your 50 hours to the PTA Program at SUNY Broome Community College for our records. You will be asked to write a paper at a later date based on this experience and your journal entries.

There are a few rules that you will need to observe without fail. Even though you are not going out as a SUNY Broome student you need to do your best to present a good image of yourself. Even though you are not being evaluated by the facility you go to, you need to observe their rules to the letter. These are all busy places with heavy caseloads and you cannot be a burden to them. You need to attend when you say you will and be on time. You need to respect patients' rights to dignity, privacy and you must always treat any information you are told as confidential to be shared with no one but the therapist you are working with. Your appearance must be neat and clean at all times.

If you have already worked in such a facility you may have this requirement waived but you will need to discuss it with the Chairperson of the program first for this determination. If you cannot complete the hours prior to class you may request a waiver for extended time from the program chairperson. Waivers will only be granted for extraordinary circumstances.