

# PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

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## Job Description

Physical therapist assistants are skilled health care workers who assist the physical therapist in treating patients who have been disabled by inactivity or disease, accidents, or those who were born with a physical disability in order to gain optimum functional independence.

Physical therapist assistants perform various treatment interventions which have been delegated to them by the physical therapist. The interventions include: therapeutic use of exercise, water, massage, ultrasound, light, and electricity to promote healing, coordination, endurance, range of motion, strength, balance, and functional activities.

## Career Opportunities

The demand for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants will come from an increase in the aged population, growth in the field of sports medicine, and recognition of the importance of physical therapy in patient rehabilitation following selected diseases and traumas.

### Approximate Salary in Nevada

Median Hourly Wage..... \$29.20  
Hourly Wage Range.....\$17.92- \$38.54

Source: "May 2021 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics"

## Program Description

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is a fully accredited, 5 semester program of study leading to an Associate of Applied Science Degree. The curriculum consists of general education and professional courses. The courses are designed to help the student develop the intellectual, technical, and behavioral skills necessary to become a competent, safe, and ethical physical therapist assistant.

## Admission Requirements

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is a Limited Entry Program. Therefore, all prerequisite requirements must be completed by the application deadline in order to be eligible for consideration. See specific requirements.

## Licensure Requirements and Felony Convictions

Licensure as a physical therapist assistant: Most states require physical therapist assistants to be licensed. To become licensed in the State of Nevada, you must have graduated from high school (or equivalent), graduated from a board approved accredited program in physical therapy education and passed the national licensing examination. This program meets the state educational requirements for licensure or certification in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

In addition to successfully completing a prescribed course of study and passing the national licensing examination, the Nevada Physical Therapy Practice Act (NRS 640.080) requires that the licensure candidates must be "of good moral character."

Prospective students are advised that if they have been convicted of a felony they may be prevented from licensure to practice as a physical therapist assistant in Nevada (NRS 640.160).

## Approximate Costs

(Costs are subject to change)

Tuition:	
72 credits x \$123.75 per credit hr.....	\$8910.00
Technology Fee per credit hr.....	\$10.50
Student Union Fee per credit hr.....	\$9.00
Athletics & Recreation Fee per credit hr.....	\$2.00
Books.....	\$1000.00
Lab Fees.....	\$20.00 - \$50.00/lab
Uniforms.....	\$30.00 - \$50.00
CPR Certification.....	\$50.00 - \$75.00
Physical Exam.....	\$50.00 - \$75.00
Immunizations.....	\$0 - \$1000.00
Urine Drug Screen.....	\$39.00 - \$50.00
Official Background Check.....	\$55.00
Document Manager.....	\$35.00
License:	
Application.....	\$225.00
Federation of State Board Exam.....	\$400.00
Exam Processing Fee.....	\$25.00
Exam Administration Fee.....	\$55.60
Fingerprint.....	\$50.00-\$100.00
Medical Insurance.....	\$20.00 - \$190.00/month
Applies only if you are presently uninsured.	
College Application Fee.....	\$20.00
New Student Fee.....	\$20.00
Limited Entry Application Fee.....	\$20.00
One time, non-refundable fee charged to new students only.	
Non-resident Fee.....	\$4333.00 per semester
This is in addition to the tuition and technology fee and is assessed to nonresident students enrolling in 7 or more credit hours.	

If the student has been indicted or convicted of a felony, it is suggested that the prospective student contact the Nevada State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners for additional information prior to applying to the program.

## Accepted Students

Students accepted into the program will be required to show proof of CPR certification, health insurance, and immunization against Hepatitis B, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella, Tetanus, flu shot, and Diphtheria. Also required: proof of a negative two-step TB skin test, urine drug screen, official background check and physical examination. Healthcare facilities are **REQUIRING** students to be COVID vaccinated prior to beginning clinical affiliations.

### Student Outcomes

- Graduation rate: 85% (2 year cumulative, 2022-2023)
- Licensure exam pass rate: 91% ultimate, 91% first time (2 year cumulative, 2022-2023)
- Employment rate: 100% of graduates who sought employment were employed within 1 year of graduation (2 year cumulative 2022-2023)

### Accreditation Status

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at the College of Southern Nevada is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, VA 22305-3085; telephone: 703-706-3173; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: <http://www.capteonline.org>. If needing to contact the program directly, please call Joann Gutschick at 702-651-5588 or email joann.gutschick@csn.edu

The information provided in this literature is for advisement purposes only.

College of Southern Nevada, Health Programs Advisement Office, 6375 West Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146, Phone: (702) 651-5885

PTA-CG Fall 2025 3/24

