

## PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

### APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

#### ADMISSION CRITERIA

In order to be considered for admission to the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program, each student must meet the following criteria:

- Eligibility for admission to Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus
- Completion of platform coursework with a minimum 2.5 grade-point average (GPA); conditional acceptance may be granted to those students who are in the process of completing remaining platform coursework. Failure to maintain a 2.5 GPA upon completion of remaining platform coursework may lead to forfeiture of PTA program admission offer;
- Be at least 18 years of age;
- Completion of at least **8** total volunteer hours between two different therapy settings (example—4 hours in an outpatient therapy clinic and 4 hours completed in a pediatric therapy clinic, etc.) with a PT or PTA with rating scale completed and turned in with application packet. **PT or PTA must seal the form in an envelope after completing and sign across the seal.**
- Completion of PTA Program Application for Admission;
- Typed Essay on the following topic: An original essay reflecting on American Physical Therapy Association's vision statement, "**transforming society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience.**" Expand on your understanding of PT as a unique healthcare profession. You can use your clinical observation experience or another personal experience to explain what you feel your role as a PTA will be and what you hope to add to the field of physical therapy. Essay must be no more than 2 pages, typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font.

#### READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

1. **Each applicant must apply for admission to Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus (if not currently attending) before applying to the PTA Program.** Application information may be obtained by contacting the Office of Student Services in person or through the following:

Office of Student Services  
Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus  
1700 Helberg Lane  
Ozark, AR 72949  
(479) 667-2117  
[www.atu.edu/ozark](http://www.atu.edu/ozark)

2. The following are required for application:
  - PTA Program Application for Admission;
  - Acknowledgement of Essential Functions form;
  - Understanding of Clinical Participation Requirements form;
  - Clinical Observation rating scale (to be filled out by to supervising PT or PTA after clinical observation). This must be done in the application period; October to March.
  - Submit an original essay about your understanding of PT as a unique healthcare profession. You can use your clinical observation experience or another personal experience to explain what you feel your role as a PTA will be and what you hope to add to the field of physical therapy. Essay must be no more than 2 pages, typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font.
3. Each applicant is responsible for verifying that all of the following requested information has been completed and submitted to the Allied Health Secretary by **March 1st**. All application items requested should be submitted as a complete packet or physically brought to the Allied Health secretary in the Health Education Building. Applicants are responsible for items sent separately.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION PACKET IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PTA PROGRAM.

Physical Therapist Assistant Program                      Attn: Allied  
Health Admin                      Arkansas Tech University-Ozark  
Campus                      1700 Helberg Lane  
Ozark, AR 72949

4. Once the application period is complete, the Allied Health secretary will send out closed TEAS test dates as well as registration and payment information. **This test will be given at Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus *after* the application deadline.**

## PTA PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program at Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus is a course of study leading to the attainment of an Associate of Applied Science degree upon completion of 28 hours of platform coursework and 40 hours of technical coursework. The PTA program curriculum includes platform coursework, which must be completed prior to enrollment in the technical phase. The technical phase will include 3 consecutive semesters of study starting in August and continuing until August of the following year. Students will be required to maintain a "C" grade average and demonstrate satisfactory skill competency during the technical phase in order to meet program requirements for graduation.

The PTA program at Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus has been granted accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association (1111 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: [accreditation@apta.org](mailto:accreditation@apta.org); website: [www.capteonline.org](http://www.capteonline.org)).

## PLATFORM COURSEWORK

Students will be required to complete 28 hours of platform coursework with a minimum 2.5 GPA prior to admission to the technical phase of the PTA program. Applicants with platform coursework completed at other institutions should have their official transcripts sent to the Office of Student Services for review. The platform coursework includes the following:

PREFIX	NUMBER	TITLE	CREDIT HRS
HSCI	1123	* Human Anatomical Structure I	3
HSCI	1113	* Medical Terminology	3
BUS or COMS or COMS	1303 1003 2003	Introduction to Computers Introduction to Computer Based Systems Microcomputer Applications	3
ENGL	1013	*Composition I	3
MATH or MATH	1113 1003	*College Algebra or *College Math	3
PHSC PHSC or BIOL	1013 1021 1014	*Introduction to Physical Science *Introduction to Physical Science Lab Or *Introduction to Biological Science with lab (4 CR HRS)	3 1 <b>or</b> 4
HSCI	1243	*Human Anatomical Structure II	3
ENGL	1023	*Composition II	3
PSY	2003	General Psychology	3
		TOTAL PLATFORM HOURS	28
		Classes with an * must be passed with a "C" or better	

Substitution and/or waiving of platform coursework will be at the discretion of the PTA program director in accordance with the policies and procedures of Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus.

## TECHNICAL COURSEWORK

Students must apply to the technical phase of the program following completion of the prerequisite coursework. Admission to the technical phase is competitive due to limited enrollment. Satisfactory completion of the technical coursework will enable a student to graduate with an Associate of Applied Science degree and apply for state licensure as a PTA. The technical phase of the program includes a combination of classroom/laboratory study and 14 total weeks of required clinical education. During the classroom/laboratory portion of the program, students will have the opportunity to learn physical therapy procedures and practice specific procedures on fellow PTA students. Students will be expected to participate in all class and laboratory activities as both a demonstration subject and a simulated patient for their classmates. The clinical education portion of the program consists of working with patients in a clinical facility as a student for 40 hours per week while under the supervision of a clinical instructor. Clinical education sites are located in various cities and towns throughout the area, and some may even require lodging due to their distance from Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus. Students will be responsible for all travel associated with clinical education. In addition, each student will be responsible for all meals and lodging associated with clinical education, unless provisions are made by the clinical education site to which they are assigned. Projected technical coursework will include the following:

PREFIX	NUMBER	TITLE	CREDIT HRS
PTA	1122	Clinical Kinesiology	2
PTA	1121	Clinical Kinesiology Lab	1
PTA	1132	Pathological Conditions	2
PTA	1243	Principles of Physical Therapy	3
PTA	1241	Principles of Physical Therapy Lab	1
PTA	1251	Data Collection in Physical Therapy Lab	1
PTA	2123	Therapeutic Procedures	3
PTA	2122	Therapeutic Procedures Lab	2
PTA	2143	Therapeutic Exercise and Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation	3
PTA	2142	Therapeutic Exercise and Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Lab	2
PTA	2151	Administrative Procedures	1
PTA	2163	Clinical Experience I (3 weeks)	3
PTA	2212	Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation	2
PTA	2211	Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation Lab	1
PTA	2223	Neurological Lifespan Concepts	3
PTA	2221	Neurological Lifespan Concepts Lab	1
PTA	2234	Clinical Experience II (5 weeks)	4
PTA	2235	Clinical Experience III (6 weeks)	5
		<b>TOTAL TECHNICAL PROGRAM HOURS</b>	<b>40</b>

## ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

In order to be considered for admission to the PTA program, each student must meet the following criteria:

- Eligibility for admission to Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus;
- Completion of platform coursework with a minimum 2.5 GPA; conditional acceptance may be granted to those students who are in the process of completing remaining platform coursework. Failure to maintain a 2.5 GPA upon completion of remaining platform coursework may lead to forfeiture of PTA program admission offer;
- Prerequisite courses must be completed by the end of Spring semester before the program begins;
- Students who may have failed a platform course during a previous semester may attempt a maximum of 4 credit hour in Summer I;
- Completion of at least **8** total hours of observation between **two** physical therapy settings;
- Completion of PTA program Application for Admission;
- Completion of appropriate TEAS testing;
- Be at least 18 years of age.

## CLASS SIZE

The class size will be determined in the spring dependent on clinical site availability and job market.

## CLINICAL OBSERVATION

Applicants must complete at least **8** hours of clinical observation in two physical therapy settings (inpatient, outpatient, pediatric, etc.) with one PT or PTA and submit the Clinical Observation Verification form and grading rubric. The purpose of the clinical observation requirement is to provide prospective students with a better understanding of the physical therapy profession and the role of the PTA. Applicants are encouraged to abide by the following guidelines when completing the clinical observation requirement:

1. Call clinical sites in order to arrange an appointment for observation. Explain to the supervising PT or PTA regarding your intention to apply to a PTA program. Also explain to the therapist that you would like to observe either a PT or PTA at their facility.
2. Dress appropriately for your observation appointment. Appropriate dress includes closed-toed shoes, slacks (khakis are acceptable) and a collared shirt or nice blouse. Avoid jeans, T-shirts, sandals, excessive perfume and hats. In addition, visible tattoos may need to be concealed and body piercings (other than a single-stud type earring) may need to be removed. The clinical facility has the right to send you away if your appearance is considered inappropriate.
3. Be punctual for your observation appointment. If you can't make the appointment, please be sure to call the clinical facility to cancel and reschedule as necessary.
4. Maintain confidentiality. Students must remember to never mention a patient's name, medical diagnosis or treatment when outside of the facility.
5. Be courteous and pay attention to the treatment procedures you are observing. Also remember to thank the supervising PT or PTA for allowing you to observe in their facility.

The student is responsible for ensuring that the completed Clinical Observation form and rubric is included with the other application materials.

## ADMISSIONS ESSAY

### INSTRUCTIONS AND SCORING RUBRIC PTA ADMISSIONS ESSAY

- *Submit an original essay reflecting on American Physical Therapy Association’s vision statement, "transforming society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience." Expand on your understanding of PT as a unique healthcare profession. You can use your clinical observation experience or another personal experience to explain what you feel your role as a PTA will be and what you hope to add to the field of physical therapy. Essay must be no more than 2 pages, typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font.*

Qualities & Criteria	Poor (1)	Fair (2)	Good (3)
<b>Understanding of PT- 25%</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of “physical therapy” as defined by the profession</li> <li>• Understanding of physical therapy’s unique role in health care</li> </ul>	<p>Essay poorly addresses the issues referred in the proposed topic. The provided information is not necessary or not sufficient to discuss this issue.</p>	<p>Essay for the most part addresses that physical therapy uses functional activities for therapy. Provided information is a basic understanding of the role of the physical therapist.</p>	<p>Essay addresses the use of occupation as therapy. Minimum of one statement about the difference in “physical therapy” compared to different fields of practice.</p>
<b>Experience of PT - 25%</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explanation/validity of the experiences with PT</li> <li>• Understanding of the role of the PTA</li> </ul>	<p>Most of the experiences used are not important and are not physical therapy. There is no experiential reference, and/or it is not used effectively in the essay.</p>	<p>Most of the experiences used are important and relevant. There is a minimum of 1 example referenced and is for the most part used effectively in the essay.</p>	<p>All the experiences references used are important, and are of good quality. There is a minimum of 1 experience referenced that is used effectively in the essay.</p>
<b>Quality of Writing- 25%</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarity of sentences and paragraphs</li> <li>• Spelling, grammar and use of English</li> </ul>	<p>The essay is not well written, and contains many spelling errors, and/or grammar errors and/or use of English errors.</p>	<p>The essay is well written for the most part, without spelling, grammar or use of English errors.</p>	<p>The essay is well written from start to finish, without spelling, grammar or use of English errors.</p>
<b>Organization of Writing - 25%</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization and coherence of ideas</li> </ul>	<p>The essay is badly organized, lacks clarity and/or does not present ideas in a coherent way.</p>	<p>Essay is for the most part well organized, clear and consistent. Connections between PT practice and student’s experiences may not be present.</p>	<p>Essay is well organized, clear and presents ideas in a connected way. Connections between experiences and understanding of PT are present.</p>

**Overriding criterion:** If the essay is identified as previously submitted, not being original, and/or not done by the student, the director has the authority to not use it during the application process. This rating scale is designed for 50% of the score to content and 50% on style/grammar/use of language. Because the physical therapy profession is heavily reliant on written communication, it is felt that this is a valuable part of the admissions process for the PTA program.

## TEAS EXAM

The TEAS is scheduled by the Allied Health secretary after the application deadline. An email with available test dates will be sent to the email address provided on the application. Prior to taking the TEAS, applicants will be required to register and pay a testing fee at [atitesting.com](http://atitesting.com). The TEAS is a computerized test and therefore test scores will be immediately available. Test results will then be forwarded to the Physical Therapy Assistant program office and the Office of Student Services. Acceptance of TEAS results from online testing and/or at locations other than Arkansas Tech University- Ozark Campus are allowed, providing the results meet additional requirements. For more information regarding TEAS test policies and procedures, please visit the following link, or scan the QR code.

<https://www.atu.edu/ozark/admission/testingresources.php>



## SELECTION CRITERIA

Due to the limited spots available for each class of PTA students, the PTA Program must use a method of ranking each candidate according to the candidate's qualifications. The following will be used in the selection process:

TEAS score: 70%  
 Essay: 15%  
 Clinical Observation Rating form 15%  
 Example of PTA Admissions Scoring

Using the defined ranking system, the highest scores will be selected with the necessary number of alternates identified in the same manner. An example of the scoring follows:

Scenario 1: Student scores 72 on TEAS; 7 on Essay; and 30 on Observation.

Ranking Areas	Maximum Score	Student Score	Percentage of Ranking	Calculation	Maximum Possible Points	Points
<i>TEAS Exam</i>	100	72	70% or .70	$(72/100) * 70$	70	50.4
<i>Essay</i>	12	7	15% or .15	$(7/12) * 15$	15	8.75
<i>Observation</i>	30	30	15% or .15	$(30/30) * 15$	15	15.0
<b>TOTAL</b>			100%		100	<b>74.15</b>

Scenario 2: Student scores 53 on TEAS; 11 on Essay; and 25 on Observation.

Ranking Areas	Maximum Score	Student Score	Percentage of Ranking	Calculation	Maximum Possible Points	Points
<i>TEAS Exam</i>	100	53	70% or .70	$(53/100) * 70$	70	37.1
<i>Essay</i>	12	11	15% or .15	$(11/12) * 15$	15	13.75
<i>Observation</i>	30	25	15% or .15	$(27/30) * 15$	15	12.5
<b>TOTAL</b>			100%		100	<b>63.35</b>

In the case of a tie in the application score for applicants, the following criteria will be utilized as tie-breakers (the criteria are arranged in order of importance):

1. Cumulative GPA for all college coursework completed prior to the application deadline;
2. Number of platform hours completed prior to application deadline;
3. Date of submission of completed PTA program application materials.

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

Offers of admission for available spaces will be made to the qualified applicants with the highest overall ratings. All applicants will be notified by the PTA program of their admission status. Applicants accepted into the program must notify the PTA program office as soon as possible of their decision to accept or decline the offer of admission. Applicants who decline admission or are not accepted for admission may reapply for admission the following year. In the event an opening for a student becomes available, then applicants from the alternate list will be admitted according to individual ranking.



## **FINANCIAL AID**

Students requesting information regarding financial aid are encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office as follows:

Financial Aid Office  
1700 Helberg Lane  
Ozark, AR 72949  
479-667-2117

## **NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus does not discriminate on the basis of color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, age, religion, national origin, or disability, in any of its practices, policies, or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, admission, employment, financial aid, or educational service. Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus complies with all applicable state and federal laws including, but not limited to, Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 as amended, Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1974, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Civil Rights Act of 1991. A copy of the Affirmative Action Plan, including specific responsibilities and provisions for implementation and compliance will be made available upon request. Responsibility for implementation and compliance with this Affirmative Action policy has been delegated to the Affirmative Action officer, e-mail [affirmative.action@atu.edu](mailto:affirmative.action@atu.edu)

## **PROJECTED PROGRAM COSTS**

Estimated costs for enrollment in the technical phase of the PTA program are as follows:

- Approximately \$7,003 for tuition and fees;
- Approximately \$1,200 for textbooks and supplies;
- \$15 for a campus parking permit;
- Approximately \$50 for TB testing;
- Approximately \$90 for Hepatitis B vaccinations.

*The above-projected costs are subject to change.*

## **CRIMINAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION**

Students admitted to the PTA program will be expected to obtain criminal background checks following entry into the program. Criminal background checks may be a requirement for attendance at some of the clinical education sites affiliated with the PTA program. Based upon the results of these checks, an affiliated clinical education site may determine not to allow a particular student's presence at a facility. In addition, a criminal background may preclude licensure or employment following graduation. Students are responsible for the associated costs and delivery of background results to the clinical facility requesting the information.

## **DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING**

Drug and alcohol testing may be a requirement for attendance at some of the clinical education sites affiliated with the PTA program. Based upon the results of these checks, an affiliated clinical education site may determine not to allow a particular student's presence at a facility. The student is responsible for the costs associated with any drug and alcohol testing required for attendance at a particular clinical education site. In addition, the student is also responsible for submission of testing results to the clinical education facility requesting the information.

## **STUDENT HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EXAMINATION**

Students admitted to the PTA program will be expected to provide health information and participate in a physical examination to be performed by a physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner. The purpose of the physical examination is to determine the student's ability to safely perform the physical demands expected of a PTA. The purpose of the Health Information form is to enable the student an opportunity to provide pertinent information to the PTA program which may affect the student's ability to safely participate in laboratory and clinical education activities.

## **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS FOR THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT**

Successful participation in the PTA program includes the ability to perform essential functions, which are necessary for delivery of physical therapy services in a safe, ethical, legal manner. The essential functions are expected to be demonstrated, with or without reasonable accommodation, by students participating in the PTA program. Upon reviewing the Essential Functions for the PTA student included in this packet, the candidate will complete the Acknowledgment of Essential Functions for the Physical Therapist Assistant Student form and indicate whether or not that student can perform the essential functions. Prior to admission to the program, the student is responsible for providing written documentation of any disabilities, along with evidence for the need for accommodation. Requests for accommodations will be forwarded to the Disability Coordinator for Arkansas Tech University. The university will then decide if reasonable accommodations can be made for that particular student.

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENT/COVID VACCINATION**

Clinical sites may have requirements in addition to those required by the university. This may include the COVID-19 vaccination. Failure to comply with this additional requirement may result in the inability to complete the clinical coursework for the program.

Essential Function	Capabilities Expected
Motor Skills	<p>The student should possess sufficient motor capabilities in order to provide safe and effective physical therapy procedures. Capabilities required include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to assist and protect patients who are walking, exercising or performing other activities;</li> <li>• Ability to adjust, move, position and lift patients and equipment;</li> <li>• Ability to perform pushing, pulling, bending, twisting, reaching, standing, kneeling, sitting, walking and crawling;</li> <li>• Ability to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR);</li> <li>• Ability to manipulate equipment including adjustment of dials, gauges, small nuts/bolts and various equipment settings;</li> <li>• Sufficient endurance to move about a clinical setting steadily throughout an 8-hour work day.</li> </ul>
Sensory Skills	<p>The student should possess sufficient sensory abilities in order to competently assess and monitor patients. Capabilities required include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sufficient visual ability to recognize and interpret facial expressions and body language, identify normal and abnormal patterns of movement, to read or set parameters on equipment, to discriminate color changes, recognize a patient's physiological status and assess the patient's environment;</li> <li>• Sufficient auditory ability to recognize and respond to verbal communication, auditory timers, equipment alarms and effectively use devices for measurement of blood pressure;</li> <li>• Sufficient tactile ability to palpate pulses; detect and assess changes or abnormalities in skin texture, skin temperature, muscle tone, and joint movement.</li> </ul>

<p>Communication</p>	<p>The student should possess sufficient ability to communicate effectively and competently in the English language with others using appropriate verbal and written methods. Capabilities required include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to read at a level of competency that allows one to safely perform the essential functions of an assignment;</li> <li>• Ability to write in a legible manner;</li> <li>• Ability to present information about physical therapy procedures and services to patients, family members and other health care professionals.</li> <li>• Ability to recognize, interpret and respond to nonverbal behavior of self and others;</li> <li>• Ability to interpret and communicate information regarding the status, safety and rehabilitation of patients.</li> </ul>
<p>Behavior</p>	<p>The student should possess sufficient ability to exercise good judgment, develop therapeutic relationships with patients and others, work in stressful situations, and tolerate close physical contact with patients and co-workers. Capabilities required include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to work with multiple patients and colleagues at the same time;</li> <li>• Ability to work with others under stressful conditions;</li> <li>• Ability to work with individuals of varying socioeconomic, ethnic and cultural backgrounds;</li> <li>• Ability to act in the best interests of patients.</li> </ul>
<p>Critical Thinking</p>	<p>The student should possess sufficient ability to comprehend and process information in a timely manner. Capabilities required include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to collect and interpret data related to patients and physical therapy services;</li> <li>• Ability to prioritize multiple tasks, process information and make decisions;</li> <li>• Ability to apply knowledge from education to the provision of physical therapy services;</li> <li>• Ability to observe, measure and interpret normal and abnormal patient responses to physical therapy interventions, and appropriately modify treatment interventions;</li> <li>• Ability to act safely and ethically in the physical therapy lab and clinic.</li> </ul>

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the Essential Functions for the Physical Therapist Assistant Student. I believe to the best of my knowledge that I have the ability to learn and perform the essential functions:

(Please check one)

- Without reasonable accommodations
- With reasonable accommodations (further documentation is attached)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

## Understanding of Clinical Participation Requirements

Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus Physical Therapist Assistant program uses external affiliated agencies for clinical experiences for our students. Affiliated agencies may impose requirements for students in order to be allowed access to clinical experiences.

Students may be required to provide the following information to external affiliated agencies:

- Health Screening/Immunizations (including COVID vaccination);
- CPR Certification;
- Criminal Background Investigation;
- Drug Testing.

The student should maintain copies of the documents listed above. Affiliating agencies may require the student to provide a copy of the documentation.

### NOTICE AND RELEASE - READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

**I, the undersigned applicant to the Physical Therapist Assistant program at Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus, understand that participation in a clinical experience is part of the Physical Therapist Assistant program and that participation in a clinical experience includes working as a student at an affiliating agency. I understand that I will be responsible for all travel, meals and lodging associated with clinical education. I further understand that affiliating agencies have the right to establish requirements for participation in clinical experience.**

**I understand that I am responsible for providing copies of the documentation requested by the affiliated agency. I understand and agree that if I am rejected for participation in a clinical experience by an affiliating agency or if I refuse to submit to checks or tests that are required by an affiliating agency in order to participate in a clinical experience, I may be unable to complete my program of study and graduate from the Physical Therapist Assistant program. I hereby release Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus, its employees and all affiliating agencies from any liability with regard to my participation in a clinical experience and decisions made concerning my participation in a clinical experience.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature



1700 Helberg Lane  
 Ozark, Arkansas 72949  
 479-508-3325  
 Fax 479-667-0198

## PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Please type or print in black ink

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Tech ID #	Email (prefer atu.edu)	
Home Phone	Cell Phone	Date of Birth
Please indicate if you are currently a student of:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas Tech University <input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas Tech University – Ozark Campus		
Have you previously attended another Physical Therapist Assistant Program?		
<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Name of school attended _____		

Please remember, if you are not currently attending ATU, you will need to complete an application for the ATU-Ozark Campus to the Office of Student Services, 1700 Helberg Lane, Ozark, AR 72949). School application must be completed before submitting this application.

*Please attach on a typewritten, double-spaced, two-page essay answering the following question:*  
 As an applicant for the PTA program, you are to complete at least 8 observation hours between two different therapy settings. Based on your observation experiences, expand on APTA's vision statement, "transforming society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience," to explain PTA as a unique healthcare profession. You can use your clinical observation experience or another personal experience to explain what you feel your role as a PTA will be and what you hope to add to the field of physical therapy. Essay must be no more than 2 pages, typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font.

I certify that the above information is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Received By: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Essay Rc'd: \_\_\_\_\_ Observation Rc'd: \_\_\_\_\_ Observation Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Clinical Participation Form \_\_\_\_\_ Essential Functions Form \_\_\_\_\_

## CLINICAL OBSERVATION EVALUATION FORM

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

In requesting the completion of this evaluation form, which will be used in the admission selection process for the Physical Therapist Assistant program at Arkansas Tech University-Ozark, I waive my right of access to this document.

X

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student

PT/PTA completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name Signature

State and License #: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility & Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of volunteer/observation hours completed at your facility: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPERVISING THERAPIST:** Please fill these forms out confidentially, place them in an envelope, seal the envelope and sign your name across the seal. Please return the envelope to the student to turn in as part of his/her PTA application.  
**THANK YOU!**



**Instruction: Please circle the number closest to the best description of the student.**

1. Personal Appearance

1	2	3	4	5
Sloppy, too casual, overly revealing		One clothing item inappropriate, dirty, ripped		Complies with dress code

2. Attendance

1	2	3	4	5
Poor, often late/absent		Less than 10 minutes late		Always punctual

3. Attitude Toward Patients

1	2	3	4	5
Rude, careless, disrespectful		Indifferent or overly chatty		Pleasant/appropriate

4. Attitude Toward Staff

1	2	3	4	5
Rude, sullen		Indifferent or overly friendly		Cooperative, respectful

5. Communication Skills

1	2	3	4	5
Poor listener, no attempts to ask questions Talks about self only		Unclear questions, random attempts		Thoughtful questions, on <b>topic</b>

6. Motivation

1	2	3	4	5
Disinterested in patient care		Occasional interest in therapy process		Seeks out learning in appropriate ways

7. Please ask the student the following question and rate the answer: “Why do you wish to work in the field of physical therapy?”

1	2	3	4	5
Unable to answer	Minimal information	Appropriate information, difficulty articulating or rehearsed answers	Quality information Basic PT knowledge	Excellent information Specific PT knowledge

8. Please ask the student the following question and rate the answer: “What does physical therapy mean to you?”

1	2	3	4	5
Unable to answer	Minimal information	Appropriate information, difficulty articulating or rehearsed answers	Quality information Basic PT knowledge	Excellent information Specific PT knowledge

9. Please ask the student the following question and rate the answer: “What do you feel makes physical therapy unique to other therapy professions?”

1	2	3	4	5
Unable to answer	Minimal information	Appropriate information, difficulty articulating or rehearsed answers	Quality information Basic PT knowledge	Excellent information Specific PT knowledge

10. Please ask the student the following question and rate the answer: “What is one thing you feel you have learned during your observation?”

1	2	3	4	5
Unable to answer	Minimal information	Appropriate information, difficulty articulating or rehearsed answers	Quality information Basic PT knowledge	Excellent information Specific PT knowledge



## CLINICAL OBSERVATION EVALUATION FORM

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

In requesting the completion of this evaluation form, which will be used in the admission selection process for the Physical Therapist Assistant program at Arkansas Tech University-Ozark, I waive my right of access to this document.

X

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student

PT/PTA completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name Signature

State and License #: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility & Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of volunteer/observation hours completed at your facility: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPERVISING THERAPIST:** Please fill these forms out confidentially, place them in an envelope, seal the envelope and sign your name across the seal. Please return the envelope to the student to turn in as part of his/her PTA application.  
**THANK YOU!**

**Instruction: Please circle the number closest to the best description of the student.**

8. Personal Appearance

1	2	3	4	5
Sloppy, too casual, overly revealing		One clothing item inappropriate, dirty, ripped		Complies with dress code

9. Attendance

1	2	3	4	5
Poor, often late/absent		Less than 10 minutes late		Always punctual

10. Attitude Toward Patients

1	2	3	4	5
Rude, careless, disrespectful		Indifferent or overly chatty		Pleasant/appropriate

11. Attitude Toward Staff

1	2	3	4	5
Rude, sullen		Indifferent or overly friendly		Cooperative, respectful

12. Communication Skills

1	2	3	4	5
Poor listener, no attempts to ask questions Talks about self only		Unclear questions, random attempts		Thoughtful questions, on <b>topic</b>

13. Motivation

1	2	3	4	5
Disinterested in patient care		Occasional interest in therapy process		Seeks out learning in appropriate ways

14. Please ask the student the following question and rate the answer: “Why do you wish to work in the field of physical therapy?”

1	2	3	4	5
Unable to answer	Minimal information	Appropriate information, difficulty articulating or rehearsed answers	Quality information Basic PT knowledge	Excellent information Specific PT knowledge

8. Please ask the student the following question and rate the answer: “What does physical therapy mean to you?”

1	2	3	4	5
Unable to answer	Minimal information	Appropriate information, difficulty articulating or rehearsed answers	Quality information Basic PT knowledge	Excellent information Specific PT knowledge

9. Please ask the student the following question and rate the answer: “What do you feel makes physical therapy unique to other therapy professions?”

1	2	3	4	5
Unable to answer	Minimal information	Appropriate information, difficulty articulating or rehearsed answers	Quality information Basic PT knowledge	Excellent information Specific PT knowledge

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1	2	3	4	5
Unable to answer	Minimal information	Appropriate information, difficulty articulating or rehearsed answers	Quality information Basic PT knowledge	Excellent information Specific PT knowledge

