

Central Georgia Technical College
Physical Therapist Assistant Program
Pre-Program Admittance Expectations and Essentials Functions

Pre-Program Admittance Expectations:

It is imperative that students are able to do the following prior to CGTC PTA program admission:

- complete work assignments on time
- participate in classroom discussions
- practice safety precautions
- make good decisions both personally and professionally
- effectively instruct others
- exercise sound judgement and critical thinking skills
- display a positive attitude
- conduct self in a professional manner by appearance, hygiene, and behavior
- follow policies outline by TCSG and procedures of CGTC in addition to the policies and procedures set forth by the PTA program specifically

Students must be prepared for the rigor of the CGTC PTA program and be committed to attend class approximately 10-25 hours per week, with extensive study time at home. During clinical affiliations, students should expect 40 hours per week in clinic. Students may find it difficult to hold employment outside of the program due to time restrictions, and personal commitments should be considered prior to the start of programmatic classes.

Physical, Cognitive, and Emotional Abilities Required/Essential Functions:

Professions in rehabilitation, including physical therapist assistant, can be physically demanding, as well as cognitively and emotionally challenging. In order to maintain safety for the student and the patient, there are some key abilities that are required to be successful in the program and with employment. There are many instances in which accommodations can be made given the student has appropriate documentation and meets eligibility requirements for accommodations. Please review carefully the abilities required.

Requirements: Critical Thinking/Cognitive Ability

Standards: Critical thinking ability for clinical problem solving.

Examples: Able to review data collection for reasoning and rationale for problem solving, recognizes when to seek clarification when needed, able to compare and contrast data collection, demonstrates ability to act/react in emergencies situations or when quick decisions need to be made.

Requirements: Professional Relationships/Behavioral Ability

Standards: Demonstration of professionalism in all situations.

Examples: Able to display care, compassion, and react empathically when dealing with patients and caregivers, exhibit communication skills that maintain good working relationships with instructors, students, patients and their families, able to accept constructive criticism and seek feedback when needed, provide care in a culturally sensitive manner, exhibit communication skills, both verbal and non-verbal, that are understandable by the receiver and/or learner. Additionally, students must possess emotional and mental stability and exhibit this stability throughout the program in order to handle stressful situations and conduct themselves in a competent manner.

Requirements: Mobility/Motor Function

Standards: Physical abilities sufficient safe patient handling.

Examples: Lift up to 60 pounds with good body mechanics, push/pull up to 50 pounds with good body mechanics in order to safely move and transfer patients, squat or kneel, exhibit good sitting and standing balance, good bilateral finger/hand dexterity including hand grasp, repetitive motions, reach above shoulder level, perform weight shifting in standing and sitting, be able to use equipment that emits thermal, electrical, or ultrasonic energy, sit or stand for prolonged periods of time, up to 6 hours with scheduled breaks.

Note: Personal devices such as personal services such as assistance with eating, toileting or dressing will not be provided.

Requirements: Hearing/Sensory Function

Standards: Auditory ability sufficient for monitoring and assessing health needs.

Examples: Ability to hear alarms and devices with auditory signals, hear verbal communication with patient, caregivers, and instructors, effectively evaluate the physiological status of a patient.

Note: Personal devices such as hearing aids will not be provided.

Requirements: Visual/Sensory Function

Standards: Visual ability sufficient for assessment essential in patient care.

Examples: Ability to assess physiological status of a patient including skin assessment, color changes, and general condition, effective evaluation of the safety of the environment for patients and caregivers, depth perception, and visual ability sufficient for reading and writing, both on paper and on electronic devices.

Note: Personal devices such as glasses or contacts will not be provided.

Requirements: Tactile Sense/Sensory Function

Standards: Tactile ability adequate for physical assessment.

Examples: Bilateral ability to palpate in bony landmarks and soft tissue, assess for pulses, and temperature assessment.

Students who have concerns about any of the pre-program expectations or essential functions should contact the PTA program director at 478-218-3765. Individuals with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations and should contact the CGTC Academic Success Center.

CGTC PTA program Student Affidavit:

****This document must be completed prior to program entry, and must be amended if needed.**

I have read and understand the Pre-Program Expectation for the CGTC PTA program, and that these expectations are critical to my success in the program.

_____ YES

_____ NO

I have read and under the Essential Functions and Physical Requirements needed for the CGTC PTA program and currently do not require reasonable accommodations to satisfy these requirements.

_____ YES

_____ NO (see page 4)

_____ I require the following reasonable accommodations and give consent for the CGTC PTA program to discuss and devise reasonable accommodations with the Academic Success Center. I understand that the CGTC PTA Program to release information regarding reasonable accommodation to assigned clinical education sites.

Printed Name of Student: _____

Signature of Student: _____

Date: _____

Central Georgia Technical College (CGTC) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, gender, religion, disability, age, political affiliation or belief, genetic information, disabled veteran, veteran of the Vietnam Era, spouse of military member or citizenship status (except in those special circumstances permitted or mandated by law). This nondiscrimination policy encompasses the operation of all technical college-administered programs, programs financed by the federal government including any Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 1998 (WIOA) Title I financed programs, educational programs and activities, including admissions, scholarships and loans, student life, and athletics. It also encompasses the recruitment and employment of personnel and contracting for goods and services.

Central Georgia Technical College shall promote the realization of equal opportunity through a positive continuing program of specific practices designed to ensure the full realization of equal opportunity.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

The Title IX/Section 504/ADA Coordinator for CGTC nondiscrimination policies is Cathy Johnson, Executive Director of Conduct, Appeals & Compliance; Room A-136, 80 Cohen Walker Drive, Warner Robins, GA 31088; Phone: (478) 218-3309; Fax: (478) 471-5197; Email: cajohnson@centralgatech.edu.