

Naugatuck Valley Community College



PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM



2024-2025 cohort



Why should you be involved in physical therapy?

- Exciting
 - Rewarding
 - Working with people
 - Teamwork
 - Endless opportunities
- TO HELP OTHERS



“You Can Be Me!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r35FQT3u0J4>

”





What is a PTA?

A Physical Therapist Assistant is...

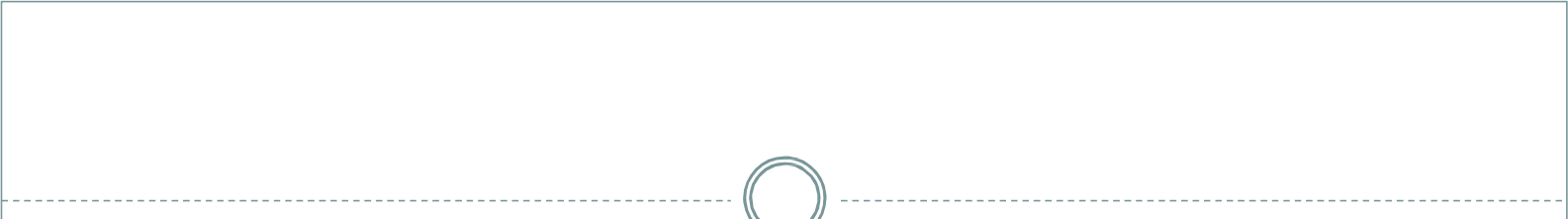


- A licensed health care provider who works under the direction and supervision of a Physical Therapist (PT).
- PTAs help people of all ages who have medical problems, or other health-related conditions that limit their ability to move and perform functional activities in their daily lives.
- Care provided by a PTA may include teaching patients/clients exercise for mobility, strength and coordination, training for activities such as walking with crutches, canes, or walkers, manual therapy, and the use of physical agents and electrotherapy such as ultrasound and electrical stimulation.
- The education of a PTA requires that the candidate earn an Associate Degree meeting criteria set by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

CAPTE



The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Naugatuck Valley Community College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), American Physical Therapy Association, 3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100 Alexandria, VA 22305-3085; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: <http://www.capteonline.org>. If needing to contact the program/institution directly, please call 203-596-2168 or email jgangaway@nv.edu.



Why should you choose NVCC?

Our Mission



The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program is committed to high standards as it educates students with the knowledge, clinical skills, professional behaviors, and core values essential to evidence-based and culturally competent contemporary physical therapy care.

Our Vision



The program emphasis on innovative and data-driven teaching methods, technology, and communication facilitates learning in the classroom and the clinic as the program endeavors to educate students who:

- Strive for excellence as physical therapist assistants by providing safe and effective interventions.
- Commit to high ethical standards.
- Appreciate and value racial, social, economic, and cultural diversity.
- Utilize critical reflection.
- Invest in community involvement.
- Engage in lifelong learning.
- Provide patient-centered interprofessional collaborative care.

Our Faculty



Our facilities





What will you learn?

2024-2025 cohort

Associate of Science Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

- **Five semester program**
 - Including admission requirements
- **Two year curriculum in PTA Program**
 - Art and science courses integrated with specialized physical therapy studies
 - Academic and clinical coursework
 - Critical thinking and decision-making
 - Professional behaviors
 - Effective communication skills
 - Documentation

2024-2025 cohort

Connecticut State Community College



*A merger of Connecticut's 12 community colleges is underway. Connecticut State Community College (CT State), a statewide college comprised of all Connecticut's current community college locations, plans to open its doors in the Fall 2023.

- Further details can be found and will be updated on the Frequently Asked Questions page: www.ct.edu/ctstate/academics.

2024-2025 cohort

First Semester (Spring)



PTA* H1200	Introduction to Physical Therapy	3 credits
PTA* H1250	Physical Therapy for Function	4 credits
PTA* H1300	Clinical Anatomy/Kinesiology	3 credits
BIO* H2111+	Anatomy & Physiology I#	<u>4 credits</u>
		14 credits

Must be completed with a C+ or higher.

2024-2025 cohort

Second Semester (Fall)



PTA* H1450	Physical Agents in Physical Therapy	3 credits
PTA* H1500	PT Interventions in Orthopedics	4 credits
PTA* H1550	Pathology for the PTA I	3 credits
BIO 2112	Anatomy & Physiology II#	<u>4 credits</u>
		14 credits

Must be completed with a C+ or higher.

2024-2025 cohort

Third Semester (Spring)



PTA* H2500	PT Interventions in Special Populations	3 credits
PTA* H2550	Pathology for the PTA II	3 credits
PTA* H2580	The PTA in the Healthcare Arena	1 credit
PTA* H2694	PTA Part Time Clinical Experience	1 credit
WRIX	Written Communication II	3 credits
ARHX	Arts & Humanities (must meet diversity requirement)	<u>3 credits</u>
		14 credits

2024-2025 cohort

Fourth Semester (Fall)



PTA* H2990	Physical Therapy Seminar	3 credits
PTA* H2794	PTA Internship II	3 credits
PTA* H2894	PTA Internship III	<u>3 credits</u>
		9 credits

General Education Credits	30 credits
PTA Credits	<u>37 credits</u>
Total Program Credits	67 credits*

2024-2025 cohort



How do I apply?

2024-2025 cohort

PTA Application

It is your responsibility to carefully read the PTA Application



- All admission requirements must be completed by **10/1/2023**, including submission of proof of documentation of meeting the requirements.
 - Including but not limited to any CLEP test, course substitutions, and credit by exam.
 - Courses may NOT be in progress.

- Official final transcripts from **all** previously attended colleges/universities, regardless of age of transcripts and applicability to the PTA Program must be submitted by the deadline. This includes college credits earned while in high school.

2024-2025 cohort

Admission Requirements*



BIO* H1210	General Biology I#	4 credits
ENG* H101+	English Composition	3 credits
MAT 1200	Statistics^	3 credits
PSY* H111+	General Psychology I	3 credits
CCS 1001	College & Career Success	<u>3 credits</u>
		16 credits

Must be completed within the past 5 years with a C+ or higher.

^ Must be completed within the past 5 years with a C or higher.

2024-2025 cohort

PTA Admission Requirements for the January 2024 cohort



- **Statistics:**
 - MAT 1200 (3 credits)
 - Minimum C
 - Within 5 years prior to application
 - “Five (5) years prior” is defined as having completed the course during Spring semester **2019 or later.**

- **General Biology I**
 - Bio H1210 (4 credits)
 - Minimum C+
 - Within 5 years prior to application
 - “Five (5) years prior” is defined as having completed the course during Spring semester **2019 or later.**

2024-2025 cohort

PTA Admission Requirements for January 2024 cohort



- English Composition, ENG H101
 - Minimum C

- Introduction to Psychology, PSY 111
 - Minimum C

- College and Career Success, CCS 1001
 - Minimum C

2024-2025 cohort

PTA Admission Requirements for January 2024 cohort

- **ATI TEAS**

- Nursing OR Allied Health version
- ATI TEAS with score equivalent to 60% or higher required.
- Official test scores must be submitted by the application deadline, if not taken at a CT Community College. Test scores will be valid for three (3) years and must be taken between **8/1/20 to 8/1/23**.
- Students with higher scores on these tests are stronger candidates.
- Students can take test multiple times – highest score utilized.

2024-2025 cohort

PTA Admission Requirements for January 2023 cohort

ATI TEAS Test Info

Testing schedules and registration info, visit:
www.atitesting.com

A study manual for the test visit: www.atitesting.com

Any further questions, contact Jessica Miller
(jmiller1@nv.edu) or the testing center:
[203-575-8048](tel:203-575-8048)

2024-2025 cohort

PTA Admission Requirements for January 2024 cohort

- **PTA GPA: 2.5 Minimum**
 - Calculation specific to PTA applicants
 - May differ from your college GPA
 - Calculated according to courses required for admission
 - BIO 1210, MAT 1200, PSY 1011, ENG 1010

2024-2025 cohort

PTA Admission Requirements for January 2024 cohort

- Documented observation hours:
 - Minimum 10 hours in an in-patient physical therapy setting
 - Minimum 10 hours in an out-patient physical therapy setting
 - Totaling **minimum 20 hours**
 - More hours does not give you an advantage!
 - Form can be found at:
https://nv.edu/Portals/o/Documents/AcademicPrograms/PTA/Observation_Hours_Log-2022.pdf
 - If you cannot get the hours contact the PTA Program Director
 - Must be handed in by the application deadline or you will not be eligible for admission

Submit with your application.

2024-2025 cohort

Ranking Formula for Admission*



PTA GPA	40%
BIO 1210	20%
Statistics	20%
ATI TEAS	20%

Applicants will be ranked according to final score with up to the top 30 accepted into the program.

2024-2025 cohort-

Admissions Decisions



- Competitive selective admissions program
- Up to 30 applicants admitted each year
- Any student denied admission this admission cycle, will need to REAPPLY in the following application cycle.

2024-2025 cohort



What do I need to know if I'm accepted?

2023-2024 cohort

Accepted Students



- Must declare intent to attend by deadline
- Understand the requirement: Before clinical experiences you will:
 - Complete a criminal background check with fingerprinting
 - Complete a substance screening
- Students who do not pass the **background check/fingerprinting** may be excluded from clinical sites and may not be able to meet the competencies required for the program.
- Students who do not pass the **drug test** may be excluded from clinical sites and may not be able to meet the competencies required for the program.

2024-2025 cohort

Program Requirements



- A grade of "C" or higher must be attained in all physical therapy courses and all courses required for the degree.
- Students must maintain a 2.3 or higher PTA GPA while in the program.
- A grade of "P" (pass) must be attained in all clinical education components to meet the degree.

2024-2025 cohort

Program Requirements



- Complete & submit all health and training requirements according to deadlines given.
- Become student member of the American Physical Therapy Association. (\$90/year)
- Obtain certification in First Aid & Healthcare Provider CPR.
 - American Heart Association or American Red Cross

2024-2025 cohort

Additional Requirements / costs

- Tuition & Fees
- Books
- Criminal background check & drug test (annual)
- Professional attire for clinical education experiences
- Licensure review courses
- Transportation
- Physical / PPD test (annual)
 - Immunizations
 - Hep B, MMR, Varicella, Tdap, Covid-19 w/booster
 - Flu vaccine (annual)
- Purchase of PTA 'kit' 1st and 2nd semester

2024-2025 cohort

What is the total cost of the program?



As of the 2022 graduating class, the total cost was ~\$19,539.

A detailed breakout of the expenses can be found on the website at:

https://nv.edu/Portals/o/Documents/AcademicPrograms/PTA/NVCC_2021-2022-PTA-student-financial-fact-sheet-POSTED.pdf

2024-2025 cohort

Clinical Education



- Clinical learning is held at a variety of healthcare sites throughout Connecticut (CT) and these clinical sites are assigned at the discretion of the PTA faculty.
- Students may be required to travel over seventy- five (75) minutes to their experiences.
- Students are required to provide their own transportation, living expenses (as necessary), and any other expenses while on clinical education experiences.

2024-2025 cohort

Considerations for Success



- Sufficient reading time, study time and practice.
 - Attendance at Open Lab.
 - Additional 2-3 days on campus outside of class time.
 - ~2-3 hours of preparation, studying, practicing per hour of on campus time
- Curriculum becomes more challenging each semester.
- Work hours to minimum – students who work more than 20 hours per week, in general, struggle and have difficulty continuing to be successful in the program.

2024-2025 cohort

Considerations for Success



- You are entering a healthcare career **program of study**- not just taking additional classes.
- You will be preparing to take a national licensure exam.
- You will have the responsibility for caring for patients.
- In addition to learning knowledge and skills, you will be expected to demonstrate professional behaviors in all classes & clinical experiences.

2024-2025 cohort

Observation of a PTA Laboratory Class



- Meet PTA faculty
- Interact with current PTA students
- Appreciate the type of information & skills you will be learning
- Not required but recommended

Please contact Cheryl Marie at 203-596-2157 or cmarie@nv.edu to schedule an observation.

2024-2025 cohort

Guided Pathways Advisor



Christin George

cgeorge1@nvcc.commnet.edu

Founders Hall, room 232

203-596-2183

2024-2025 cohort

Selective Admissions Specialist



Reuben Cartagena

Rcartagena@ccc.commnet.edu

2024-2025 cohort

Reminders



Please note: this information is in regard to the 2023 application cycle for the cohort starting January 2024.

Admission requirements may change without notice.

It is your responsibility to ensure you are aware of the most updated information.

2024-2025 cohort

PTA Program Information Sessions



- Check PTA webpage, www.nv.edu/pta, for upcoming information sessions.
- Sessions are held at NVCC in Founders Hall, F 207 (PTA Classroom) or virtually at <https://bit.ly/ptaliveinfo>
- RSVP not required.

2024-2025 cohort



Remember.....

2024-2025 cohort

OPPORTUNITIES



2024-2025 cohort

ARE ENDLESS!!!!!!



2024-2025 cohort

Thank You For Your Time



Good Luck in Your Future Goals!!

The PTA Faculty & Staff

*Program Director: Dr. Janet Gangaway
jgangaway@nvcc.commnet.edu*

2024-2025 cohort