

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT**GUIDED PATHWAY: PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT**

For more information, visit www.laredo.edu/pta and your academic advisor.

The Associate of Applied Science in Physical Therapist Assistant degree prepares graduates to work as physical therapist assistants under the supervision of a physical therapist, to assist in treating individuals suffering from disease or injury by relieving pain, restoring movement, and improving function. The PTA program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

This shows the course sequence for students interested in pursuing an Associate of Applied Science in Physical Therapist Assistant. It does not represent a contract, nor does it guarantee course availability. Following this pathway will help you earn an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Physical Therapist Assistant.¹ For official degree requirements, [click here](#).

Visit [Career Pathways](#) to view guided pathways created for students who complete an AAS degree and the options for transfer. Speak with an academic advisor to choose courses to help you [transfer](#) to a specific university.

**COLLEGE READINESS REQUIREMENTS (only for the AAS)**

Enrolling in one or more courses may be necessary if assessment activities and previous academic experiences indicate a need for additional knowledge and skills:

READING & WRITING PLACEMENT**MATH PLACEMENT****ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY****TSIA 2 MET: YES / NO***IF NO, ADVISOR INSERT COURSE(S) NEEDED*☐ **INRW** _____☐ **OTHER:** _____**TSIA 2 MET: YES / NO***IF NO, ADVISOR INSERT COURSE(S) NEEDED*☐ **DEV MATH** _____☐ **OTHER:** _____**TSIA 2 MET: YES / NO***IF NO, ADVISOR INSERT COURSE(S) NEEDED*☐ **ESOL** _____☐ **OTHER:** _____

Exemptions/waivers may exist. Speak with an academic advisor regarding placement in college readiness courses and your ability to enroll in core academic coursework.

SEMESTER BY SEMESTER MAP FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS²

D			PREREQUISITES	ACTION ITEMS
◆			BIOL 2301 – Anatomy and Physiology I (Lecture) (C)	<input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your advisor to confirm academic and career goals <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with PTA Program faculty to discuss applying to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program.
◆			BIOL 2101 – Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory	
◆			ENGL 1301 – Composition I (C)	
◆			PTHA 1301 – The Profession of Physical Therapy	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 10				
D			SEMESTER 2 (FALL)	ACTION ITEMS
◆			BIOL 2302 – Anatomy and Physiology II (Lecture) (C)	<input type="checkbox"/> Meet with PTA Program faculty to file an official degree plan, confirm or update your academic/career path and program of study.
◆			BIOL 2102 – Anatomy and Physiology II Laboratory	
◆			PTHA 1405 – Basic Patient Care Skills	
◆			PTHA 1413 – Functional Anatomy	
◆			PTHA 2201 – Essentials of Data Collection	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 14				
D			SEMESTER 3 (SPRING)	ACTION ITEMS
◆			PSYC 2314 – Lifespan Growth & Development (C)	<input type="checkbox"/> Meet with PTA Program faculty to track your progress towards program completion.
◆			PTHA 1321 – Pathophysiology for the PTA	
◆			PTHA 1531 – Biophysical Agents	
◆			PTHA 2509 – Therapeutic Exercise	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 16				
D			SEMESTER 4 (SUMMER SESSION I)	ACTION ITEMS
◆			PHIL 2306 – Introduction to Ethics (C)	<input type="checkbox"/> Meet with PTA Program faculty to track your progress towards program completion.
◆			PTHA 1260 – Clinical I – Physical Therapist Assistant	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 5				
D			SEMESTER 5 (FALL)	ACTION ITEMS
◆			PTHA 2371 – Concepts in Physical Therapy	<input type="checkbox"/> Meet with PTA Program faculty to track your progress towards program completion.
◆			PTHA 2431 – Management of Neurological Disorders	
◆			PTHA 2535 – Rehabilitation Techniques	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 12				
D			SEMESTER 6 (SPRING)	ACTION ITEMS
◆			PTHA 2339 – Professional Issues ³	<input type="checkbox"/> Meet with PTA Program faculty to track your progress towards program completion. <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with PTA Program Director to ensure ECPTOTE requirements are met for the PTA NPTE. <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with a career advisor for assistance in preparing for a job search.
◆			PTHA 2361 – Clinical II – Physical Therapist Assistant	
◆			PTHA 2362 – Clinical III – Physical Therapist Assistant	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 9				
AAS DEGREE MINIMUM: 60 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS/PATHWAY TOTAL: 66 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS				

¹. Degree plans may change in later catalogs. Be sure to consult with your advisor if you are continuing on an older degree plan.

². Students must earn at least 25% of the credit hours (15 hours) required for graduation through instruction by Laredo College awarding the degree.

3. Capstone Experience

C This course counts for the Core Curriculum at any public college or university in Texas.

Certification and Licensure Information

The Physical Therapist Assistant program requires that graduates take the PTA National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) to practice as a physical therapist assistant. To be eligible to sit for the national licensure exam, applicants must answer questions related to their alcohol/drug use, psychiatric conditions, and criminal convictions. Questions regarding eligibility for licensure in Texas should be directed to the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners at <https://ptot.texas.gov>.

Career Information

Upon passing the national licensure exam, a physical therapist assistant can work under the supervision of a physical therapist in various settings, including acute care hospitals, long-term acute care hospitals, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, outpatient clinics (adult and pediatric populations), home health, nursing homes, early childhood intervention, and school districts.

Common Job Titles

Physical Therapist Assistant

Regional Labor Market Information

The starting salary for a new graduate is around \$56,470 a year. The median salary for a physical therapist assistant in this region is \$72,680.00 annually, while highly experienced physical therapist assistants can earn as much as \$85,000.

Sources: O-NET Online, <https://www.onetonline.org/>

Career and labor market research tools

Bureau of Labor Statistics: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>, O*NET: <https://www.onetonline.org/>

Career Resources: The Laredo College career services website provides information on [career exploration](#) and [employment](#). Click [here](#) for more information on transfer resources. Students are encouraged to consult with their advisor in their area of study for additional career assistance. The above information is provided as a guide and reference tool for occupations related to this program. This is not a guarantee of job placement in any of these occupations after successful completion of an LC program. The common job titles listed are representative titles and are provided for career research. These are not the only occupations possible in this area of study.

Transfer Information

The Associate of Applied Science in Physical Therapist Assistant prepares graduates to transition into the workforce as Physical Therapist Assistants once they have passed the licensure exam. PTA program graduates have other career options requiring a higher education degree. The area of study advisor can provide further information on these additional higher education options.

Transfer Guides: The universities listed here do not constitute a Laredo College endorsement. The receiving transfer institution evaluates transfer courses and determines which courses will count toward a Bachelor's degree.

PIMA Medical Institute: Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant <https://pmi.edu/online-programs/bachelors/bachelor-of-science-physical-therapist-assistant/>

Laredo College: Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational Leadership <https://www.laredo.edu/Academic-Career-Pathways/information-technology-business-personal-services/bas-orgl.html>

Houston Community College: Bachelor of Applied Science in Healthcare Management <https://www.hccs.edu/programs/areas-of-study/health-sciences/healthcare-management-bas/>

South Texas College: Bachelor of Applied Technology in Medical and Health Services Management <https://www.southtexascollege.edu/academics/medical-management/index.html>

Texas Tech University: Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management (BSHM) <https://www.ttuhsc.edu/health-professions/bachelor-of-science-healthcare-management/default.aspx>

Texas A&M International University: Bachelor of Science with a major in Biology (BS), Bachelor of Science with a major in Kinesiology (BS); Bachelor of Applied Arts & Sciences (BAAS), Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) <http://www.tamui.edu>

University of Texas Medical Branch: PTA to DPT Bridge Program <http://shp.utmb.edu/PhysicalTherapy/bridgeptadpt.asp>

Tarleton State University: PTA Alternative Admissions Pre-requisite Pathway to DPT <https://www.tarleton.edu/dpt/requirements/>

Additional Transfer Resources: The Laredo College [transfer planning guide website](#) provides information on additional colleges & universities. Students are encouraged to consult with a faculty advisor, area of study advisor, and/or their chosen transfer institution to ensure courses taken at LC will apply toward their bachelor's degree program.

