PTA PROGRAM: ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS OF PTA STUDENTS
Form PTA-3

ESSENTIALS FUNCTIONS OF THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT STUDENT:

Students will be expected to meet physical, behavioral, and cognitive functions related to those expected for physical therapy practice. Patrick & Henry Community College has adopted the following standards that students are expected to possess. Qualified individuals with a disability who can perform these functions with reasonable accommodations will not be denied admission to the program, however, they must contact a P&HCC disabilities counselor to determine the accommodations required.
Provisions for accommodations will be made in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

PTA Student Expectations

- Attend all classes, 20+ hours per week and be available for 40 hours per week for clinical education assignments
- Tolerate extended sitting and/or standing in classroom and lab environments
- Give and receive treatment interventions including but not limited to modalities, therapeutic exercise, massage, and manual therapies
- Wear lab attire that may involve exposure of areas of the body
- Apply critical thinking processes and exercise sound judgment in the class and in the clinic, following safety procedures
- Demonstrate interpersonal skills to allow for productive classroom discussion and respectful interaction with classmates and faculty
- Maintain professional personal appearance and hygiene for classroom and clinical settings and per program dress code guidelines
- Meet program standards for successful course completion, including regular attendance, timely submission of work, and compliance with academic honesty guidelines
- Adhere to all confidentiality standards regarding patient status and medical records

Physical Strength, Endurance, and Dexterity

- Perform frequent physical activities including standing, walking, bending, squatting, kneeling, crawling, reaching, pushing, and pulling
- Demonstrate ability to lift 25-50 pounds frequently and occasionally up to 200 pounds with assistance with good safety and body mechanics
- Use hands repetitively for grasping, pushing, pulling, and manual dexterity skills
- Coordinate verbal and manual activities with gross motor activities

Visual, Auditory, and Tactile Acuity

- Demonstrate visual acuity sufficient for reading instructions, medical records, and monitors and for visual observation for monitoring patient safety
- Demonstrate ability to hear sufficiently for patient conversation, equipment timers and warning sounds, and to assess patient reaction to treatment

- Demonstrate tactile acuity for physical assessment and discrimination of temperature

Communication

- Demonstrate ability to communicate with patients and interdisciplinary health care team in a professional manner
- Demonstrate ability to understand and interpret medical terminology as it applies to physical therapy and prepare reports, progress notes, and other data that appropriately records patient treatment, reaction, and progress

P&HCC PTA PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. The student will demonstrate appropriate written and verbal communication that is professional and effective for the practice of physical therapy.
2. The student will demonstrate an ability to use problem solving, critical thinking, and decision-making skills to provide appropriate physical therapy care for patient safety following the physical therapist's plan of care.
3. The student will demonstrate an ability to collect and review appropriate data to perform evidence-based interventions within the scope of practice for a PTA and within the physical therapist's plan of care.
4. The student will demonstrate the ability to adhere to federal and state regulations, facility policies and procedures, and APTA standards of ethical conduct in clinical practice as a physical therapist assistant.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING:

I _____ (student name) have reviewed the ESSENTIALS FUNCTIONS OF THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT STUDENT Form PTA-3 and understand all of the expectations and responsibilities as a potential student in the Physical Therapy Assistant Program at Patrick & Henry Community College. I am able to perform the essential functions as outlined throughout the form. If I have any questions about any functions not specified, I understand I should discuss them with the PTA Program Director prior to submission of an application for admission into the PTA program.

I have discussed any questions I may have about the PTA program and essentials functions expected for Physical Therapy practice.

STUDENT SIGNATURE REQUIRED: _____ DATE OF SUBMISSION: _____

NAME: _____ STUDENT ID: _____
CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____
CURRENT PHONE NUMBER: _____

----------PTA Department Processing/Do Not Write or Mark----------

PROGRAM DIRECTOR SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____