

San Diego Mesa College
Physical Therapist Assistant Program
Information/Application Guide for Fall 2010

***** ATTENTION: PROGRAM PREREQUISITE AND ADMISSION PROCESS CHANGES SINCE LAST YEAR *****

Job Title

Physical Therapist Assistant (Approved)

Job Description

The Physical Assistant (PTA) is a paraprofessional who is an integral member of the health care team. The PTA assists the Physical Therapist (PT) in providing patient care by applying a variety of therapy treatments including but not limited to, heat, cold, therapeutic massage, electrotherapy, mechanical traction, hydrotherapy, therapeutic exercises, and gait training instruction.

Attitudes and Characteristics of the PTA

The successful PTA is:

- interested in the physical and biological sciences; pursues opportunities for life long learning; and possesses a knowledge of the breadth of the profession
- flexible; reliable; versatile; timely
- exhibits manual dexterity, visual and auditory acuity and motor coordination necessary to deliver treatments in a safe and complete manner; able to withstand strenuous physical activity
- patient and emotionally stable; demonstrates sound judgment, tact and self control even when presented with demanding patients or the presence of strong odors and open wounds
- able to work directly with a diverse population of patients of all ages, sizes, genders, cultures, and disabilities without discrimination
- able to work directly under a Physical Therapist's direction following written and verbal orders accepting responsibility for the results of his/her actions
- a team player who works within the parameters of the PTA job description in an ethical manner and who is able to communicate with health team members, patients, and patients' families
- able to accept constructive criticism and perform self evaluation activities which result in personal and professional growth
- able to apply his/her knowledge base to situations which arise, arriving at a reasonable conclusion which promotes patient progress and safety
- an effective communicator who is able to instruct patients using clear, concise language
- able to meet PTA technical standards (see page 10)

Employment Outlook

The employment outlook for PTA's is generally good in San Diego County and the United States at the present time. The PTA is qualified to seek employment in any setting that offers Physical Therapy such as: hospitals, long term care facilities, rehabilitation facilities, private offices, adult day care centers, schools and homes.

Probable Salary Range for the San Diego Area

Starting Range: Staff PTA \$35,000-45,000/year

Acting Program Director

Chris Kinney, PTA, BS
Office: Bldg S – Allied Health Bldg., S321

Tel: (619) 388-2839
E-mail: ckinney@sdccd.edu

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. *What can I do to gain more knowledge about the Physical Therapist Assistant Program?***
Because of the numerous inquiries from prospective students, general information sessions regarding the program are provided at Mesa College on a regular basis throughout the fall and spring semesters (see page 3 of this brochure for dates and locations and on the Allied Health website again prior to attendance for any scheduling changes that may occur – www.sdmesa.edu/allied-health). To gain firsthand knowledge of the scope of the profession and duties and limitations of the PTA, you should plan on observing, volunteering, or interviewing therapy personnel, or work in a variety of PT settings.
- 2. *What courses must I take to earn this degree and with whom should I speak?***
You will find overall information regarding the A.S. in PTA degree on page (5) and can gain specific information by reviewing a college catalog, visiting the college web page (sdmesa@sdccd.edu) or contacting counseling services (619) 388-2672.
- 3. *How can I find out if the courses I have taken outside of the San Diego Community College District will transfer or meet the prerequisite course requirements?***
You will find general information on the prerequisite courses on the top of page (4). All coursework must be completed at a regionally-accredited college. You can refer to a college catalog, visit the college web site, contact counseling services, or contact the college evaluation office.
- 4. *When do I file my program application packet and what are the dates of the Special Admission process?***
You will file your complete program application packet **with supportive documentation** by June 15, 2010. All the important dates and procedures you need to know are located on pages 3 & 4 of this brochure.
- 5. *How are applicants chosen for admission?***
Applicants who complete the academic prerequisites and submit a completed application **with its supportive documentation** by the application date will be given consideration for enrollment in that fall's program. When the application packet is complete, the applicant's name will be placed on a "Qualified Applicants" list. It is the responsibility of the applicant to assure that all supportive documentation is in their file – incomplete applications will NOT be considered. The program will admit up to 30 students per year. If the program is impacted (more complete applications than available slots), a computerized random lottery will be performed to determine those accepted and a list of alternates will be generated. Continuing interest letters will be mailed to those remaining on the wait list and it is the applicant's responsibility to maintain a current address with the college's Special Admissions Clerk and return all mailings in a timely manner. Failure to return necessary paperwork will result in the person being removed from the wait list.

Program Information

- 1. *Can I complete the program in less than two years? Are these courses transferable for a PT degree?***
No, the program cannot be completed in less than two years since the technical courses are taught sequentially and require two full years for completion. The courses are not usually transferable to institutions of higher learning as credit towards a degree as a Physical Therapist: this is not a pre-PT curriculum.
- 2. *When I receive my A.S. degree for the program, what does that mean?***
This A.S. degree program is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), American Physical Therapy Association, 1111 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314: 1 (800) 999-APTA. Graduates of accredited programs are eligible to take the board examination for licensure as a PTA in those states requiring it. The fees required for the examination in California exceed \$600.00. The program graduates have had a 95-100% first-attempt pass rate on the California State Board Examination over the past several years.
- 3. *Are there any limitations to making an application for state licensure that I need to be aware of or does graduation from an accredited program suffice?***
Those states requiring licensure to practice as a PTA require the completion of a background check that includes the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). Any discrepancies between information received from the DOJ and the FBI and the applicant's information may result in the denial of the application. The licensing Board reviews whether the violation of code, crime, or act is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a licensee. Other factors that are considered are: the nature and severity of the acts or crime; the time that has elapsed since the commission of the acts/crimes; and the extent to which the applicant has complied with any terms or condition of probation imposed.
- 4. *While I am in the program, will any malpractice insurance fees be required?***
A nominal fee is assessed the student during the semesters that he/she is participating in the directed clinical practice courses. The fee enrolls the student in a blanket program of professional liability insurance coverage for one million dollars per District policy.

5. ***What other program-specific costs are there for me to consider?***
 While in the program, the student will be required to complete and pay for a physical exam, TB skin test (or equivalent), required immunizations, background check/drug screening required by the clinical sites (cost is approximately \$65) and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) prior to beginning clinical experiences. The CPR must be American Heart Association Healthcare Provider (eight hour course that includes testing on mannequins). The student will also need to purchase a uniform, name badge, books, and supplies (about \$3000). A reliable means of transportation is necessary while in the program.

Orientation Sessions

To assist you with your planning and to gain information related to the admission process, the following orientation sessions will be offered on Mesa campus in Building S – the Allied Health Building, Room S207 unless otherwise posted:

Saturday, September 26, 2009	9:00 am
Wednesday, October 28, 2009	6:00 pm
Saturday, December 12, 2009	9:00 am – date change
Wednesday, February 17, 2010	6:00 pm
Saturday, March 20, 2010	9:00 am
Wednesday, May 5, 2010	6:00 pm

RSVP's are **not required** for attendance at the one-hour orientation session.

Dates and Deadlines for Fall 2010

Completed Application Packet Accepted* . . . between January 5 - June 15, 2010 at 4 pm

Completed Application Packet to include:

- Completed application (both sides filled out and signed)
- Official Transcripts verifying completion of anatomy & physiology and reading, written expression, and math competencies
- Documentation supporting the attainment of knowledge about the profession

*Packets must be received during the application period. Packets received after the application period and postmarks will not be considered.

Letters of Reference are not requested and will not be accepted.

Acceptance invitations to Enter the Program Mailed No Later Than July 1
 Confirmation of Acceptance Returned No Later Than July 15
 Notification of alternates and those not accepted.....July 16 or next business day

Entrance Requirements- Fall 2010

The process for entrance into the Fall 2010 class requires the completion of steps A – D **before** the application can be considered complete to allow the applicant's name to be entered on the "Qualified Applicant's" list. Please fill out both pages of the application (pages 9-10).

- A.** Completion of the following prerequisite course (or its equivalent):
1. Human Anatomy & Physiology (single semester overview course of 4 or more semester units or equivalent, including lab) within the last five (5) years with a "C" or higher (Bio 160 in SDCCD system). Completion of 8 units Anatomy & Physiology is highly recommended. Must cover all the body systems.
- B.** Competence in reading and written expression through:
1. Completion of one course, with a grade of "C" or better, from the General Education requirements Area 1 English Communication (English Composition or higher), Mesa 2009-2010 catalog OR EQUIVALENT
- C.*** Competence in mathematics through: **NOTE: New District requirement level for AS degree**
1. Completing one of the following courses with a grade of "C" or better:
MATH 96 Intermediate Algebra and Geometry
- or
2. Completing, with a grade of "C" or better any other Mathematics course for which one of the above listed courses is a prerequisite.

*Contact College Counseling services for questions regarding sections B and C.

- D.** Documented exposure to the profession of Physical Therapy:
The purpose of this activity is to provide the applicant with exposure to the global picture of the Physical Therapy profession, its workers and clientele. This activity is highly recommended for the person who is seriously considering this profession. Knowledge about the profession can be gained through such activities as: working as a paid Physical Therapy Aide, and/or volunteering time in therapy departments, and/or interviewing therapists and assistants, and/or attending a recent Mesa PTA program orientation session (see page 3). There is no set number of hours required for this activity.

All prerequisites must be completed at colleges accredited by one of the six regional accrediting bodies in order to qualify. These agencies include:

- [New England Association of Schools and Colleges \(NEASC\)](#)
- [North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement\(NCA\)](#)
- [Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges \(MSA\)](#)
- [Southern Association of Schools and Colleges \(SACS\)](#)
- [Western Association of Schools and Colleges \(WASC\)](#)
- [Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges \(NWCCU\)](#)

Students are responsible for confirming the accreditation type and transferability of credits before they enroll in any institution. Resources to consult are college catalogs and academic counselors.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Submit your application and all its supportive documentation (official transcripts verifying completion of the above prerequisites) to Special Admissions between **January 5th and June 15th**. Complete applications will be stamped with the date received – an application is not complete until all required supportive documentation has been received. Applications received before the January 5th or after the June 15th period will not be considered. The application must be received by 4pm on the last business day of the application window; postmarks will not be considered.
- Once the completed application and its supportive documentation (official transcripts verifying prerequisite completion) have been received, the applicant's name will be placed on a "Qualified Applicants" list. It is the responsibility of the applicant to assure that all supportive documentation is in their file – incomplete applications will NOT be considered.
- Completion of all designated prerequisites does not guarantee admission to the current physical therapist assistant class. Candidates will be admitted to the program based upon a first-come, first-served basis. **If the program is impacted (more complete applications**

than slots available), candidates will be selected and ranked utilizing a computerized random lottery done by the College.

- All applicants are responsible for maintaining a current e-mail address with Special Admissions so as to be able to receive letters requesting confirmation of continued interest in admission into the program sent during the year. The applicant must return each such letter by the stipulated date to maintain the admission status.
- Candidates will have two (2) opportunities to enter the physical therapist assistant program at San Diego Mesa College after a priority number has been assigned. If unable to enroll upon second notification, the candidate will lose priority status and be placed at the end of the list.
- The candidate's name will be withdrawn from the wait list if the applicant cannot be reached for notification of admission.
- Any candidate wishing to withdraw or cancel their application or postpone admission must provide immediate written communication to the college's Special Admissions Clerk.

TRANSCRIPT INFORMATION

Official transcripts from each college you have attended, even Mesa College, are a critical component of a complete application. Ideally, transcripts should be sent directly to the applicant to include with the program application. They must be official and unopened in the original sealed envelope.

If a college will not send official transcripts to you, applicants must:

1. Apply online to the College
2. Request transcripts be sent directly to the Special Admissions Clerk at Mesa College, specifically addressed as follows:

San Diego Mesa College
Attention: Special Admissions/Radiology
7250 Mesa College Drive
San Diego, CA 92111

3. Indicate on your application that transcripts are being sent directly from a college(s) and list them.
4. Include an unofficial copy of the transcripts with the application

Transcripts sent to Mesa College without designation to Special Admissions will end up in a different department and will not be reviewed. It is the student's responsibility to assure their transcripts are sent properly and confirm their receipt with our Special Admissions Clerk before the application deadline.

Computer printouts of grades are not accepted and will not be considered. Students are advised to proceed carefully in situations where spring classes end near the program application deadline; the application process will not altered for late grade postings. Students should plan accordingly.

Students with foreign transcripts should consult an academic counselor before submitting an application, since such transcripts will need to be evaluated by an independent service prior to be accepted.

RE-APPLICATION

Applicants who submitted a complete application for Fall 2009 and were not selected, must submit a Letter of Interest to the Special Admissions Clerk (see address on application) via the US Postal Service during the published application period. The letter should include one sentence indicating interest in being considered for Fall 2010 admission; applicant's name, address and other contact information clearly indicated; and the applicant's signature. All application materials from Fall 2009 will be destroyed after June 15, 2010 if a student has not submitted a letter indicating continued interest.

DISCLAIMER

"The San Diego Community College District is governed by its Board of Trustees. No oral or written representation by any employee of the College is binding on the San Diego Community College District without the express approval of the Board of Trustees."

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
 COURSE GUIDE
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

FIRST SEMESTER (FALL)

	<u>Units</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
PHYR 110* (PT Intro)	2	2
PHYR 116* (PT Techniques I)	4	8
PHYR 114* (Intro to Human Mvmt)	3	3
	<u>9</u>	<u>13</u>

THIRD SEMESTER (FALL)

	<u>Units</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
PHYR 137* (Ortho Ex & Rehab)	4	8
PHYR 138* (Top. Neuro & Rehab)	2.5	4.5
PHYR 142A* (Dir Clinical Prac.)	2	10
	<u>8.5</u>	<u>22.5</u>

SECOND SEMESTER (SPRING)

	<u>Units</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
PHYR 126* (Fund. PT II)	4	8
PHYR 122* (Intro. To Path.)	3	3
PHYR 123* (Intro. To T. Ex.)	2	3
	<u>9</u>	<u>19</u>

FOURTH SEMESTER (SPRING)

	<u>Units</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
PHYR 142B* (Dir. Clinical Prac.)	4.5	24
PHYR 141* (Org. of PT)	2	2
	<u>6.5</u>	<u>26</u>

*TECHNICAL COURSES **MUST** BE TAKEN IN SEQUENCE

ASSOCIATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THIS PTA PROGRAM THE STUDENT MUST FULFILL THE NECESSARY A.S. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS. IN THIS TYPE OF INTENSIVE PROGRAM, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE STUDENT COMPLETE ALL, OR PART, OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES BEFORE ENTERING. IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT ALL G.E. COURSES BE COMPLETED BY THE BEGINNING OF THE CURRICULUM'S THIRD SEMESTER. COURSE REQUIREMENTS BEYOND THOSE THE MAJOR REQUIREMENTS ARE:

- Psychology 101 or 111 or 121 (3 units) and English 101 (3 units) with a "C" or better
- Physical Education (2 activity courses)
- American Institutions/CA Government (see catalog: 3-6 units)
- Humanities (3 units) and Mathematics (3 units)
- Multicultural Studies (3 units) (Defined as: Coursework providing an exposure to another culture related to one or more of the ethnic groups in American society)

Below is a suggested schedule to complete the A.S. Degree in 5 semesters:

Semester	Courses	Units	Hours
Semester I	English 101	3	3
	Math/communication/analytical thinking (some courses can fulfill dual category requirements)	3	3
	Anatomy/Physiology/ Natural Sciences - Biology 160	4	6
	Psychology 101, 111, 121	3	3
	Semester II	Introduction to PT – PHYR 110	2
	Intro to Human Movement – PHYR 114	3	5
	PT Techniques I - PHYR 116	4	8
	Multicultural Studies/ Humanities (some courses can fulfill dual	3	3

	category requirements)		
Semester III	PT Procedures II - PHYR 126	4	8
	Introduction to Pathology – PHYR 122	3	3
	Introduction to Therapeutic Exercise – PHYR 123	2	3
	American Institutions	3	3
	Physical Education	1	3
Semester IV	Topics in Neurology & Rehab – PHYR 138 (8 weeks only)	2	6
	Orthopedic Rehab – PHYR 137	4	8
	Directed Clinical Practice – PHYR 142A (8 weeks only)	2	20
	Physical Education	1	3
	Elective	3	3
Semester V	Directed Clinical Practice – PHYR 142B	4.5	24
	Organization of Physical Therapy – PHYR 141	2	3
	Elective	4	4

Total units for Associate of Science Degree = 60.5 units (Health Education requirement is waived for PTA students)

PHYR 110 PHYSICAL THERAPY INTRODUCTION

This course provides general information regarding the field of physical therapy (P.T.) to those persons who have been admitted into the program or who have an interest in the profession of P.T. The course focuses on the history and development of the profession, its relationship to the health care delivery system in the United States, the settings utilized in the delivery of therapy, and an exploration of the roles and functions of the workers in the field and their part on the healthcare team. The development of the professional organization (American Physical Therapy Association) and its purpose are presented as well as the general ethical, legal principles and state laws relating to the delivery of physical therapy. Medical terminology specific to P.T. and the need of the health care worker to develop a therapeutic presence are also presented.

PHYR 116 PHYSICAL THERAPY TECHNIQUES I

This course provides the future Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) with an exposure to the duties that relate to the PTA scope of practice to include the principles and techniques of the application of cold, heat, therapeutic massage, basics of gait training with assistive devices for general orthopedic problems, hydrotherapy and basic dressing changes to include universal precautions, treatment preparation, client positioning and clinic maintenance. The course also fosters the development of communication skills and interpersonal relationships with clients and colleagues in the health care field.

PHYR 114 INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN MOVEMENT

This course introduces the student Physical Therapist Assistant to the relationship between physical laws and the biomechanical principles of joint motion as well as the concepts of normal posture and human locomotion contrasted with obvious posture and gait deviations. The course also provides the students with the opportunity to apply kinesiological concepts to the body's major joints in performing basic exercise applications with the client who has an orthopedic condition.

PHYR 126 FUND OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

This course is a continuation of Physical Therapy Techniques I with an emphasis on advanced skills and acute care. It explores the use of mechanical traction, electrotherapy and electromagnetic modalities as well as vasopneumatic compression, chest physical therapy, wound care, transfer and transportation of patients, gait techniques for specific diagnoses, and the identification of architectural barriers and basic wheelchair management. Students continue to use medical terms, charting skills, and role play to foster patient and family teaching as well as a deepening of self-awareness of communication skills.

PHYR 122 INTRODUCTION TO PATHOLOGY

This course focuses on the etiology and characteristics of diseases of the body's systems as they relate to physical therapy and includes a consideration of the general principles of tissue injury, inflammation and

healing. The course is designed for students enrolled in the Physical Therapist Assistant Program but is also appropriate for those interested in physical therapy or pathology with a musculoskeletal emphasis. This course is offered in the spring only.

PHYR 123 INTRO TO THERAPEUTIC EXERCISE

This course provides the future Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) with an exposure to the duties that relate to the PTA scope of practice specific to basic principles of therapeutic exercise, including: range of motion, goniometry, manual muscle testing and proprioceptive neuromuscular facilitation. Basic lower extremity exercises are also introduced. This course is offered in the spring only.

PHYR 137 ORTHOPEDIC EX & REHABILITATION

This course provides the student with a kinesiologically based approach to the clinical applications used in the treatment and rehabilitation of the client with orthopedic and related diagnoses. The focus is on safe, legal, ethical and appropriate use of therapeutic exercise and screening assessment procedures, including physiological and therapeutic effects and indications and contraindications. This course is for students enrolled in the Physical Therapist Assistant Program.

PHYR 138 TOPICS IN NEUROLOGY & REHABILITATION

This course deals with the principles and clinical application of the functional activities and rehabilitation procedures relating to the management of therapy clients with neurological diagnoses. Rehabilitation of cardiopulmonary conditions is also addressed. The focus is on safe, legal, ethical and appropriate use of rehabilitation procedures, including physiological and therapeutic effects. This course is for students enrolled in the Physical Therapist Assistant Program.

PHYR 142A DIRECTED CLINICAL PRACTICE

This course provides the third semester Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) student a supervised application of previously learned techniques and skills in the rehabilitation of patients in a selected clinical facility affiliated with the college. Students are placed in either an inpatient or an outpatient facility. Supervision of the student at the intermediate level is provided by the staff of the affiliating institution and is coordinated by the college faculty. This course is the first of two Directed Clinical Practice courses in the PTA Program. The class includes 150 hours by arrangement.

PHYR 142B DIRECTED CLINICAL PRACTICE

This course provides the fourth semester Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) student a supervised application of previously learned techniques and skills in the rehabilitation of patients in a selected clinical facility affiliated with the college. Students are placed in either an inpatient or an outpatient facility. Supervision of the student at the intermediate level is provided by the staff of the affiliating institution and is coordinated by the college faculty. This course is the second of two Directed Clinical Practice courses in the PTA Program. The class includes 300 hours by arrangement.

PHYR 141 ORGANIZATION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

This course provides future physical therapist assistants with the principles of organization, management, supervision, productivity levels and performance evaluations. Other topics include: the legal and ethical aspects of physical therapist assistants' occupation as described in the state board and national association regulations and standards; federal, state and private insurance regulations; medications commonly used by those receiving physical therapy; professional liability insurance; job hunting skills; and the discussion of issues in the medical field as they impact physical therapy.

Mail to: Special Admissions
San Diego Mesa College
7250 Mesa College Dr
San Diego, CA 92111

San Diego Mesa College
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM
Program Application Form for Fall 2010 Application Deadline – **June 15, 2010, 4 pm**

Instructions: Print or type the requested information. Submit the application with the required supportive documentation to: Special Admissions Clerk at Mesa College. Letters of recommendation will not be accepted.

1. NAME: _____
Last First Middle
 2. OTHER NAME USED: _____ SSN or CSID _____
 3. **FULL** ADDRESS: _____
Street Apt# City State Zip
 4. Email Address: _____
 5. Phone #: () _____ 6. Birth date: _____
 7. In case of an emergency notify: _____
Name Phone #
-
-

COURSE COMPLETION & SUPPORTIVE DOCUMENTATION

PREREQUISITE COURSE COMPLETION. Verified by official transcripts with this application (including transcripts from San Diego Community College District, if the courses were completed at Mesa, City, or Miramar colleges) – see p. 9 of Information/application packet.

- A. Human Anatomy & Physiology (refer to page 4 of this packet)
Institution: _____ Date of Completion: _____
Units: _____ Grade: _____
- B. COMPETENCE IN READING/WRITTEN EXPRESSION (refer to page 4 of this packet)
Course completed or skill level achieved on the Assessment test – College Level:
Institution: _____ Date of Completion: _____
Units: _____ Grade/Skill Level: _____
- C. COMPETENCE IN MATHEMATICS (refer to page 4 of this packet)
Institution: _____ Date of Completion: _____
Units: _____ Grade/Skill Level: _____
- D. KNOWLEDGE OF THE PT PROFESSION (verification of work/volunteer experiences required)
Indicate the activity(ies) you are doing/have done to gain knowledge of the profession:

APPLICATION CONFIRMATION CHECK LIST

Instructions:

Read each item of information, then place a check mark confirming notification. Retain a copy for your records.

- ___ I have read all of the material contained in the PTA application packet and understand the application, selection process for Fall 2010.
- ___ I understand that that I will not receive a priority number if I submit an application packet that is incomplete, or does not meet application/program requirements.
- ___ I understand that after my application is accepted and verified, it is my responsibility to notify the Mesa College Special Admission Clerk (619) 388-2684 of any changes in my address or telephone number, or status.
- ___ I understand it is my responsibility to: follow proper application procedures, provide transcripts in the required time line, and keep informed on revisions regarding degree requirements, program requirements, selection process, and ensure course equivalency by contacting college Evaluations office for verification.
- ___ I understand that the general education requirements for the A.S. Degree are subject to change with the publication of each year's Mesa College catalog.
- ___ I understand that if I am notified of being admitted into the program, my failure to submit "Confirmation of Acceptance" or continued interest letter with the Special Admissions Clerk in the allotted time frame constitutes grounds to withdraw my name from the eligibility list.
- ___ I understand that the PTA program admissions process will result in the compilation of a waiting list as the applicants turn in their completed application with all supportive documentation is received.
- ___ I understand that if the program is impacted my application will be ranked according to specific criteria, using a point system that is designated in the selection rating form found in this application packet.
- ___ I understand that the PTA program admission policies are based on published college policies; program admission is an equal opportunity process and persons are not excluded based on ethnicity, age, gender, or religion.
- ___ I understand that Mesa College reserves the right to make revisions in the PTA program requirements and/or selection procedures, and I am aware that I will receive notification of any changes that have been made.

Signature _____

Date _____

Copy only – students must complete upon admission to program

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM
TECHNICAL STANDARDS FORM FOR PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

The following tasks are normally performed by students in the Physical Therapist Assistant program during the fourth semester. If a “No” response is given to one of the tasks, reasonable accommodation will be considered and utilized as appropriate.

DIRECTIONS: Please check the appropriate box on the right, sign and date.

A. ARE YOU ABLE TO:	YES	NO
1. Stand for 60+ minutes (up to 4 hours) on a tiled or carpeted surface?		
2. Sit for 50 minutes on a chair at a table or desk?		
3. Ambulate unassisted to include these functions: walk 600 feet one way on a tiled or carpeted surface? Turn to either direction on a tiled or carpeted surface? Walk backwards for up to 10 feet on a tiled or carpeted surface?		
4. Lift and carry varying weights and equipment of up to 20 lbs?		
5. Lift equipment such as a folded walker or crutches of approximately 8 lbs to shoulder level and then carry same up to 30 feet?		
6. Lift a weakened or flaccid extremity of 20-30 lbs above shoulder height?		
7. Assist patients from a backlying position to sitting on the edge of the bed (and vice versa) with varying degrees of assistance working with up to 250 lbs?		
8. Assist patients to transfer from surface to surface with varying amount of assistance?		
9. Maintain your standing balance in awkward positions (such as when you are handling equipment, using assistive devices, working with patients)?		
10. Bend, stoop, or crouch to reach a low object frequently?		
11. Twist your trunk (spine) from side to side frequently?		
12. Rotate your hand/wrist to turn knobs frequently?		
13. Reach overhead occasionally? Reach forward frequently? Reach side to side frequently?		
14. Maneuver equipment and patients in tight areas?		
15. Handle various sized objects (e.g. machine components, electrodes, gel bottles, assistive devices, exercise equipment, etc.)?		
16. Manipulate small objects such as dials, switches, buttons, push pins on assistive device extenders, gown ties, etc.?		

B. OTHER DEMANDS OF TRAINING IN THIS PROFESSION. ARE YOU ABLE TO:	YES	NO
1. SEE: read printed information; read control panels; observe patient skin before, during and after treatment; observe patient coloration before, during and after treatment; verify patient identification; read patient assessment information; observe that the work area is free of obstacles, etc.?		
2. HEAR: clinical and classroom instructor directions; patient questions/comments one on one and otherwise; health team members comments/ questions or directions one on one and otherwise; emergency call bells, timers, etc.?		
3. SPEAK: provide feedback to the instructors; give instructions to patients/family members; verify patient identification; provide direction in emergency situations, make group presentations, etc.?		

