

## **PTA Technical Phase Program Admission**

The Physical Therapist Assistant program is a 2-year degree program consisting of 5 semesters of coursework including 3 student clinical experiences in various physical therapy settings. The associate degree begins with 2 semesters of general education (29 credits) and is completed with 3 semesters (45 credits) of technical coursework. PTA majors wishing to complete these final 3 semesters of technical coursework must first submit a separate PTA program application (located below).

Admission to the technical phase is granted to students who have been selected from a competitive pool of applicants. Students wishing to begin technical coursework during the summer session need to submit completed application materials to the PTA program by April 15. *It is the applicant's responsibility to verify that all application materials have been received by the PTA program prior to the deadline.* Incomplete applications or applications received after 4:30 p.m. on April 15 will be automatically wait-listed. All recruitment/admission policies and procedures reflect equitable criteria for nondiscrimination and equal opportunity.

### **Current UMPI students**

Current students wishing to apply to the PTA technical phase must complete coursework by the end of the spring semester. Students completing required general education courses during the spring may submit PTA program applications prior to the end of the semester. Applications will be considered complete once all spring semester grades are posted and acceptable grades are achieved.



At the University of Maine at Presque Isle, our goal is to ensure you can complete your degree on time and on budget. In addition to a wide range of academic and student support efforts, we've set up this pathway, or map, for you; if you follow this recommended sequence, you will complete your Associate's degree in two years. Together, we can help you finish on time and turn your degree into a great career.

*Please note that this is a scheduling aid, not a guarantee of specific course offerings each semester. Course availability varies depending on the date of enrollment, so please be sure to consult the appropriate catalog for official degree/program requirements and seek guidance regularly from your faculty and professional academic advisors.*

## First Year Fall Semester

ENG 101	College Composition I*	3 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
MAT 101	Basic Statistics	3 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PSY 100	General Psychology	3 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIO 261	Anatomy and Physiology I	4 Credits	<input type="checkbox"/>

**First Year Fall Semester Total: 13 Credits**

## First Year Spring Semester

HPR 101	Lifelong Wellness	3 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PSY 205	Lifespan Development	3 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PCJ 215	Business Communications – OR -		
BUS/COM 210	Organizational Communication	3 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIO 262	Anatomy and Physiology II	4 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
EXS 274	Structural Kinesiology	3 Credits	<input type="checkbox"/>

**First Year Spring Semester Total: 16 Credits**

## Second Year Fall Semester

PTA 100	Introduction to Physical Therapy	2 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PTA 102	Clinical Conditions in Physical Therapy	3 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PTA 104	Data Collection in Physical Therapy	4 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PTA 106	Physical Therapy Procedure and Interventions I	4 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Second Year Fall Semester Total: 13 Credits**

## Second Year Spring Semester

PTA 202	Therapeutic Modalities	3 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PTA 204	Therapeutic Exercise	4 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PTA 206	Physical Therapy Procedure and Interventions II	4 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PTA 208	Neurological Interventions	4 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PTA 210	Clinical Education Seminar I	1 Credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PTA 212	Clinical Education Experience I	2 Credits	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Second Year Spring Semester Total: 18 Credits**

## Second Year Summer Semester

PTA 215	Professional Development Seminar	2 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PTA 220	Clinical Education Experience II	6 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>
PTA 225	Clinical Education experience III	6 credits	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Second Year Summer Semester Total: 14 Credits**

**Total Minimum Credits Required for Degree: 74 credits**

\* Upon successful completion of general education and other requirements the student will then apply to the program for admittance into the final three semesters of technical coursework.

## **UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT PRESQUE ISLE PTA PROGRAM** **TECHNICAL PHASE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

1. Student must first contact UMPI admissions (<https://www.umpi.edu/admissions/>) to discuss University of Maine at Presque Isle application requirements.
2. Student declares PTA major and completes credit hours of general course requirements as follows:
- 3: Deadline for PTA technical phase application is April 15.

<b>HPR 101</b> Lifelong Wellness	3 Credits
<b>ENG 101</b> English Composition	3 Credits
<b>PCJ 215/BUS 210</b> Business Communications/Organizational Communication	3 Credits
<b>BIO 261</b> A&P with Lab	4 Credits
<b>BIO 262</b> A&P with Lab	4 Credits
<b>PSY 101</b> General Psychology	3 Credits
<b>PSY 205</b> Lifespan Development	3 Credits
<b>MAT 101</b> Basic Statistics	3 Credits
<b>EXS 274</b> Structural Kinesiology	3 Credits

\*Candidates for the PTA program technical phase must have a minimum GPA of 2.64. The minimum grade requirement for all required general and technical courses is a B- with a 6 credit allowance for courses graded a C+. Courses graded below a C+ will not be considered successfully completed for the PTA program. General course minimum grade and GPA requirement may be waived for certified health care providers who have at least one year of full-time employment in their field. The waiver is at the sole discretion of the Director of the PTA program. Transfer credits and course substitutions should be discussed with the program director and will be considered on an individual basis.

## **Technical Phase Application Material Checklist:**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Completed (yes/no)</u></b>
Cover Page/Resume	
Personal Statement Essay	
Signed Essential Skills form	
Signed Background check/drug test disclaimer	
Reference form 1	
Reference form 2	
25 hours (minimum) observation hours	
Proof of CPR certification	
Completed Immunization requirements (PPD not needed prior to entering program)	
Formal Interview with Program Faculty	

**\*ALL PROGRAM RELATED QUESTIONS AND APPLICATION MATERIALS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO:** Matthew Papsadora: Program Director South Hall room 214 University of Maine at Presque Isle 181 Main St. Presque Isle, ME 04769 Phone: (207) 768-9678 fax: (207) 768-9460 [matthew.papsadora@maine.edu](mailto:matthew.papsadora@maine.edu).

*The Physical Therapist Assistant program at the University of Maine at Presque Isle is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22305-3085; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: [accreditation@apta.org](mailto:accreditation@apta.org); website: [www.capteonline.org](http://www.capteonline.org).*

**UMPI PTA TECHNICAL PHASE APPLICATION**  
**COVER PAGE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**BRIEF RESUME**

Education

High School/GED: \_\_\_\_\_ Date graduated/completed: \_\_\_\_\_

College/university: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates attended: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree/certificate earned: \_\_\_\_\_

College/university: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates attended: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree/certificate earned: \_\_\_\_\_

List any current certificates or certifications in health care or fitness:

Work History

Place/address of employment:

Job Title:

Dates of employment:

Place/address of employment:

Job Title:

Dates of employment:

Place/address of employment:

Job Title:

Dates of employment:

Feel free to attach additional relevant information including volunteer work, achievement awards etc.

For questions related to the PTA program please contact the PTA program director Matthew Papsadora, PT, DPT at [matthew.papsadora@maine.edu](mailto:matthew.papsadora@maine.edu) (207) 768-9678.

## **PTA Technical Phase Application Personal Statement Essay**

As part of the program admission process, we would like all candidates to demonstrate a general knowledge of the Physical Therapy profession. Your understanding of the field may be acquired through opportunities such as employment, volunteering or observation in Physical Therapy settings, discussion with physical therapists or physical therapist assistants, participation in Health Occupations courses or personal experience.

In a short essay of about 500 words please respond to the following questions:

1. Describe your understanding of the field of Physical Therapy.
2. Reflect on your experiences volunteering and/or observing physical therapy and describe what interests you the most about entering the field of Physical Therapy.

Thank you for investing your time in the future of our profession!

For questions related to the PTA program please contact the PTA program director Matthew Papsadora, PT, DPT at [matthew.papsadora@maine.edu](mailto:matthew.papsadora@maine.edu) (207) 768-9678.

**Essential Skills**  
**for Candidates to the University of Maine at Presque Isle**  
**Physical Therapist Assistant Program**

Decisions made by the candidate to this educational program for physical therapist assistants should be made with consideration of the following essential skills. The physical therapist assistant (PTA) is the technically trained person in physical therapy, providing physical therapy interventions after a physical therapist has examined and evaluated the patient and established a treatment plan. The following standards reflect reasonable expectations of the PTA student for the performance of common physical therapy functions. These standards do not reflect what may be required for employment of the graduate PTA.

In adopting these standards, the Physical Therapist Assistant Program is mindful of the patient's right to safe and quality health care by our students and graduates. The PTA student must be able to apply the knowledge and skills necessary to function in a broad variety of clinical situations while providing the spectrum of physical therapy treatments. Each candidate in this Associate in Science degree program must have the ability to learn and perform the following competencies and skills:

**Motor:** Candidate must have sufficient motor capabilities to execute the movements and skills required to provide safe and effective physical therapy interventions. These include, but are not limited to-

- Coordination, speed and agility to assist and safely guard (protect) patients who are walking, exercising or performing other rehabilitation activities.
- Ability to adjust and position equipment and patients, which involves bending or stooping freely to floor level and reaching above the head.
- Ability to move or position patients and equipment, which involves lifting, carrying, pulling, and guiding weights up to and including 50 pounds.
- Ability to guide, resist, and assist patients, or to provide emergency care, which involves the activities of standing, kneeling, sitting, walking or crawling, for 90 minutes without rest.
- Ability to perform, with safe and proper body mechanics, the transfer and gait training techniques used during physical therapy interventions with patients.
- Ability and dexterity to manipulate the devices used in physical therapy, which involves adjusting gauges, dials, small nuts/bolts, equipment settings, etc.
- Ability to administer CPR without assistance.

**Sensory:** Candidate must possess the ability to observe and participate in demonstrations and in physical measures applied to patients. This includes the ability to obtain information in classroom, laboratory or clinical settings through observation, auscultation, palpation and other measures, including but not limited to-

- Visual ability (corrected as necessary) to recognize and interpret facial expressions and body language, identify normal and abnormal patterns of movement, to read or set parameters on physical therapy equipment, to discriminate color changes, and to interpret and assess the environment.
- Auditory ability (corrected as necessary) to recognize and respond to soft voices, auditory timers, equipment alarms, call bells, and to effectively use devices for measurement of blood pressure and breath sounds.
- Tactile ability to palpate a pulse and to detect changes or abnormalities of surface texture, skin temperature, body segment contour, muscle tone, and joint movement.
- Sufficient position, movement and balance sensations to assist and safely guard (protect) patients who are walking, exercising or performing other rehabilitation activities.

**Communication:** Candidate must be able to utilize effective and efficient communications with peers, faculty, patients and their families, and other health care providers. This includes, but is not limited to-

- Ability to read at a competency level that allows one to safely carry out the essential functions of an assignment (examples: handwritten chart data, printed equipment operations manuals).
- Ability to effectively communicate (interpret and express) information regarding the status, safety, and rehabilitation of patients.
- Ability to effectively communicate (verbally and document) with patients/families, health care professionals, within the community, and with reimbursement payers.
- Ability to communicate and document effectively via computer.
- Ability to recognize, interpret, and respond to nonverbal behavior of self and others.

**Behavior:** Candidate must be capable of exercising good judgment, developing empathetic and therapeutic relationships with patients and others, and tolerating close and direct physical contact with a broad and very diverse population of laboratory colleagues and patients. This will include people of all ages, races, socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds, as well as individuals with weight disorders, physical disfigurement and medical or mental health problems. This also includes, but is not limited to-

- Ability to work with multiple patients/families and colleagues at the same time.
- Ability to work with lab partners, patients, families and others under stressful conditions, including but not limited to medically or emotionally unstable individuals, situations requiring rapid adaptations, the provision of CPR, or other emergency interventions.
- Ability to prioritize multiple tasks, integrate information and make decisions.
- Ability to foster cooperative and collegial relationships with classmates, instructors, other health care providers, patients and their families.

**Critical Thinking:** Candidate must possess sufficient abilities in the areas of calculation, critical problem solving, reasoning, and judgment to be able to comprehend and process information within the time frame of a session of physical therapy interventions. Candidate must be able to prioritize, organize and attend to tasks and responsibilities efficiently. This includes, but is not limited to-

- Ability to collect, interpret and analyze written, verbal and observed data about patients.
- Ability to prioritize multiple tasks, integrate information and make decisions.
- Ability to apply knowledge of the principles, indications, and contraindications for physical therapy interventions, including those for therapeutic interventions related to human pathology and disability, therapeutic modalities, therapeutic massage, pulmonary hygiene, physical and functional measures, and for therapeutic exercise.
- Ability to act safely and ethically in the physical therapy lab and clinic.

The capstone experiences of this educational program occurs during the final semester, with the candidate providing physical therapy interventions in clinic settings under the supervision of physical therapists and presenting research projects. The candidate must have the capacity to complete eight hour days, and 40 hour weeks, of participation in clinical education experiences which run for 7 weeks each. The clinical education experience provides for a truly integrative measure of the candidate's capabilities. Modification to the clinic's work schedule is at the discretion of the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Experience (ACCE).

People with disabilities who are otherwise-qualified will not be denied admission to the program if they can perform these essential functions with reasonable accommodations.



**Essential Skills**  
**for Candidates to the University of Maine at Presque Isle**  
**Physical Therapist Assistant Program**

I \_\_\_\_\_ can perform the essential functions listed above:  
(student name)

- \_\_\_\_\_ with reasonable accommodations
- \_\_\_\_\_ without reasonable accommodations

Candidates for the Physical Therapist Assistant Program are required to certify that these standards have been provided to them, and any questions have been addressed.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidates to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program who have questions or concerns about these requirements are encouraged to contact the director of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program at (207)768-9678, or at [matthew.papsadora@maine.edu](mailto:matthew.papsadora@maine.edu)

## **PTA Technical Phase Application Drug Test and Criminal Record Background Check Form**

Many health care facilities and school systems with which we contract for Clinical Educational Experience courses require criminal record background checks and/or drug tests before allowing the student access to the facility. It is the student's responsibility to pay for and complete these screenings. If a positive criminal background/drug test is received, the college cannot guarantee that the clinical site will allow the student access to the facility for clinical affiliation. Furthermore, the college cannot guarantee that another clinical site will be found, nor can the college guarantee that the student will be able to complete the PTA program.

In most states, the graduate must obtain a license prior to working as a physical therapist assistant. The licensing agency in the jurisdiction may require a criminal background check prior to issuing a license and may deny a license based on these results.

The prospective student is encouraged to discuss any concerns with the program director prior to acceptance into the PTA program.

By the signature below, the prospective student understands his/her responsibility to participate in and pay for a drug test/criminal background check prior to attending Clinical Educational Experience courses. By the signature below, the prospective student also understands the consequences of a positive drug test/criminal background check to completion of the PTA program and eventual licensure.

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Signature

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Date

For questions related to the PTA program please contact the PTA program director Matthew Papsadora, PT at [matthew.papsadora@maine.edu](mailto:matthew.papsadora@maine.edu) (207) 768-9678

**UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT PRESQUE ISLE**  
**PTA PROGRAM**  
**APPLICANT REFERENCE FORM**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANT:** Please fill in your name and program, and give this form to a person (preferably an employer or teacher) whom you feel has known you for a length of time and can adequately evaluate your potential for career training at our University. References are required **PRIOR** TO consideration for admission to the technical phase of the program. Please also sign the Waiver of Confidentiality on the reverse side if you wish to waive your right to review this form.

\_\_\_\_\_ is applying for admission to the physical therapist assistant program at the  
 (Applicant's Name)

University of Maine at Presque Isle. Your thoughtful and frank estimate of this candidate's qualification will be most helpful in consideration for admission and will be treated as confidential if waived by the applicant and used only by the program faculty and staff. Please feel free to add any comments you may desire.

	<b><u>CANDIDATE'S PROFILE</u></b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Better Than Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Below Average</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>N/A</b>
1.	Work ethic/productivity						
2.	Enthusiasm/ambition						
3.	Professionalism						
4.	Ability to communicate						
5.	Honesty/ Integrity						
6.	Responsibility						
7.	Organizational skills						
8.	Knowledge of the profession						
9.	Ability to handle stress						

Please feel free to write any additional or supporting comments you may have regarding this applicant below or attach a written statement.

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How suitable is this applicant for a career as a physical therapist assistant?

\_\_\_\_\_ Excellent      \_\_\_\_\_ Very Good      \_\_\_\_\_ Fair      \_\_\_\_\_ Poor      \_\_\_\_\_ Unsure

**Print Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position/Agency:** \_\_\_\_\_

**IF YOU ARE THE APPLICANT'S EMPLOYER, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:**

Date of applicant's employment: \_\_\_\_\_ (month/year) to \_\_\_\_\_ (month/year)

Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_ Quality of Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you Re-employ: \_\_\_\_\_ If Not, Why: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER OF CONFIDENTIALITY**

**Applicant:** If you wish to waive your right to review this reference, please sign the statement below.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ wish to waive my right to review this reference form after it has been completed.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(If applicant is under 18)

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**UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT PRESQUE ISLE  
PTA PROGRAM  
PHYSICAL THERAPY OBSERVATION HOURS VERIFICATION FORM**

As part of the admissions process to the physical therapist assistant program at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, all students are required to job shadow a licensed PT or PTA providing services in a physical therapy setting. There are no knowledge or skill competency requirements as the purpose of the observation is to ensure that the student has a realistic perspective regarding the profession. ***The potential PTA student should, however, present him or herself responsibly and abide by all clinical site rules in order to submit acceptable hours. This form can be submitted directly to the program director at the address listed below.***

PTA Program applicant's Name:					
Facility name/location/type:					
Dates prospective student job shadowed ( <i>must be within the last 5 years</i> ):					
Total hours of observation (Total <b><i>minimum</i></b> hours needed for program application = 25):					
Please comment on the following student qualities:					
	<b>Poor</b>		<b>Average</b>		<b>Excellent</b>
Communication/Engagement:	1	2	3	4	5
Attire/presentation:	1	2	3	4	5
Hygiene:	1	2	3	4	5
Time Management/punctuality:	1	2	3	4	5
Would you recommend this student for the PTA Program?	YES		NO		N/A

Comments:

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Supervising PT or PTA name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email and/or phone # for verification purposes: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## Immunizations Requirements

\_\_\_\_\_ **MLT Program**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ **Physical Therapy Assistant**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Exercise Science**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ **Social Work**

The following form must be completed and signed by a Medical Provider. UMPI and Maine State Law requires that the following be completed. (Please print legibly.)

**Student's Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_

1 **Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis**      Booster within the last 10 years. \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

2 **MMR (Rubeola, Rubella, Mumps) - First dose must be after first birthday.**

Date of first dose: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of second dose (required): \_\_\_\_\_

**Or split series:**

MMR #1	_____	_____	_____
	Date	Titer Date	Results

MMR #2	_____	_____	_____
	Date	Titer Date	Results

3 **Hepatitis B Series**

	Injection 1 Date	_____
	Injection 2 Date	_____
	Injection 3 Date	_____
Titer Results:	_____	_____
	Date	Results

4 **Varicella Titer**

_____	_____
Date	Results

If titer negative (not immune), Varivax injections required

Varivax 1 _____		Varivax 2 _____
Date		Date

5 **Tuberculin Test (PPD)**

**Step 1:**

_____	_____	_____
Type	Date Administered	Signature

_____	_____	_____
Date Read	Results	Signature

**Step 2:**

_____	_____	_____
Type	Date Administered	Signature

_____	_____	_____
Date Read	Results	Signature

Signature of Physician/Health Care Professional \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_