

OVERVIEW

Physical Therapist Assistant

Physical Therapist Assistants (PTAs) help patients who have movement difficulties due to injury or disease, by assisting the physical therapist with therapies designed to improve mobility, relieve pain, prevent or limit permanent physical disability and promote overall fitness and wellness. Patients value the individualized, "hands-on" approach that characterizes physical therapy care. The vast majority of PTAs, approximately 72%, work in hospitals or privately owned physical therapy practices. Others work in home health settings, schools, and rehab units. This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting Disability Support Services at 253-833-9111, ext. 2631; TTY 253-288-3359; or by email at dss@greenriver.edu. Green River College is an equal opportunity educator and employer. Learn more at www.greenriver.edu/accessibility

ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY- MUST BE FULLY COMPLETE

- Apply to Green River College: <https://www.greenriver.edu/students/academics/getting-started/>. Once an application is submitted, a Green River Student identification (ID) number will be issued through the applicants Green River email.
- Color copy of valid photo ID that includes driver's license or any state-issued photo ID.
- Complete the PTA Application Essential Functions Acknowledgment. Refer to page 6.
- Resume: Submit a one-page resume describing the specific activities and responsibilities of previous experience – do not just list them. The font size needs to be 12 points Arial or Times New Roman with 1-inch margins across the page.
- Essay: Submit a one-page (front and back) essay Refer to page 4.
- Job Shadowing: Submit a minimum of 20 hours of job shadowing per setting for two different physical therapy settings. Competitive applicants will complete three different settings (home health, outpatient, skilled nursing facility, hospital, rehab center, school, etc.). Complete the PT/PTA Verification and Recommendation form for each setting. Refer to pages 4 & 7.
- Personal health insurance: Provide a copy of most current medical insurance card.
- Fill out background check form. Do not run a background check. Refer to page 5.
- Submit official transcript(s) from every college or university that include prerequisites for the PTA program (except Green River College). Transcript evaluation can take up to 6-8 weeks. Transcripts sent by mail must remain in the original sealed envelope unopened if mailed. Refer to pages 1, 2 and 9.

Applications will be accepted beginning 3/05/19 & must be received by 4 p.m. on 4/05/2019.

(Must be in a sealed envelope & NO email applications will be accepted)

Applicants will be notified of acceptance into the program during the week of 5/06/2019. Admitted students are required to attend a mandatory orientation session. Those who fail to attend may forfeit their seat to the next applicant on the waitlist.

EVALUATION & SCORING

Prerequisite courses

Applicants must complete the following prerequisites before admission into the program. **Only one course may be in progress or pending during the spring quarter.** Most prerequisite courses must be taken within seven years of starting the Physical Therapist Assistant Program. Applicants must have a minimum grade of a 2.5 (B-) in each prerequisite to be eligible to apply. Repeat policy includes all grades below 2.5 (B-) from all colleges attended. **Repeated course(s), withdrawals, pending prerequisite, and inconsistent academic performance may make applications less competitive,** but are still welcome.

Course Title	Green River Course	Specific Information
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English Composition	Engl& 101	No Expiration date
Speech Communication	CMST 100 or CMST& 210 or CMST& 220 & or CMST 230 & or CMST 238	No Expiration date
Math one of the following	Any of these courses will satisfy the requirement: Math& 107, Math& 146, Math& 141, Math& 142, Math& 151, Math& 152, Math& 153, Math& 171	No Expiration date
<u>Choose from the following sequences: #</u>		
**The two-quarter sequence of AP 103 & 104 OR BIOL 241 & 242 must be taken at the same level and from the same college		
Human Anatomy and Physiology 1 **	AP 103	Completed within 7 years from the date of application
Human Anatomy and Physiology 2 **	AP 104	Completed within 7 years from the date of application
Other schools may offer the BIOL 241 & 242 series, and this series is intended for students interested in pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree		
Anatomy and Physiology 1**	BIOL& 241	Completed within 7 years from the date of application
Anatomy and Physiology 2**	BIOL& 242	Completed within 7 years from the date of application
# Central Washington University courses (EXSCI 350, EXSCI 350Lab, EXSCI 351 and EXSCI 351Lab) and Washington State University courses (KINES/MVTST 262 and KINES/MVTST 380) meet the AP 1 and AP 2 TA degree requirement at GRC.		

Scoring

Applications will be evaluated for minimum eligibility and then ranked based on the four categories listed below. Each category is carefully considered and valuable in the application process. **Final admission to the program depends on the results of the following:** prerequisites, essay, job shadowing, resume, pending Washington State Patrol, and pending background check.

1. Prerequisite GPA (50% of application score): After grades for any in-progress courses are received, the GPA for prerequisite courses will be calculated. One course may be in progress during the spring at the time of application.
2. Essay (20% of application score): Submit a one-page essay front and back. Refer to page 5.
3. Job Shadowing (20% of application score): Submit a minimum of 20 hours of job shadowing per setting for two different physical therapy settings. Complete the PT/PTA Verification and Recommendation form for each setting. Competitive applicants will complete three different settings (home health, outpatient, skilled nursing facility, hospital, rehab center, school, etc.) Refer to pages 4 & 7.
4. Resume (10% of application score): Submit a one-page resume describing the specific activities and responsibilities of previous experience. The font size needs to be 12 points Arial or Times New Roman with 1-inch margins across the page.

FUNDING

Workforce Education: <https://www.greenriver.edu/students/academics/workforce/>

Workforce Education programs provide financial support to help connect students with a path into a high-demand, high wage career. If eligible, Workforce Education Grants may provide funding for tuition, books, childcare, transportation, and specialized tools/equipment. Students must meet with a Workforce Education Coordinator to determine eligibility.

Grants and Scholarships: Please refer to the Green River College website for funding options.

FAFSA: <https://www.greenriver.edu/students/pay-for-college/financial-aid/>

Green River Foundation Scholarships: <https://www.greenrivercollegefoundation.org/applynow>

Washington State Scholarship: <https://www.greenrivercollegefoundation.org/scholarships/otherfunding>

COST

Green River Tuition per credit-in state	\$108 per credit
Green River Tuition per credit-out of state	\$122 per credit
Supplies, Books, and Misc.	\$2387.50 and up
Washington State application & National State Exam License	250.00-300.00
Approximate Total- Cost based on 82 program credits	In- State: \$ 11,379 Out- State:\$ 12,244

Please refer to the Green River College website for the current tuition rates and fees:

<https://www.greenriver.edu/students/academics/getting-started/tuition-fees/>

NOTIFICATION & MANDATORY ORIENTATION

Students assume all responsibility for reviewing and following instructions. There will be no exceptions to the admission process. **Applications will be accepted beginning 3/05/19 and must be received no later than 4 p.m. on 4/05/19.** Late or incomplete requests will be denied. Applicants will be notified of acceptance into the program during the week of 5/6/19.

The notification will be done through your Green River student email. Some applicants may **only receive conditional acceptance** if any of the following apply: in the process of taking prerequisites, pending Washington State Patrol and, and pending background check. **Admitted students are required to attend a mandatory orientation session.** Tentative date for this will be at the end of 2019 spring quarter. Those who fail to attend forfeit their seat to the next applicant on the waitlist. Mail or hand deliver the application in a 9 x 12-inch envelope to:

**Green River College
Enrollment Services
c/o: Admission/ PTA Application
12401 SE 320th St.
Auburn, WA. 98092-3622**

SIGNATURE- Please initial the following

By indicating below, I verify that this application packet for the Physical Therapist Assistant Program is accurate and has been completed to the best of my knowledge. I at this moment authorize Green River College to perform criminal background checks, maintain the record(s) until I graduate or withdraw from the program, and share the information as requested by clinical sites. Any questionable things in my past can prevent me from completing clinical and therefore, without clinical I cannot complete this program. I understand that I may request a reasonable accommodation to meet the standards.

I activated my Green River student email and will be checking it regularly. _____ Initial

1. Additional documentation may be required for PTA Program students to participate in clinical, which is required for completion of the PTA program. Documentation may include but is not limited to:

- Tuberculosis screening, verification of immunizations, and health insurance
- Background Check, drug screen/test, and fingerprinting
- Must be current Healthcare Provider BLS card certified by the American Heart Association
- HIPAA Training (included in PTA coursework) and auto insurance

Name: _____ Green River Student ID: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Green River Email: _____ Phone: _____

Current Email: _____

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING PAGES IN YOUR APPLICATIONS: 4, AND 5-8

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Job Shadowing: Please have a PT or PTA complete the Verification and Recommendation form for each setting. **The job shadowing form is located on page 7 and must come in a sealed envelope from the facility.** Competitive applicants complete three different settings but no more than four total (home health, outpatient, skilled nursing facility, hospital, rehab center, school, etc). Some hospitals will only allow you to do 8 hours total at their site. For help finding sites, use the American Physical Therapy Association website: <http://www.apta.org/>

ESSAY: Complete a comprehensive essay outlining significant aspects of what is leading you to the field of being a physical therapist assistant. Include information about your background or extenuating circumstances relative to your application, such as reasons for a low GPA during a particular quarter/semester. Do not provide the same information that you provided elsewhere in your application. Please touch on the following points:

Academic Experience and Interests: Connect your academic experiences and interests to the program. You may also want to include personal qualities that make you a competitive candidate. Be sure to back up those statements with specific examples that illustrate your skills.

Extracurricular Experiences: Highlight any leadership or team roles, work experience, academic project, skills or experiences you have acquired (work, training, certification, research, internship) that are worth mentioning. Do not merely describe experiences; write about how those experiences have developed your skills and interests. Relate those experiences to your goals.

Career Goals: Indicate how the training from this program may affect your future. You do not have to map your life out in detail; identify some general goals.

Accommodations

Candidates for the Physical Therapy are required to certify that these standards have been provided to them. Applicants who need accommodations to meet standards may request accommodations. Eligibility for accommodations is identified through the Disability Support Services office. Additional information about requesting accommodation is available at greenriver.edu/DSS.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Background check- All background checks must be completed and turned in with your application. **Do not pay to run the background check.** We will contact you when it is appropriate for us to run a background check. Clinical fieldwork is integrated throughout the program and is required for all students. Placement can occur but is not limited to, the following settings: long-term care, rehabilitation care, outpatient clinics, school districts, pediatric clinics, hospitals, and home health. A criminal background limits or prevents Community Lab/clinical placement and employability. If you have cause for concern regarding criminal history outcome or any charges related to vulnerable populations (i.e., children, vulnerable adults), contact American Physical Therapy Association <http://www.apta.org/> and the **Department of the Health (DOH)** <https://www.doh.wa.gov/> to receive clarification about the background as it pertains to license. Final admission to the program is dependent upon the results of this background check. **See Washington State DSHS Secretary's List of Crimes and Negative Actions forms**

CHILD/ADULT ABUSE INFORMATION ACT- RCW 43.43.830 THROUGH 43.43.845

All students who will be placed in practicum education sites for Green River College's health occupation programs are requested to complete the below Washington State Patrol Abuse Clearance section. The purpose of this abuse clearance is to assure the safety and well-being of patients, clients, and children who come into contact with students. Practicum education sites are expecting that Green River students will not pose undue risks to the safety of patients/children.

The Washington State Patrol, abuse clearance request, is for the following:

"Child/Adult Abuse Information: Response limited to convictions against children or other persons, dependency proceedings, abuse of vulnerable adults, and DOL disciplinary board final decisions and any subsequent criminal charges associated with the conduct that is the subject of the disciplinary board final decision." Please be aware that information on other felony and misdemeanor convictions may be reported from the state patrol office. This abuse clearance is used only for the purpose of practicum education placement, determination and further dissemination or use of the record is prohibited.

As stated earlier, all students are **required** to complete this form. Any student choosing not to complete this process must be aware that the ability of faculty to arrange practicum education experiences will be severely restricted and in some instances impossible. A large number of facilities require proof of this clearance before students are allowed to participate in any practicum activities.

- I have read and understood this information about the Washington State Patrol Abuse Clearance.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please print

Last name: _____ First name: _____

Middle name: _____ Date of birth ____/____/____

Alias/maiden name: _____

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS FOR THE PTA

Becoming a physical therapist assistant requires the completion of an education program that is both intellectually and physically challenging. Each candidate in this Associate in Applied Science degree program should possess the following abilities and skills. The ability to meet these standards with or without reasonable accommodation does not guarantee employment upon graduation.

1. Demonstrate the ability to effectively articulate and interpret information to patients, family members, other health care professionals and third party payers as appropriate.
2. Demonstrate the ability to recognize, interpret, and respond to the nonverbal behavior of self and others.
3. Demonstrate visual acuity and auditory ability to assess the condition of a patient and administer effective patient care.
4. Demonstrate manual dexterity, eye-hand coordination, fine and gross motor skills and physical ability to perform functions as directed by the physical therapist and following skills outlined in section three of the Evaluative Criteria for the Accreditation of Physical Therapist Assistant Education Programs (see Program Director for more information).
5. Work in stressful situations that require quick thinking, effective communication and the simultaneous coordination of a variety of activities.
6. Demonstrate physical agility to respond to patient and family needs, including unexpected changes in the patient's status.
7. Demonstrate the physical ability to assist patients in ambulating, positioning in bed and transferring from the bed/mat, wheelchair, car, or other appropriate surfaces.
8. Demonstrate proper body mechanics for lifting.
9. Lift objects more than 100 pounds with assistance with frequent lifting and /or carrying objects weighing 50 pounds or more.
10. Tolerate prolonged standing, stooping, squatting, bending, pushing and pulling.
11. Demonstrate the ability to effectively and efficiently read, write, understand and speak English.
12. Demonstrate effective verbal and non-verbal communication skills with internal and external customers.

Graduates who are unable to perform these functions, with or without reasonable accommodations, may be unsafe and unsuccessful as a provider of physical therapy services.

Please sign and return the next page of the document to the admissions coordinator with the application packet. It is a required part of a complete application packet.

Name: _____ Green River Student ID: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

JOB SHADOW FORM
This Section to be completed by the Applicant

Applicant's Name: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

Date Range of Employment or Shadowing/Volunteering: _____ to: _____

Number of Hours Completed _____

- Check this box if you have previously applied to the PTA program within the past year. (Previous Job Shadow forms can be used if application was submitted within the past year; no need to resubmit forms). Please confirm that your forms are on file by contacting Healthoccadmissions@greenriver.edu

Check One:

- I waive the right to view this recommendation/verification form in my file at Green River College.
 I do not wish to waive this right; I want to retain the right to view this letter in my file at Green River College if I am admitted into the PTA program.

The next section is to be completed by the practitioner who supervised the applicant's job shadow, volunteer, or paid work experience. After completion, the form should be placed in a **sealed envelope with the practitioner's signature across the seal**. The completed form should then be submitted with the application packet. Practitioners are welcome to attach a letter of recommendation with this form as well.

This Section to be completed by Practitioner

Please rate the applicant on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 representing excellence and 1 representing unsatisfactory performance. Applicant arrives promptly and /or notifies supervisor if unable to attend experience at a prearranged time.

- _____ Applicant's appearance is neat, clean, and appropriate for the clinical setting.
_____ Applicant demonstrates an interest in the physical therapy profession.
_____ Applicant asks questions appropriately.
_____ Applicant communicates effectively with staff and patients.
_____ Applicant demonstrates initiative to increase learning.

Based on my supervision of this individual I:

- _____ highly recommend this applicant for a career in physical therapy
_____ recommend this applicant for a career in physical therapy
_____ recommend this applicant for a career in physical therapy with reservations
_____ do not recommend this applicant for a career in physical therapy

Comments: _____

Name of Organization _____

Supervisor's Name & Position Title: _____

Supervisor's Email Address: _____

Setting: IP/Acute OP/Ortho ECF/SNF Other

I verify that the above applicant has completed hours of job shadow/ volunteer/ paid work experience

Supervisor Signature & Credentials _____

Date _____

Transcript form EVALUATION REQUEST- LPN/OTA/PTA

INSTRUCTIONS- If you did not complete all of the prerequisites here at Green River College or have not had your transcript official evaluated already, and then please fill out the information below. Green River College does NOT evaluate faxed or previously opened transcripts. As we wait for your official, please attach your unofficial.

Request transcript by mail

- Request your official transcript to be sent by mail, then please place your "Official Transcript" (sealed in the original envelope) in this application from all institutions or sent it to **Enrollment Services**

Request transcript electronically

- Send your official transcript electronically, request it to be sent to **Enrollment Services**

Enrollment Services Address: Green River College Enrollment Services c/o: Admission/OTA Application 12401 SE 320th St. Auburn, WA. 98092-3622

List ALL institutions to be evaluated:

Name	How was it Sent (email or electronically)	What date did you do request the form (mm/year)
1. _____		
2. _____		
3. _____		
4. _____		

DOUBLE CHECK- Make sure you have the below information in your package

- Color copy of valid photo ID that includes driver's license or any state-issued photo ID.
- Complete the PTA Application Essential Functions Acknowledgment. Refer to page 6.
- Resume: Submit a one-page resume describing the specific activities and responsibilities of previous experience – do not just list them. The font size needs to be 12 points Arial or Times New Roman with 1-inch margins across the page.
- Essay: Submit a one-page (front and back) essay Refer to page 4.
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