

**MURRAY STATE COLLEGE  
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM**

**Program Evaluation**

Assessment is part of a systematic and formal approach to continuous improvement. The program has in place an ongoing process to determine the effectiveness of the program. Student input into the assessment process is very important.

On the **scantron form** provided by program director, use the scale below to indicate your belief regarding each of the following:

- A = Strongly agree
- B = Agree
- C = Disagree
- D = Strongly disagree

**If you score a C or D, please provide specific comments on back of this page.**

1. The policies and procedures identified in the student guidebook presented to me at the beginning of the program were clear and understood.
2. The program policies and procedures supported the mission and philosophy of the institution.
3. The program policies and procedures supported my progression in the program.
4. The program resources including equipment and learning aids that provided adequate learning opportunities for me to progress in the program.
5. The program outcomes, course outcomes, and unit outcomes were clearly linked together to provide effective learning.
6. The curriculum (overall program of learning) was well organized and provided a logical progression.
7. The curriculum progressed so that I could learn more basic information first and progress to more difficult information.
8. The instructional objectives (outcomes) were comprehensive and covered the material expected of the student.
9. The instructional objectives required in courses were beneficial in preparing me for clinical experiences.
10. The program faculty utilizes a variety of effective methods to measure students' achievement of the objectives (ie: tests, assignments, checkouts).
11. The program faculty determined that I was competent and safe to progress through the curriculum before going to a clinical education experience.

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12. The physical therapist assistant curriculum includes, or its prerequisites include, elements of general education, including basic sciences that include biological, physical, physiological, and anatomical principles, and applied physical therapy science.
13. The course work is designed to prepare the student to think independently, to clarify values, to understand fundamental theory, and to develop critical thinking and communication skills.
14. The technical education component of the curriculum includes learning experiences to prepare the entry-level physical therapist assistant to work under the direction and supervision of the physical therapist.
15. The technical education component of the curriculum includes learning experiences to prepare the entry-level physical therapist assistant to communicate verbally and non-verbally with the patient, the physical therapist, health care delivery personnel, and others in an effective, appropriate, and capable manner.
16. The technical education component of the curriculum includes learning experiences to prepare the entry-level physical therapist assistant to recognize individual and cultural differences and responds appropriately in all aspects of physical therapy services.
17. The technical education component of the curriculum includes learning experiences to prepare the entry-level physical therapist assistant to exhibit conduct that reflects a commitment to meet the expectations of members of society receiving health care services.
18. The technical education component of the curriculum includes learning experiences to prepare the entry-level physical therapist assistant to exhibit conduct that reflects a commitment to meet the expectations of members of the profession of physical therapy.
19. The technical education component of the curriculum includes learning experiences to prepare the entry-level physical therapist assistant to exhibit conduct that reflects practice standards that are legal, ethical and safe.
20. The technical education component of the curriculum includes learning experiences to prepare the entry-level physical therapist assistant to communicate an understanding of the plan of care developed by the physical therapist to achieve short and long term goals and intended outcomes.

The technical education component of the curriculum includes learning experiences to prepare the entry-level physical therapist assistant to demonstrate competence in implementing selected components of interventions identified in the plan of care established by the physical therapist. Please respond on each intervention.

#### Functional Training

21. activities of daily living
22. assistive / adaptive devices
23. body mechanics
24. developmental activities
25. gait and locomotion training
26. prosthetics and orthotics
27. wheelchair management skills

#### Infection Control Procedures

28. isolation techniques
29. sterile technique

#### Manual Therapy Techniques

30. passive range of motion
31. therapeutic massage

(21 through 84)

A = Strongly agree that the curriculum prepared the student for entry-level competence.

B = Agree

C = Disagree - Curriculum did not prepare student for entry-level competence.

D = Strongly disagree.

#### Physical Agents and Mechanical Agents

32. athermal agents
33. biofeedback
34. compression therapies
35. cryotherapy
36. electrotherapeutic agents
37. hydrotherapy
38. superficial and deep thermal agents
39. traction

#### Therapeutic Exercise

40. aerobic conditioning
41. balance and coordination training
42. breathing exercises and coughing techniques
43. conditioning and reconditioning
44. posture awareness training
45. range of motion exercises
46. stretching exercises
47. strengthening exercises

#### Wound Management

48. application and removal of dressing or agents
49. identification of precautions for dressing removal

The technical education component of the curriculum includes learning experiences to prepare the entry-level physical therapist assistant to demonstrate competency in performing components of data collection skills essential for carrying out the plan of care. Please respond to each data collection skill. (50 – 84)

#### Aerobic Capacity and Endurance

- 50. measures standard vital signs
- 51. recognizes and monitors responses to positional changes and activities
- 52. observes and monitors thoracoabdominal movements and breathing patterns with activity

#### Anthropometrical Characteristics

- 53. measures height, weight, length and girth

#### Arousal, Mentation and Cognition

- 54. recognizes changes in the direction and magnitude of patient's state of arousal, mentation and cognition

#### Assistive, Adaptive, Orthotic, Protective, Supportive, and Prosthetic Devices

- 55. identifies the individual's and caregiver's ability to care for the device
- 56. recognizes changes in skin condition while using devices and equipment
- 57. recognizes safety factors while using the device

(21 through 84)

A = Strongly agree that the curriculum prepared the student for entry-level competence.

B = Agree

C = Disagree - Curriculum did not prepare student for entry-level competence.

D = Strongly disagree.

#### Gait, Locomotion, and Balance

- 58. describes the safety, status, and progression of patients while engaged in gait, locomotion, balance, wheelchair management and mobility

#### Integumentary Integrity

- 59. recognizes absent or altered sensation
- 60. recognizes normal and abnormal integumentary changes
- 61. recognizes activities, positioning, and postures that aggravate or relieve pain or altered sensations, or that can produce associated skin trauma
- 62. recognizes viable versus nonviable tissue

#### Joint Integrity and Mobility

- 63. recognizes normal and abnormal joint movement

#### Muscle Performance

- 64. measures muscle strength by manual muscle testing
- 65. observes the presence or absence of muscle mass
- 66. recognizes normal and abnormal muscle length
- 67. recognizes changes in muscle tone

#### Neuromotor Development

- 68. recognizes gross motor milestones
- 69. recognizes fine motor milestones
- 70. recognizes righting and equilibrium reactions

#### Pain

- 71. administers standardized questionnaires, graphs, behavioral scales, or visual analog scales for pain
- 72. recognizes activities, positioning, and postures that aggravate or relieve pain or altered sensations

#### Posture

- 73. describes resting posture in any position
- 74. recognizes alignment of trunk and extremities at rest and during activities

#### Range of Motion

- 75. measures functional range of motion
- 76. measures range of motion using a goniometer

#### Self-care and Home Management and Community or Work Reintegration

- 77. inspects the physical environment and measures physical space
- 78. recognizes safety and barriers in home, community and work environments
- 79. recognizes level of functional status
- 80. administers standardized questionnaires to patients and others

#### Ventilation, Respiration and Circulation Examination

- 81. recognizes cyanosis
- 82. recognizes activities that aggravate or relieve edema, pain, dyspnea, or other symptoms
- 83. describes chest wall expansion and excursion
- 84. describes cough and sputum characteristics

A = Strongly agree

B = Agree

C = Disagree

D = Strongly disagree

#### **If you score a C or D, please provide specific comments on back of this page.**

- 85. I can appropriately adjust interventions within the plan of care established by the physical therapist in response to patient clinical indications and report this to the supervising physical therapist.
- 86. I can effectively recognize when intervention should not be provided due to changes in the patient's status and report this to the supervising physical therapist.
- 87. I can report any changes in the patient's status to the supervising physical therapist through appropriate communication and documentation.

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**If you score a C or D, please provide specific comments on back of this page.**

- 88. I can effectively recognize when the direction to perform an intervention is beyond that which is appropriate for a physical therapist assistant and initiates clarification with the physical therapist.
- 89. I can participate in educating patients and caregivers as directed by the supervising physical therapist.
- 90. I can effectively provide patient-related instruction to patients, family members, and caregivers to achieve patient outcomes based on the plan of care established by the physical therapist.
- 91. I believe the program has prepared me to take appropriate action in emergency situations.
- 92. Completes thorough, accurate, logical, concise, timely, and legible documentation that follows guidelines and specific documentation formats required by state practice acts, the practice setting, and other regulatory agencies.
- 93. I can effectively participate in discharge planning and follow-up as directed by the supervising physical therapist within the appropriate role of the PTA.
- 94. I can read and understand the health care literature.

**Education**

- 95. Under the direction and supervision of the physical therapist, I can instruct other members of the health care team using established techniques, programs, and instructional materials commensurate with the learning characteristics of the audience.
- 96. The PTA program has prepared me to effectively educate others about the role of the physical therapist assistant.

**Administration**

- 97. I can interact with other members of the health care team in patient-care and non-patient care activities effectively.
- 98. I can provide accurate and timely information for billing and reimbursement purposes as required by the clinical facility.
- 99. I understand and can describe aspects of organizational planning and operation of the physical therapy service in a variety of settings.

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**If you score a C or D, please provide specific comments on back of this page.**

- 100. I can participate in performance improvement activities, such as quality assurance activities.

Social Responsibility

- 101. I believe the program has prepared me to demonstrate a commitment to meeting the needs of the patients and consumers.
- 102. I have an awareness of social responsibility, citizenship, and advocacy, including participation in community and service organizations and activities. The program prepared me for this by placing emphasis on the three roles of provider, member of team, and member of profession.
- 103. I can identify career development and lifelong learning opportunities and activities.
- 104. I can recognize the role of the physical therapist assistant in the clinical education of physical therapist assistant students.
- 105. I plan to participate in clinical education of students in the future as I grow in confidence, skill, and experience.
- 106. The clinical education component of the MSC PTA program curriculum included organized and sequential experiences coordinated with the didactic component of the curriculum.
- 107. Clinical experiences selected by the program provided me with appropriate role modeling and an opportunity to interact with individuals with impairments common to the clinical setting.

Murray State College Learning Outcomes (108 through 118)

The following are outcomes for all students who attend Murray State College. These are not specific to the PTA program; however we do need to know how you feel the PTA program curriculum contributed to your attainment of these outcomes.

A Murray State College graduate will:

108. Communicate effectively in speaking and in writing.
109. Develop an awareness of the importance of literature and of the visual and performing arts.
110. Demonstrate a general knowledge of the history and political system of the United States.
111. Understand the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle.
112. Demonstrate progress in human understanding and in the assumption of civic and social responsibility.
113. Exhibit a mature work ethic.
114. Recognize and accept human diversities in modern society.
115. Demonstrate critical thinking skills and/or problem solving skills.
116. Understand the basic content and methods of the various disciplines of the arts and the sciences.
117. Demonstrate mastery of the reasoning skills required for quantitative and scientific courses.
118. Demonstrate the ability to utilize technological resources.

THANK YOU