

**2011 – 2012
PTA INFORMATION PACKET**

**ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT**

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program is a two-year program of study that prepares students to work within the practice of physical therapy under the supervision of a physical therapist. PTAs are employed in hospitals, clinics, rehabilitation centers, extended care facilities, home health agencies and other health care settings. Admission to the program is selective and competitive. Upon satisfactory completion of the program, students are awarded the Associate of Applied Science Degree and are eligible to write the PTA licensure examination.

FIRST YEAR

First Semester	Second Semester
Physical Science Survey I English Composition I Anatomy and Physiology I General Psychology Fundamental Concepts of Physical Therapy Health Care Experience I Seminar	College Algebra Principles of Speech Anatomy and Physiology II PTA Fundamental Skills PTA Kinesiology Humanities/Fine Arts Elective Seminar

SUMMER

Therapeutic Modalities Electrotherapy Clinical Education I

SECOND YEAR

First Semester	Second Semester
Therapeutic Exercise I Therapeutic Exercise II Pathology Seminar	Clinical Education II Clinical Education III Clinical Education IV Seminar

** Advanced placement credit and/or College Level Examination Program (CLEP) will not substitute for program coursework.

*** Standard for Progression: A grade of "C" or higher is required in each Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) course with an overall 2.00 GPA (a "C" average on the 4.00 scale) to progress in the program.

A student may complete some or all academic core courses prior to program admission; however, the course of study will remain two years. If accepted into the program, a student must remain enrolled full time (12 or more semester hours credit, excluding summer term) each semester.

Applications will be accepted through May 1, 2012. Each applicant must complete both college "General Admission Procedures" and ALL PTA program application forms. (INCLUDES TRANSCRIPTS) Each is outlined below. Application must be complete to be considered. Receipt of transcripts and ACT score verification should be completed by the Admissions office and verification of all other forms by the PTA Program.**

General Admission Procedure

The applicant must submit:

1. A MCC application for admission; If not a current MCC student.
2. A high school transcript or General Educational Development (GED) test transcript. You must have graduated from an **accredited** high school or must provide documentation of passing the GED test;
3. Official transcripts from **every** college you attended if you are transferring to MCC;
4. Your scores on the American College Test (ACT). Note that a Residual ACT will NOT be accepted.

Program Application

The applicant must also submit the attached forms and documents:

1. PTA Reference Forms;
2. Verification of Observation;
3. Autobiographical Essay.
4. Information Sheet

The PTA Admissions Committee will select each class from the pool of applicants who meet minimum admission requirements. Any application with incomplete records will not be considered for admission. The admission process is competitive and completion of minimum requirements is not a guarantee of admission. Admission is competitive and an admission point system is utilized based on ACT score, GPA, essay and interview. Priority consideration will be given to those students having completed program and/or general coursework at MCC.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Meridian Community College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA).

The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education

Department of Accreditation

American Physical Therapy Association

1111 North Fairfax Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

Telephone: 703-706-3245

Website: www.apta.org/CAPTE

Meridian Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion or age in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. Compliance with Section 504 and Title IX is coordinated by Mrs. Soraya Welden, Dean of Student Services, 910 Highway 19 North, Meridian, MS 39307.

1-601-484-8628, Fax: 1-601-484-8635, email: swelden@meridiancc.edu.

** Deadline may be extended if needed until maximum enrollment met.

(Rev. 6/11)

MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
910 Highway 19 North
Meridian, MS 39307

INSTRUCTIONS TO PTA PROGRAM APPLICANTS

Deadline for submission of general and program application data is May 1, 2012. Early application is encouraged.

I. Program Application

All application information and forms must be mailed to the MCC Admissions Office at the above address using your full and complete legal name on all forms.

Program application will be considered **only** when **all** (includes transcripts) of the following materials have been received by the MCC Admissions office:

- A. Both "General Admission" and "Program Application" data as outlined previously;
- B. A recent photograph to be used for verification of records (optional). Please write your name on the back of the photograph;
- C. Official transcripts from all colleges attended must be sent directly to the MCC Admissions office. [Note: Most colleges and universities charge a nominal fee for this service. Please direct the official transcript to the Admissions Office at MCC.] Transcripts become the property of MCC and cannot be returned to an applicant or forwarded to another school or individual.

Any application with incomplete records will not be considered for admission.

II. Program Entrance Requirements

Minimum program entrance requirements to enter MCC's Physical Therapist Assistant program are:

- A. Attain an 18 or higher ACT composite score, (scores adjusted if ACT written prior to October 1989);

OR

- B. Attain a 16 or higher ACT composite and complete 18 semester hours of program general education coursework with an average of "C" or better from an accredited college or university. The 18 hours of coursework should be selected from the following:

- Physical Science Survey I
- Anatomy and Physiology I & II
- College Algebra
- English Composition I
- General Psychology
- Principles of Speech
- Humanities/Fine Arts elective

III. Admission Committee Notification

- A. Applicants considered academically prepared and meeting all admission criteria for MCC and the PTA Program will be interviewed;
- B. All applicants will receive written notification of acceptance or denial of admission.

Selected students meeting admission requirements will be invited for an interview which is one component of the selection process. Points granted at interview will be based on: (1) Verbal and non-verbal communication skills; and (2) Knowledge of the field of physical therapy. Evaluation of writing skills will be determined by the applicant's autobiographical essay. Program admission is competitive and based on a composite of all of the above components.

Applications will be taken through May 1, 2012 with interviews held during the month of May. If granted an interview, make sure a transcript of recent (especially spring semester grades) has been sent to the admissions office in addition to transcripts sent prior to deadline. This is vital for the admissions process. All applicants will be notified in writing, by mid to late June of their admission status.

NOTIFY THE MCC ADMISSIONS OFFICE PROMPTLY OF CHANGES IN MAILING ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE NUMBER. PLEASE CALL THE MCC ADMISSIONS OFFICE AT 601-483-8241 OR 1-800-MCC-THE1.

NOTE: After program admission and prior to the first day of class, students must present a physical examination, a CPR Healthcare Provider certification, and proof of immunization for MMR. A random drug screening, a Mantoux Two-Step TB Skin Test and background check will be scheduled after the beginning of classes.

Mississippi Law now requires healthcare professionals or occupational education students enrolled in programs whose primary purpose is to prepare professionals to render patient care services submit to criminal background checks and fingerprinting prior to beginning any clinical rotation in a licensed healthcare entity. If such fingerprinting or criminal background checks of the student discloses a felony conviction, guilty plea or plea of nolo contendere to a felony of possession or sale of drugs, murder, manslaughter, armed robbery, rape, sexual battery, sex offense listed in Section 45-31-3 (I), child abuse, arson, grand larceny, burglary, gratification of lust, aggravated assault or felonious abuse and/or battery of a vulnerable adult which has not been reversed on appeal or for which a pardon has not been granted, the student shall not be eligible to be admitted to such health program of study or will not be eligible to participate in clinical training in a licensed entity. The student's eligibility to participate in the clinical training phase of their healthcare program shall be voided if the student receives a disqualifying criminal record check.

In addition to the disqualifying events listed in Section 37-29-232 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 annotated, clinical affiliates may, at their discretion, refuse to provide clinical experiences to any student whom the clinical affiliate feels are not suitable for employment or for the clinical experience setting.

Any drug conviction; bodily harm, neglect or abuse, or felony DUI conviction within a year of starting date of class is cause for denial of the clinical experience setting. Any convictions more than a year beyond the starting date of class will be examined by the "Review Standards Committee" with a decision rendered if the student is allowed to participate in the clinical experience setting. Any charges pending a resolution will require documentation of disposition from the student.

Students in the Physical Therapist Assistant Program must attend MCC full-time (12 or more semester credit hours).

(Rev 6/11)

STUDENT APPLICANT REFERENCE FORM
MCC PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM
(Please print or type)

Directions to the Applicant: Admission into MCC's PTA program requires two references from two sources (one personal and one professional). Submit only the two required "Student Applicant Reference Form." The committee will not accept more than two references.

Applicant's Full Name _____ SS# _____

Your relationship to applicant:
(Teacher, Advisor, Employer, etc.) _____

Please evaluate the applicant according to these categories.

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unable to Assess
Ability to make decisions					
Ability to work with others					
Character (maturity, dependability)					
Initiative					
Ability to perform under stress					
Communication skills					

Please write a short statement about this applicant including any characteristics or qualities of this person which may affect his/her ability to be a physical therapist assistant.

Your Name _____

Business (if professional reference) _____

Your Address _____ Telephone _____

Date _____ Signature _____

Return to:
Meridian Community College
Kimberly Ennis
910 Highway 19 North
Meridian, MS 39307

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Name _____ SS# _____

Directions to the Applicant: Admission into MCC's PTA program requires observation in at least two different physical therapy departments for a combined total of sixteen hours. Observation hours should not be completed in two areas of the same hospital and no more than eight hours at a facility in which the applicant is employed. Additional hours of observation may be completed, but if only sixteen hours, then no more than eight hours at one facility. As long as the total is sixteen hours, then hours can be completed any combination from 2 or more facilities. Make as many copies of the two enclosed observation verification forms as is necessary to document additional observations. Observation hours must have been completed within one year prior to the admission deadline for consideration for the program.

Professional attire required for observation: Shirt must have collar (polo or golf shirt), pants (khakis, no jeans or shorts), no sandals or tennis shoes.

**VERIFICATION OF OBSERVATION
FOR
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM**

This is to certify that _____ observed _____ hours

in this physical therapy department in partial fulfillment of requirements for the Physical Therapist Assistant program at Meridian Community College.

Comments:

Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant
(Please print or type)

Position

Facility

Telephone Number

PT or PTA Signature

Date

**Please send to:
Meridian Community College
Kimberly Ennis
910 Highway 19 North
Meridian, MS 39307**

Name _____ SS# _____

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(Please print or type)

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Telephone Number

PT or PTA Signature

Date

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AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY

In your own handwriting, write an autobiographical essay. Include examples of your participation in activities (community, service, extracurricular, etc.), and your interests in physical therapy emphasizing those which would enhance your career as a physical therapist assistant. Your concise response should be limited to this sheet of paper (this side only).

Signature _____ Date _____

SS # _____

(Rev: 6/11)

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Meridian, MS 39307

**MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT
INFORMATION SHEET**

Please complete the following: Date: _____
 Name _____ Soc. Sec. # _____
 Address _____ DOB _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
 e-mail address _____
 Employer _____
 Currently in high school? ___ Yes ___ No If yes, where? _____
 Currently in college? ___ Yes ___ No If yes, where? _____
 If enrolled at MCC, is your program of study listed as Pre-PTA? ___ Yes ___ No
 Have you ever been enrolled in MCC's or another PTA program? ___ Yes ___ No
 If yes, where and when? _____
 Reasons for leaving _____

Do you already have a College degree? If so please list degree, major, and college.

Have you taken the ACT? ___ Yes ___ No
 If yes, what was your score? _____

For the courses listed below, indicate the year taken, grade earned, and college at which course was completed. Put 'CE' by those courses in which you are currently enrolled. Put 'Summer' by those courses which you plan to take in the summer and the institution you plan to attend.

Course	Grade Earned	Institution
English Composition I		
Anatomy & Physiology I		
Anatomy & Physiology II		
General Psychology		
College Algebra		
Principles of Speech		
Physical Science Survey I		
Humanities or Fine Arts Course		

Other information that you want to share:

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Office Use Only: Observation Forms _____ Reference Forms _____ Autobiographical Essay _____
