Job Description
Physical therapist assistants are skilled health care workers who assist the physical therapist in treating patients who have been disabled by inactivity or disease, accidents at the workplace or on the playing field, or those who were born with a physical disability in order to gain optimum functional independence.

Physical therapist assistants perform various treatment procedures which have been delegated to them by the physical therapist. The procedures include: therapeutic use of exercise, water, massage, ultrasound, light, and electricity to promote healing, coordination, endurance, range of motion, strength, and relaxation.

Career Opportunities
The demand for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants will come from an increase in the aged population, growth in the field of sports medicine, and recognition of the importance of physical therapy in patient rehabilitation following selected diseases and traumas.

Program Description
The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is a fully accredited, 5 semester program of study leading to an Associate of Applied Science Degree. The curriculum consists of general education and professional courses. The courses are designed to help the student develop the intellectual, technical, and behavioral skills necessary to become a competent, safe, and ethical physical therapist assistant.

Admission Requirements
The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is a Limited Entry Program. Therefore, all prerequisite requirements must be completed by the application deadline in order to be eligible for consideration. See reverse side for specific requirements.

Licensure Requirements and Felony Convictions
Licensure as a physical therapist assistant: Most states require physical therapist assistants to be licensed. To become licensed in the State of Nevada, you must have graduated from high school (or equivalent), graduated from a board approved accredited program in physical therapy education and passed the national licensing examination.

In addition to successfully completing a prescribed course of study and passing the national licensing examination, the Nevada Physical Therapy Practice Act (NRS 640.080) requires that the licensure candidates must be “of good moral character.”

Prospective students are advised that if they have been convicted of a felony they may be prevented from licensure to practice as a physical therapist assistant in Nevada (NRS 640.160). If the student has been indicted or convicted of a felony, it is suggested that the prospective student contact the Nevada State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners for additional information prior to applying to the program.

Accepted Students
Students accepted into the program will be required to show proof of CPR certification, health insurance, and immunization against Hepatitis B, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella, Tetanus, and Diphtheria. Also required: proof of a negative two-step TB skin test, urine drug screen, official background check and physical examination.

Approximate Salary
Median Hourly Wage................................. $25.27
Hourly Wage Range.............................. $15.69 - $36.99


Licensure as a physical therapist assistant: Nevada is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; telephone: 703-784-3245; e-mail: accreditation@apta.org; website: http://www.capteonline.org.

STUDENT OUTCOMES
* Graduation rate: 79% (2 year cumulative, 2015-2016)
* Licensure exam pass rate: 100% (2 year cumulative, 2015-2016)
* Employment rate: 100% (2 year cumulative, 2015-2016) of graduates were employed within 1 year of graduation.

ACCREDITATION STATUS
* The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at the College of Southern Nevada is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; telephone: 703-784-3245; e-mail: accreditation@apta.org; website: http://www.capteonline.org.

The information provided in this literature is for advisement purposes only.

College of Southern Nevada, Health Programs Advisement Office, 6375 West Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146, Phone: (702) 651-5690 PTA-CG Fall 2018 4/17