

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL STANDARDS (ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS)

EXPLANATION OF PTA PROGRAM TECHNICAL STANDARDS (ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS)

The Virginia Western Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program educates students with the goal of graduating PTAs able to provide quality and skilled physical therapy services through the use of sound clinical reasoning and well-honed technical skills while displaying exemplarily professional behaviors. To ensure this quality of student, graduate, and eventual clinician, the PTA program maintains academic as well as technical standards that must be met by students who wish to successfully progress through, and graduate from, this program.

To support success in the academic and clinical settings, PTA students enrolled in the program must possess and/or develop abilities and skills in the areas of (1) Behavior Skills (2) Communication Skills (3) Intellectual & Conceptual Skills (4) Physical Functioning and (5) Use of Sensory System. The standards and specific behaviors are listed alphabetically throughout this document, instead of in order of importance, as they each contribute equally to success in the program. A summary of the technical standards is provided first in this document with in-depth information regarding each of these skills following the summary table. As the program technical standards apply to the classroom, the lab, and clinic setting, each of these three areas is represented in the detailed tables.

The technical standards and specific behaviors included in this document are provided to inform prospective and enrolled students of standards required to complete the curriculum in lecture, lab, and clinical settings. The provided technical standard examples reflect sample performance abilities and characteristics that are necessary to complete the requirements of the PTA program. The standards are not requirements of admission into the program and the **examples provided represent only a sample of specific skills and behaviors associated with each standard**. However, once enrolled in the PTA program, students will be required to meet the expectations of each technical standard. Individuals interested in applying for admission to the program should review these standards to develop a better understanding of the skills, abilities, and behavioral characteristics required to complete the program.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS

The Virginia Western PTA Program wishes to ensure that access to its facilities, programs and services is available to all students, including students with disabilities (as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008) and that all students meeting academic and technical standards can progress towards becoming a licensed PTA with or without reasonable accommodation. The PTA Program provides reasonable accommodations to all students on a nondiscriminatory basis consistent with legal requirements as outlined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008. A reasonable accommodation is a modification or adjustment to an instructional activity, equipment, facility, program or service that enables a qualified student with a disability to have an equal opportunity to fulfill the requirements necessary for graduation from the PTA program. To be eligible for accommodations in the classroom and/or clinical settings, a student must have a documented disability of (a) a physical, psychological or learning impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of such individual; (b) a record of such impairment; or, (c) be regarded as having such a condition. **For further information regarding services and resources to students with disabilities and/or to request accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) (540) 857-7286 Student Life Center S207 disabilityservices@virginiawestern.edu.**

Opening statement adapted from Marks, B & Ailey, S. A. (2014) White Paper on Inclusion of Students with Disabilities in Nursing Educational Programs. Sacramento, CA: California Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (CCEPD).

Summary of PTA Program Technical Standards (Essential Functions)

Category	Specific Standards
Behavioral Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display professional behavior appropriate for the classroom and lab settings and the clinical environment • Demonstrate accountability • Demonstrate appropriate stress management behaviors and flexibility during changing or unknown situations • Demonstrate a commitment to learning • Demonstrate compassion, caring, and trustworthiness • Demonstrate concentration and the ability to attend to instructor during lecture courses • Demonstrate effective use of time and resources • Demonstrate integrity and responsibility • Demonstrate respect for others and follow the college and program stance on nondiscrimination • Professionally accept, respond to, and integrate feedback
Communication Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate professionally with faculty, classmates, staff of clinical site, other members of the healthcare team, patients, and family members at all times • Demonstrate effective communication skills with all parties during a simulated treatment session. • Demonstrate the ability to document patient treatments in simulated and actual medical record • Demonstrate interpersonal and collaborative skills • Effectively communicate with a diverse population in the classroom and clinical settings
Intellectual & Conceptual Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate critical thinking and problem-solving skills. • Demonstrate academic readiness for clinical rotations. • Possess the academic and psychomotor ability to complete a rigorous curriculum in the allotted time frame.
Physical Functioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate the ability to maintain proper body mechanics at all times to ensure safety of self, lab partners, faculty, patients, faculty, and other members of the healthcare team • Demonstrate the ability to move into the various positions required to perform the duties of a PTA. • Demonstrate the appropriate motor control and strength to provide treatment techniques while ensuring patient safety. • Demonstrate the physical ability to respond in emergency or unexpected situations. • Demonstrate the physical balance required to perform all variety of patient treatments. • Possess the endurance to complete required activities or shifts in the classroom and clinical environment.
Use of Sensory System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize sensory systems to effectively engage in the teaching and learning process in the classroom and lab setting and to effectively treat patients in a variety of clinical settings.

****As a reminder, the technical standard examples in the following tables reflect only a sample of possible performance abilities and characteristics that are necessary to complete the requirements of the PTA program. Once enrolled in the PTA program, students will be required to meet the expectations of each technical standard. ****

Technical Standards Required in the Lecture Class Settings

Category	Specific Standards	Example Behaviors
Behavioral Skills	Display professional behavior appropriate for a lecture classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Refrain from talking to classmates when teacher is lecturing and limit use of technology to only course-appropriate activities. ✓ Meet all professional behavior expectations for students enrolled in the PTA program. ✓ Come to class in clothing appropriate for program dress code.
	Demonstrate accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Accept the various roles of a PTA student (learner, peer, future PTA...). ✓ Take charge of your own learning and help to create a positive learning environment for your peers and faculty. ✓ Reflect on your actions or performance outcomes to continue to learn and grow.
	Demonstrate appropriate stress management behaviors and flexibility during changing or unknown situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Adapt to various teaching methods, learning activities, and teaching styles in the classroom. ✓ Recognize your own stressors, seek assistance when needed. ✓ Work to find a balance between school and personal life. ✓ Display calm behavior in the face of uncertainty or change.
	Demonstrate a commitment to learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Remain active and engaged in the learning process by participating in classroom activities, ask questions if material is unclear, prepare for lecture before arriving to class. ✓ Independently schedule meetings with faculty if you have any questions/concerns or need to review course material.
	Demonstrate compassion, caring, and trustworthiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Consider the views, opinions, perspectives, and feelings of others. ✓ Reflect on the impact of your actions on others. ✓ Consider the “whole person” in all your interactions. ✓ Recognize your own biases and do not let them influence your interactions. ✓ Take time to listen to others.
	Demonstrate concentration and the ability to attend to instructor during lecture courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Remain focused during lecture time and complete in-class activities to expectations of instructor. ✓ Demonstrate ability to not be distracted by technology and to not distract others with your use of technology.
	Demonstrate effective use of time and resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Arrive to class on time and with necessary materials. ✓ Submit all assignments by the posted due date. ✓ Plan and prioritize studying strategies to manage course load and test preparation.
	Demonstrate integrity and responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Abide by academic honesty policies (ex: no cheating or plagiarism). ✓ Abide by APTA Standards of Ethical Conduct for the PTA and the Core Values of the profession in the classroom. ✓ Contribute to a safe learning environment. ✓ Follow through on commitments, completes projects and assignments without prompting. ✓ Identify, acknowledge, and accept responsibility for actions and report errors. ✓ Demonstrate the ability to meet attendance standards for the program.

	Demonstrate respect for others and follow the college and program stance on nondiscrimination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Respect the ideas, experiences, and backgrounds of others. ✓ Do not bully or show disrespect for others, even if their ideas or experiences are different than your own. ✓ The program and college prohibit sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, stalking and retaliation and promotes and maintains educational opportunities without regard to race, color, sex, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, national origin, or other non-merit factors.
	Professionally accept, respond to, and integrate feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Don't become defensive when provided with feedback. ✓ Integrate feedback to improve skills, behaviors, or knowledge. ✓ Acknowledge and thank those who provide you with feedback.
Communication Skills	Communicate professionally with faculty and other classmates as all times.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Speak in a calm and professional tone with faculty and classmates. ✓ Use instructor titles (ex: Dr., Ms., Professor) and send emails with proper format and professionalism as defined in PTA student handbook. ✓ Display non-verbal communication appropriate for the environment (ex: maintain eye contact when speaking with classmates, maintain composure even when frustrated).
	Demonstrate interpersonal and collaborative skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Effectively communicate with members of a team or group. ✓ Clearly communicate with group members while completing a group project. ✓ Be an effective team member in a group project by completing all assigned tasks.
	Effectively communicate with a diverse population of students and faculty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Demonstrate the ability to communicate and interact with all classmates and faculty regard to race, color, sex, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, national origin, or other non-merit factors.
Intellectual & Conceptual Skills	Demonstrate critical thinking and problem-solving skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Answer increasingly difficult test questions and assignment scenarios during the progression of the program. ✓ Apply and incorporate information from various sources (lecture, textbook, videos...) to correctly answer test questions.
	Demonstrate academic readiness for clinical rotations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Successfully pass didactic coursework with a "C" or better. ✓ Demonstrate ability to perform self-assessment and make behavior changes based on self-assessment.
	Possess the academic ability to complete a rigorous curriculum in the allotted time frame.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete all courses in the plan of study with a "C" or better (77% for PTA courses, grading scale, course-specific grading scale for support courses). ✓ Complete courses with both a standard 16-week format and an accelerated time frame. ✓ Retain information across semesters to allow for concept development and successful passing of licensure exam. ✓ Demonstrate ability to be successful ("C" test average) in written tests which simulate PTA National Physical Therapy Licensing Exam.
Use of Sensory System	Utilize sensory systems to be effectively engaged in the teaching and learning process present in the classroom portions of the program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Take in course information through visual and auditory systems. ✓ Take in lecture material from a variety of formats (ex: written, video, audio). ✓ Complete written tests in both paper and computer format. ✓ Answer test questions based on video or images.

Technical Standards Required in the Lab Class Setting

Category	Specific Standards	Example Behaviors
Behavioral Skills	Display professional behavior appropriate for a lab classroom.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Refrain from talking to classmates when teacher is speaking and limit use of technology to only course-appropriate activities. ✓ Meet all professional behavior expectations for students enrolled in the PTA program. ✓ Be responsible for safety of self and classmates at all times and listen carefully to safety instructions. ✓ Accept feedback regarding skill demonstrations to develop hands-on and physical therapy practice management skills. ✓ Come to lab in clothing appropriate for program dress code.
	Demonstrate accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Accept the various roles of a PTA student (learner, peer, future PTA...). ✓ Take charge of your own learning and help to create a positive learning environment for your peers and faculty. ✓ Reflect on your actions or performance outcomes to continue to learn and grow.
	Demonstrate appropriate stress management behaviors and flexibility during changing or unknown situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Adapt to various teaching methods, learning activities, and teaching styles in the lab. ✓ Be able to work with a variety of lab partners in each class throughout the program. ✓ Recognize your own stressors, seek assistance when needed. ✓ Work to find a balance between school and personal life. ✓ Display calm behavior in the face of uncertainty or change.
	Demonstrate a commitment to learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Participate in all lab activities, ask questions if material is unclear, prepare for lab before arriving to lab. ✓ Take initiative to practice skills both during and outside of class time to work towards mastery of skills.
	Demonstrate compassion, caring, and trustworthiness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Consider the views, opinions, perspectives, and feelings of others. ✓ Reflect on the impact of your actions on others. ✓ Consider the “whole person” in all your interactions. ✓ Recognize your own biases and do not let them influence your interactions. ✓ Take time to listen to others.
	Demonstrate the ability to concentrate and attend to instructor during lab courses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Remain focused during lab time and complete all activities to expectations of instructor. ✓ Demonstrate ability to not be distracted by technology and to not distract others with your use of technology. ✓ Remain focused on task at hand in a busy lab environment.
	Demonstrate effective use of time and resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Use time in lab fully to maximize hands-on learning time. ✓ Arrive to class on time and with necessary materials. ✓ Submit all assignments by the posted due date. ✓ Plan and prioritize studying strategies to manage course load and lab practical preparation.
	Demonstrate integrity and responsibility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Abide by academic honesty policies (ex: no cheating or plagiarism). ✓ Abide by APTA Standards of Ethical Conduct for the PTA and the Core Values of the profession in the lab environment. ✓ Contribute to a safe learning environment. ✓ Follow through on commitments, completes projects and assignments without prompting. ✓ Identify, acknowledge, and accept responsibility for actions and report errors. ✓ Demonstrate the ability to meet attendance standards for the program.

	Demonstrate respect for others and follow the college and program stance on nondiscrimination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Respect the ideas, experiences, and backgrounds of others. ✓ Do not bully or show disrespect for others, even if their ideas or experiences are different than your own. ✓ The program and college prohibit sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, stalking and retaliation and promotes and maintains educational opportunities without regard to race, color, sex, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, national origin, or other non-merit factors.
	Professionally accept, respond to, and integrate feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Don't become defensive when provided with feedback. ✓ Integrate feedback to improve skills, behaviors, or knowledge. ✓ Acknowledge and thank those who provide you with feedback.
Communication Skills	Communicate professionally with faculty and other classmates as all times.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Communicate with lab partners regarding lab tasks to optimize safety and lab partner comfort & security. ✓ Provide helpful and professional feedback to classmates while practicing skills. ✓ Speak in a calm and professional tone with faculty and classmates. ✓ Use instructor titles (ex: Dr., Ms., Professor) and send emails with proper format and professionalism as defined in PTA student handbook. ✓ Display non-verbal communication appropriate for the environment (ex: not displaying visible frustration when your lab partner is struggling with a skill).
	Demonstrate the ability to document patient treatments in simulated medical records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete patient treatment notes based on simulated situations which meet the quality outlined by the instructor on the documentation rubric.
	Demonstrate effective communication skills with all parties during a simulated treatment session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Communicate in a professional tone using layman's terms and clearly and concisely while also displaying care and concern for the other individual.
	Demonstrate interpersonal and collaborative skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Effectively communicate with members of a team or group. ✓ Clearly communicate with group members while completing a group project. ✓ Be an effective team member in a group project by completing all assigned tasks.
	Effectively communicate with a diverse population of students and faculty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Demonstrate the ability to communicate and interact with all classmates and faculty regard to race, color, sex, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, national origin, or other non-merit factors.
Intellectual & Conceptual Skills	Demonstrate critical thinking and problem-solving skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete a patient treatment session based on a provided case study and complete increasingly complex patient scenarios throughout the curriculum. ✓ Explain the rationale for and demonstrate the ability to adapt treatment approaches based on various patient case studies.
	Demonstrate academic and skill readiness for clinical rotations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Successfully pass all lab practicals prior throughout the program. ✓ Demonstrate ability to perform self-assessment and make behavior changes based on self-assessment.

	Possess the academic and psychomotor ability to complete a rigorous curriculum in the allotted time frame.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete lab component of all PTA courses by completing all written work and passing all practical exams with an 80% or better and without safety concerns. ✓ Complete courses with both a standard 16-week format and an accelerated time frame. ✓ Retain information and skills across semesters to allow for concept development and completing clinical rotations.
Physical Functioning	Demonstrate the ability to maintain proper body mechanics at all times to ensure safety of self, lab partner, and faculty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keeping a neutral spine position when transferring your lab partner. ✓ Access elevated surfaces to maintain proper body mechanics. ✓ Take measurements on a low surface.
	Demonstrate the ability move into the various positions required to perform the duties of a PTA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sitting on the ground to practice treating your lab partner's ankle while your lab partner remains in standing. ✓ Squatting to perform a transfer. ✓ Laying on ground or mat table to demonstrate an exercise to a patient. ✓ Climbing stairs to properly guard a patient.
	Demonstrate the appropriate motor control and strength to provide treatment techniques while ensuring patient safety.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Providing manual resistance to a patient during therapeutic exercise activities. ✓ Safely transferring patients of all sizes and abilities to and from various surfaces. ✓ Safely lift 50 pounds. ✓ Demonstrate sufficient fine motor control to operate machines and to provide manual therapy treatments.
	Demonstrate the physical ability to respond in emergency or unexpected situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Safely lower a patient to the floor in the event of a severe loss of balance or sudden drop in blood pressure. Provide or assist in CPR until an emergency team arrives.
	Demonstrate the physical balance required to perform all variety of patient treatments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Maintaining balance to safely guard a patient while walking. ✓ Maintaining balance while transition between various positions. ✓ Maintaining balance while reaching in various directions.
	Possess the endurance to complete required hands-on, lab-based learning activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Actively participate in 2-3 hour physical lab sessions 4-6 times per week.
Use of Sensory System	Utilize sensory systems to be effectively engaged in the teaching and learning process present in the lab portions of the program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Use sensory systems to take patient vital signs. ✓ Utilize touch and palpation to assess and treat patients. ✓ Use visual system to assess patient movement and to ensure patient safety. ✓ Tolerate various sensory inputs including touch.

Technical Standards Required in the Clinical Setting

Category	Specific Standards	Example Behaviors
Behavioral Skills	Display professional behavior appropriate for a clinical setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Protect the privacy and dignity of all patients at all times. ✓ Meet all professional behavior expectations for students enrolled in the PTA program. ✓ Maintain quality working relationships with all members of the clinical site. ✓ Be responsible for safety of self and patients at all times. ✓ Use technology appropriately in the clinic and utilize technology only when appropriate and permitted. ✓ Arrive in appropriate dress code for the individual clinical site.
	Demonstrate accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Accept the various roles of a PTA student (learner, peer, future PTA...). ✓ Take charge of your own learning and help to create a positive learning environment for your peers and faculty. ✓ Follow through on clinical tasks and commitments. ✓ Reflect on your actions or performance outcomes to continue to learn and grow.
	Demonstrate appropriate stress management behaviors and flexibility during changing or unknown situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Adapt to various teaching methods, learning activities, and teaching styles in the clinical setting. ✓ Be able to work with a variety of clinical supervisors and patients. ✓ Recognize your own stressors, seek assistance when needed. ✓ Work to find a balance between school and personal life. ✓ Tolerate the inconsistencies in the healthcare environment. ✓ Display calm behavior and be able to adapt if changes in the daily clinical schedule.
	Demonstrate a commitment to learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Take initiative in the clinical setting to participate in all learning activities. ✓ Be a contributing member of the clinical site. ✓ Take initiative to research treatment techniques to assist in treatment of upcoming patients.
	Demonstrate compassion, caring, and trustworthiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Consider the views, opinions, perspectives, and feelings of others. ✓ Reflect on the impact of your actions on others. ✓ Empower patients to achieve their highest level of functioning. ✓ Consider the “whole person” in all your interactions. ✓ Recognize your own biases and do not let them influence your interactions. ✓ Take time to listen to others and make sure to treat the patient’s emotional needs of care.
	Demonstrate concentration and the ability attend in a clinical environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Remain engaged with current patient to monitor and adapt patient treatment session. ✓ Remain focused on task at hand in a busy clinical environment. ✓ Remain on task to ensure patient safety and to protectivity standards. ✓ Demonstrate the ability to not be distracted by technology.
	Demonstrate effective use of time and resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Manage time the clinic setting to meet productivity standards and fully treat all patients. ✓ Arrive to clinical site on time and prepared for the day. ✓ Submit all assignments by the posted due date. ✓ Demonstrate ability to not be distracted by technology and to not distract others with your use of technology. ✓ Plan and prioritize treatment day to ensure completion of all required activities in the clinic and all class assignments.

	Demonstrate integrity and responsibility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Abide by academic honesty policies (ex: no cheating or plagiarism). ✓ Abide by APTA Standards of Ethical Conduct for the PTA and the Core Values of the profession in the classroom. ✓ Do not falsify documentation. ✓ Do not misrepresent yourself or your skills. ✓ Follow through on commitments, complete tasks in the clinic without need for reminders or prompting. ✓ Identify, acknowledge, and accept responsibility for actions and report errors. ✓ Demonstrate the ability to meet attendance standards for the clinical rotations. ✓ Complete all required clinical hours and days in the allotted time. ✓ Take initiative to make up any missed clinical time. ✓ Arrive on time each day to the clinical site.
	Demonstrate respect for others and follow the college and program stance on nondiscrimination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Respect the ideas, experiences, and backgrounds of others. ✓ Do not bully or show disrespect for others, even if their ideas or experiences are different than your own. ✓ The program and college prohibit sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, stalking and retaliation and promotes and maintains educational opportunities without regard to race, color, sex, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, national origin, or other non-merit factors
	Professionally accept, respond to, and integrate feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Don't become defensive when provided with feedback. ✓ Integrate feedback to improve skills, behaviors, or knowledge. ✓ Acknowledge and thank those who provide you with feedback. ✓ Accept, seek, and implement feedback from supervising clinicians and patients.
Communication Skills	Communicate professionally with all staff of clinical site, other members of the healthcare team, patients, and family members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Demonstrate ability to effectively report any changes in patient/client status or progress to the supervising physical therapist or clinical supervisor. ✓ Demonstrate effective communication with a team. ✓ Demonstrate care and compassion in all interactions. ✓ Seek out additional information to assist in patient treatment. ✓ Demonstrate active listening skills. ✓ Display non-verbal communication appropriate for the environment and situation. ✓ Contribute to the healthcare team. ✓ Communicate in terminology most appropriate to the situation.
	Demonstrate the ability to document patient treatments in the medical record.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Efficiently complete thorough and ethical documentation efficiently and submit promptly following treatment sessions.
	Effectively communicate with a diverse population of patients, families, and members of the healthcare team.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Demonstrate the ability to communicate and interact with all classmates and faculty regard to race, color, sex, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, national origin, or other non-merit factors. ✓ Demonstrate culturally competent communication by considering cultural differences, language barriers, and disability and adapt communication as needed.

Intellectual & Conceptual Skills	Demonstrate critical thinking and problem-solving skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Integrate knowledge from all prior coursework to be able to effectively and safely treat patients. ✓ Execute a plan of care. ✓ Explain the rationale for and demonstrate ability to adapt treatment approaches based on data collection and changing patient situations. ✓ Notify appropriate supervisors of change in patient status. ✓ Demonstrate ability to perform self-assessment and make behavior changes based on self-assessment.
	Possess the knowledge, psychomotor, and affective skills to complete clinical rotations in the allotted time frame.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Meet assessment standards for each clinical rotation. ✓ Submit written assignments throughout clinical experiences. ✓ Be able to apply and integrate the following information to a clinical setting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Information from lecture course → Information and skills from lab courses → Professionalism feedback from faculty and lab practical examinations →
Physical Functioning	Demonstrate the ability to maintain proper body mechanics at all times to ensure safety of self, patients and other members of the healthcare team.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keeping a neutral spine position when transferring patients. ✓ Accessing elevated surfaces to maintain proper body mechanics. ✓ Squatting to take measurements on a low surface.
	Demonstrate the ability move the various positions required to perform the duties of a PTA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sitting on the ground to treat a patient's ankle while patient remains standing. ✓ Squatting to perform a transfer. ✓ Laying on ground or mat table to demonstrate an exercise to a patient. ✓ Climbing stairs to properly guard a patient.
	Demonstrate the appropriate motor control and strength to provide treatment techniques while ensuring patient safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Providing manual resistance to a patient during therapeutic exercise activities. ✓ Safely transferring patients of all sizes and abilities to and from various surfaces. ✓ Safely lift 50 pounds. ✓ Demonstrate sufficient fine motor control to operate machines and to provide manual therapy treatments.
	Demonstrate the physical ability to respond in emergency or unexpected situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Safely lower a patient to the floor in the event of a severe loss of balance or sudden drop in blood pressure. ✓ Provide or assist in CPR until an emergency team arrives.
	Demonstrate the physical balance required to perform all variety of patient treatments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Maintaining balance to safely guard a patient while walking. ✓ Maintaining balance while transition between various positions. ✓ Maintaining balance while reaching in various directions.
	Possess the endurance to complete all clinical rotation hours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Tolerate the physical demands of a 40-hour workweek for 3-8 weeks.
Use of Sensory System	Utilize sensory systems to be effectively engaged in the clinical environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Take in information through a variety of sensory systems (visual, auditory, olfactory, tactile). ✓ Complete written documentation using pen and paper or computer. ✓ Tolerate various sensory inputs including touch.