
Goals of the PTA Student

1. Know the role of the physical therapist assistant, the educational training required, the Code of Ethics of the American Physical Therapy Association, and the licensing and practice act of the State of Ohio and Kentucky Act within this role in a safe, ethical and legal manner.
2. Develop and integrate the cognitive, affective and psychomotor skills necessary for safe, effective patient care.
3. Adhere to dress codes, program requirements and policies, personal hygiene and conduct necessary for personal and patient safety.
4. Apply philosophies, principles, knowledge learned in humanities and social science studies to one's daily interactions with patients, colleagues and the community.
5. Demonstrate respect for differing views, dress, beliefs, appearance, and lifestyles.
6. Exercise tact, self-discipline, good judgment, discretion, and maturity in working and communications with others.
7. Acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to independently perform physical therapy procedures appropriate to the PTA, as well as develop a thorough knowledge of what activities are appropriate for the PTA to perform.
8. Assess a patient's basic physical condition, changes in that condition and interpret information provided in the patient's medical chart or records.
9. Discriminate between clinical situations which require referral to the supervising physical therapist or medical director from those requiring independent action and proceed accordingly.
10. Keep current by learning new skills, reading professional publications, and participating in in-services, self-studies, and course offerings.
11. Chart patient treatment, responses in the form of the S.O.A.P. note.
12. Administer appropriate physical therapy services as specified in the plan of care only after the initial patient evaluation by the physical therapist.
13. Implement the following treatments or techniques with a treatment program planned by the physical therapist:
 - a. Activities of daily living and functional training
 - b. Assistive / adaptive devices
 - c. Balance and gait training
 - d. Biofeedback
 - e. Developmental activities
 - f. Electric current
 - g. Electromagnetic radiations
 - h. External compression
 - i. Hydrotherapy
 - j. Orthoses and prostheses
 - k. Patient / family education
 - l. Postural training and body mechanics
 - m. Pulmonary hygiene techniques
 - n. Therapeutic exercise
 - o. Therapeutic massage
 - p. Thermal agents
 - q. Topical application (including those for iontophoresis)
 - r. Traction
 - s. Ultrasound
 - t. Universal precautions / infection control
14. Appropriately assess and/or measure the following:
 - a. Architectural barriers and environmental modifications
 - b. Endurance
 - c. Flexibility / joint range of motion and muscle length
 - d. Functional activities

- e. Gait and balance
 - f. Pain
 - g. Posture
 - h. Righting and equilibrium reactions
 - i. Segmental length, girth, and volume
 - j. Skin and sensation
 - k. Strength
 - l. Vital Signs
15. Assist the physical therapist in performing tests, evaluations, and complex treatment procedures.
 16. Observe, record, document, and report patient information to appropriate health care providers.
 17. Modify treatment techniques in conference with physical therapist.
 18. Teach patients, families, and health care providers.
 19. Demonstrate a kind, caring positive attitude toward patients and place patient well-being above all else.
 20. Assist in the maintenance of the physical therapy department.

