

Physical Therapy Assistant

Physical therapist assistants work under the direction of physical therapists. They help patients who are recovering from injuries, illnesses, and surgery regain movement and manage pain. Physical therapist assistants are involved in the direct care of patients. Physical therapist assistants typically do the following:

- Observe patients before and during therapy, noting their status and reporting to a physical therapist
- Help patients do specific exercises
- Use a variety of techniques, such as massage and stretching, to treat patients
- Use devices and equipment, such as walkers, to help patients
- Educate a patient and family members about what to do after treatment

Physical therapist assistants help physical therapists provide care to patients. Under the direction and supervision of physical therapists, they give therapy through exercise; therapeutic methods, such as electrical stimulation, mechanical traction, and ultrasound; massage; and gait and balance training. Physical therapist assistants record patients' responses to treatment and report the results of each treatment to the physical therapist.

More Information: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/physical-therapist-assistants-and-aides.htm> [1]

Career Outlook:

Career Outlook data is specific to New Hampshire State.

~~Number of Jobs~~

~~Projected Jobs~~

~~2020%~~

~~2020-2030~~

~~Projected Wage:~~

Education Requirements:

Programs:

~~School~~ Valley CC [2]

~~Program Complete~~ Assistant [3]

License and Certification Requirements:

~~Education~~ School: Hampshire Community College

~~Required Certification~~

Required:

~~Minimum Requirement~~ of a graduate degree in health services or physical therapy education [4]

~~Required Registration~~ and by the Commission on the Accreditation of Physical Therapy

~~Career Categories:~~ Agency (CAPTE) or by another Board-approved accrediting organization and pass the national proficiency examination.

Types of Work:

~~Types of Work:~~ Hospital, Practice or Private Company

~~Employment:~~ Internship Member

Support Role

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Source URL (modified on 02/24/2014 - 15:28): <https://nhhealthcareers.org/node/149>

Links

[1] <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/physical-therapist-assistants-and-aides.htm#tab-2>

[2] <http://www.rivervalley.edu/index.html>

[3] <http://www.rivervalley.edu/physicaltherapy.html>

[4] <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/NHTOC/NHTOC-XXX-328-A.htm>