

Lane Community College Physical Therapist Assistant Program

Mission

The Lane Community College Physical Therapist Assistant Program delivers a comprehensive curriculum graduating a diverse group of PTAs who demonstrate clinical excellence in workplace skills essential for physical therapy.

We deliver integrated foundational and technical training through the use of traditional and emerging technology-driven education to improve physical therapy competence and access in local and rural communities.

We integrate student perspectives and clinical facilities from diverse geographical regions, optimizing our graduates' opportunities for valuing a commitment to lifelong learning, professionalism and trust.

Philosophy

Physical Therapist Assistant education should integrate theory, supervised hands-on practice, reciprocal and constructive feedback, communication and patient education, and professionalism and ethics in applying safe and effective physical therapy interventions under the supervision of a physical therapist.

Clinical excellence in Physical Therapist Assistant education depends on a basic, social and applied sciences foundation of which spirals into learning and synthesizing progressively complex physical therapy treatment concepts through critical thinking.

Academic and clinical education should be evidence-based in the treatment interventions for movement impairment and dysfunction.

Academic and clinical education includes applied concepts in patient care and community activities which support and supplement adaptability of the mind and body.

On-line academic instruction optimizes accuracy, rate, and retention of student learning. Unlimited drill and practice with immediate and specific feedback, combined with guided learning and facilitated forums, allows enhanced instructor access and flexible, extended learning opportunities beyond scheduled classroom hours.

Academic education should use technology to ensure current, evidence-based practice standards are accessible to all students (local and rural), enrolled in the program.

Students are mature, have varying individual needs, cultural backgrounds, and past experiences and will look for support and opportunities to optimize progress toward the AAS degree and successful employment as a PTA.

Faculty will systematically integrate feedback from students, clinical facilities, employers and the general public in an effort to support a sustainable, effective, relevant, accurate and respected physical therapist assistant program.

In support of lifelong learning, professional growth, and expanding partnerships in the community, the physical therapist assistant curriculum will serve to maximize opportunities for the Physical Therapist Assistant program to meet lower division college transfer requirements in the state of Oregon.