PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

For a specific listing of required courses of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program, please call 405.4400.

ACCREDITATION

Bishop State Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees, certificates and short certificates. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call (404) 679.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Bishop State Community College.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education/CAPTE, 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1488, phone (703) 706.3245.

SUCCESS STARTS HERE

STUDENT SERVICES AVAILABLE

Admissions................................................. (251) 405.4400
Physical Therapist Assistant Office........ (251) 405.4441
Financial Aid............................................ (251) 405.7015
Veterans Affairs..................................... (251) 405.7020

BISHOP STATE
BAKER-GAINES CENTRAL CAMPUS
1365 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue
Mobile, AL 36603-3362

For information, call (251) 405-4400 local
1 (800) 523-7235 (in-state long distance)
or visit www.bishop.edu

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PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program consists of general education and physical therapy courses designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary for program completion. Concurrent theoretical and clinical experiences enhance the relation of theory to practice. Clinical experience is provided in a variety of settings, including hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, outpatient clinics and skilled nursing facilities.

Upon successful completion, the student is awarded an Associate in Applied Science degree and may be eligible to take the licensure examination given by the Alabama and other State Boards of Physical Therapy.

NOTE: Students must refer to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program Student Handbook for specific policies of this program.

Students must comply with all standards established by the Physical Therapist Assistant Program, the policies and procedures of the College, and laws established by the Alabama Board of Physical Therapy. Failure to comply may result in dismissal from the program and/or denial to take any state license examination.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program (fall semester only) is limited to students chosen by the Selection Committee. Minimum requirements for consideration are:

1. Application to the College (www.bishop.edu). First time students must take the COMPASS entrance exam (required by the Alabama State Board of Education) or provide documented proof of exemption.
2. Completion of all required general education courses.
3. Application to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program.
4. Submission of official transcripts to the Admissions and Records Office of Baker-Gaines Central showing all previous completed college courses.
5. Completion of all prerequisites with a minimum GPA of 2.75. Math and science scores may be higher.
6. Fifty (50) hours minimum of documented volunteer or work experience in a physical therapy department. Students are required to observe/volunteer for at least twenty-five (25) hours from two different clinical setting types.

NOTE: Admission requirements and numbers of candidates admitted are subject to change without notice. Please visit www.bishop.edu for current admissions criteria.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

In addition to tuition and books, students will incur other expenses for the program, including uniforms, equipment, transportation to clinical sites, liability insurance, CPR and basic first aid certification, complete health assessment, background checks, drug screens, testing and licensure fees, and student membership in the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA).

FINANCIAL AID

A number of financial aid opportunities are available: Pell Grant, Veterans Benefits, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), Work Study and scholarships, including senior citizen scholarships. Apply for financial aid online at www.fafsa.gov.

PROGRAM COSTS

Bishop State offers high quality instruction at an affordable cost. Tuition and fees are among the lowest in the state of Alabama.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The physical therapist assistant is a skilled licensed health care worker who provides delegated patient/client interventions under the supervision and direction of the physical therapist to decrease pain, increase mobility, and improve function of physical movement. Job placement for graduates of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program remains strong and promising.

Visit www.bishop.edu for further information.