

## ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

### PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT NTCC

The following are essential job functions for any Physical Therapist Assistant as compiled from observations of a wide variety of job experience.

1. VISUAL ACUITY:
  - Main a minimum standard of visual acuity required to observe a client's physical condition from a distance for 1-1000 feet
  - Maintain a minimum standard of visual acuity for operation of equipment
  - Maintain a minimum standard of visual acuity for visual inspection of the environment, use of computer terminals, extensive reading, and using measurement devices at distances close to the eyes, such as goniometers
2. HEARING ACUITY:
  - Perceive the nature of sound and receive and interpret detailed information through oral communication
  - Hear and respond to soft voices, heart/breath sounds, hear Kortokoff sounds (blood pressure), and patient assistance call devices/times.
  - Hear and retain pertinent information to relay instructions
3. COMMUNICATION ABILITY
  - Express, exchange or interpret ideas by means of the spoken or written word accurately, loudly, and quickly as necessary
  - Communicate sufficiently nonverbally, in speech, reading, and writing to appropriately interact with individuals and to communicate their needs promptly and effectively for the client's best interest
4. DIGITAL DEXTERITY
  - Move the wrists, hands, or fingers in a repetitive motion either singularly or simultaneously
  - Coordinate movements into smooth fluid motions including but not limited to eye/hand coordination activities and eye/hand/foot coordinated activities
  - Extend hand(s) and arm(s) in any direction (forward, downward, above shoulder level, etc.)
  - Apply pressure to an object with the fingers and palm; both a firm/strong grasp and light grasp
5. PHYSICAL ABILITY
  - Stand for extended periods of time
  - Move from one area to another quickly, particularly for long distances and to be on the feet/mobile for 4-8 hours consecutively and maneuver in small places
  - Maintain body equilibrium to prevent falling when walking, standing, or crouching on narrow, slippery erratically moving surfaces exceeding what is required for ordinary locomotion and maintenance of body equilibrium
  - Ascend or descend stairs, stools, ramps, and the like using the feet and legs or hands and arms; move self from one position to another, e.g. supine to/from standing, supine to/from sitting
  - Pull/push, drag, haul, or tug objects weighing between 10 and 100 pounds in a sustained motion; lift objects of varying sizes and weights between 10 and 100+ pounds or carry objects of varying sizes and weights between 10 and 50 pounds from a lower to a higher position or horizontally
  - Bend body at the waist, spine, hips or knees downward and forward in a stooping motion, move about on hands and/or knees, and return to an upright position requiring full use of the lower extremities and back muscles.
6. ADAPTIVE ABILITY
  - Complete tasks or job functions within deadlines
  - Complete required tasks/functions under stressful conditions
  - Track and complete multiple tasks at the same time
  - Perform independently with minimal supervision
  - Interact appropriately with diverse personalities

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE STATEMENTS, AND MEET THESE STANDARDS FOR THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM AT NORTHEAST TEXAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE. IF I CAN NOT MEET THESE STANDARDS, I MAY BE DISMISSED FROM THE PROGRAM.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_