

Comprehensive Program Review Report



Program Review - Physical Therapy Assistant

Program Summary

2022-2023

Prepared by: Joseph Castillo MPT; PTA Program Director

What are the strengths of your area?: Student Success rates

Overall PTA Course success rates remain high, 97.7 for 2021-2022. In addition, 22 PTA Associate of Science degrees were awarded in Spring 2022, and despite COVID19, all PTA students in the program were able to complete their program.

Quality of PTA courses

The quality of the PTA courses is high based on student surveys and faculty evaluations. Dr. Sousa has full tenure status and continues to teach in the program with high quality. His student's surveys are very high, and students often express gratitude for his dedication to their learning process. We hired a new faculty member in January 2021 to cover the Clinical education courses and act as ACCE. The new ACCE has finished one full year and is also getting high marks from student feedback. In addition, we hired Dr. Courtney Williams to instruct PTA 145. PTA 145 is a neurological tack, and Dr. Williams has her NCS, which she is one of the few to have in this region. We had six students score 700 or above on the State Boards. 800 is a perfect score on the State Boards.

Efficiency

Productivity for the PTA program was 9.11 which is a slight decrease due to a few students not completing the program due to COVID. A second reason for the decrease was due to a primary instructor taking paternity leave and leave due to illness, so we had to have more adjunct cover the courses. The third reason is due to our outside accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) which requires a 14:1 student-to-instructor ratio. Therefore, the PTA courses will always have a lower efficiency than the 17.5 average/recommended level for COS courses.

Internal Relations: The PTA program continues to be part of the guided pathway under Health Sciences and is hosting a quarterly informational meeting with our division's other health care programs. It has provided a great opportunity to meet directly with students interested in the PT Assistant program and provide them with current and accurate information about applying to the PTA program. Also, an adjunct Health Science/Nursing counselor was hired and has been able to work directly with PTA students on their SEP and graduation application. Having a counselor in Hospital Rock makes it much easier for PTA students to get the needed services.

Mr. Castillo went to a workshop entitled ACCCA Admin 101, sponsored California Community College Administrator professional group. in the summer of 2022 on how to be a better administrator in the community college environment.

External Relations: Annually, the PTA program must complete an Annual Report for the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). This requires reporting on graduation pass rate, employment rate, and a list of faculty, classifieds, and administrators dedicated to the PTA program. Budget reports are also required. The annual report is due December 1st of each year; this is done to maintain our CAPTE/national accreditation through 2027. The COS PTA program has full accreditation status.

What improvements are needed?: With a successful program, improvements are still required to maintain our high level of success. For example, our PTA PD, Joseph Castillo, MPT, continues to assess the PTA program through various surveys, student feedback and substituting when needed in the classroom and lab. In addition, learning was complex due to regular operations being interrupted and the PD having to be flexible with all the challenges and changes that came due to Dr. Sousa's paternity leave and staff having to isolate due to COVID.

NPTE pass rate did decrease to 80% (16/20) with 2 students not taking it until October 2022. Having Dr. Sousa available to teach all his classes as well as faculty development for the ACCE are two actions that should increase the pass rate. Joseph Castillo, PD will reach out to those who did not pass to set up more opportunities to study effectively for the exam.

A few pieces of PT equipment need to be purchased or replaced. We are in our 15th year of the PTA program at COS, and some equipment needs replacement. These specific requests will be in the action plans with VTEA requests.

Also, the PTA program utilizes over 70 clinical instructors to teach our students in the clinical courses, which amounts to 680 hours. The Clinical instructors provide this mentoring and teaching as part of their regular duties and do not receive additional pay, even though the workload is increased. To offset the increased work burden, the PTA program provides continuing education units to each CI and other training opportunities based on our curriculum. One goal this year is to improve CI support and education and continue to develop a rubric for CI/site visits by the PTA PD and/or ACCE. Rubric is needed to assess the clinicals from the students and ACCE perspective.

The PTA team consists of one full-time manager/PTA PD, plus two full faculty members dedicated to each only in the PTA program. In addition, Dr. Nicole Marquez needs to continue further to develop an assessment/rubric for clinical site visits.

Describe any external opportunities or challenges.: Describe any external opportunities or challenges. Last school year COVID19 caused the PTA courses to go into a hybrid model. This year, 2022-2023, the courses will return to face-to-face. COVID protocols for illness will continue to challenge our students and instructors if they become ill. The plan is for the annual ScoreBuilders course to also return in person. Returning face to face will be a great opportunity to serve our students better and support them in meeting their goals.

Overall SLO Achievement: 16/16 PTA courses have completed their SLO assessments. The PTA course SLO assessments meet CAPTE criteria and consistently measure student learning in the classroom, lab, and clinical setting. This is codified by our high pass rate on the NPTE licensure exam and high employment rate. NPTE pass rate did decrease to 80% (16/20) with 2 students not taking it until October 2022, but the program will return to the 90% and above now that the program will run normally without any modification due to COVID.

Changes Based on SLO Achievement: No changes.

Overall PLO Achievement: Overall PLO Achievement: PLO goals have all been met. CAPTE/outside accreditation requires that the PTA program meet the minimum requirements:

A graduation rate of 60%; for COS PTA Spring 2022 graduation rate was 100% (22/22).

A pass rate of 80% on the FSBPT/PTA licensing exam for the class of 2022 (16/20) of those who have taken the exam.

The employment rate of 90%; is expected to be above 90% once the other two students take the exam for the first time and pass.

Changes Based on PLO Achievement: As the COS PTA program has met workforce needs; however, we would like to have a 100% pass rate when students retakes their exam in mid-October. We also will have two other students who will hopefully take the exam for the first time in mid-October. Our goal is to have an ultimate pass rate of 100% and 100% employment.

Outcome cycle evaluation: Current SLO assessments continue yearly to meet our CAPTE/outside accreditation.

Action: 2022-2023 Provide students access to updated equipment in all PTA labs (VTEA eligible)

Assess and update PTA lab equipment needed to meet lab SLOs.

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Implementation Timeline: 2022 - 2023

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Identify related course/program outcomes:

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Joseph Castillo

Rationale (With supporting data): PTA is 15 years old and some of the equipment needs to be replaced and even updated.

Priority: High

Safety Issue: Yes

External Mandate: Yes

Safety/Mandate Explanation: CAPTE requires that equipment be updated and assessed by CI survey and student survey.

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Equipment - Instructional - PTA program will purchase - braces, IV poles, Ipads, (Active)

Why is this resource required for this action?: to keep PTA Labs updated

Notes (optional): these will be funded by VTEA

Cost of Request (Nothing will be funded over the amount listed.): 5000

Link Actions to District Objectives

District Objectives: 2021-2025

District Objective 2.1 - Increase the number of students who earn an associate degree or certificate (CTE and non-CTE) by 5% from 2021-2025.

District Objective 2.4 - Increase the percentage of CTE students who achieve their employment objectives by five percentage points (job closely related to field of study and attainment of a livable wage) and the number of CTE students who successfully complete 9+ CTE units in a single year by 10% from 2021-2025.

Action: 2022-2023; 2021-2022; 2020-2021 Improve access to anti-racial discussions in PTA courses

Provide a panel discussion in our PTA administration class on how to improve access to PT services for patients of color. Add implicit bias training prior to full time clinicals.

Leave Blank:

Implementation Timeline: 2020 - 2021, 2021 - 2022, 2022 - 2023

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Identify related course/program outcomes: Communication across ethnic groups with cultural sensitivity;

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Joe Sousa, Joseph Castillo, Nicole Marquez

Rationale (With supporting data): Survey from APTA and call to action for CCCC to have these discussion in our classes.

Priority: High

Safety Issue: No

External Mandate: Yes

Safety/Mandate Explanation: CCCC has requested that all community college courses look at their content from a lens of equality in health care and in education.

Update on Action

Updates

Update Year: 2022 - 2023

10/03/2022

Status: Continue Action Next Year

Need to continue to find a place to embed an implicit bias SLO in the PTA program. Consider adding this to PTA Clinical Orientation by the PD.

Impact on District Objectives/Unit Outcomes (Not Required):

Update Year: 2021-2022

09/17/2021

Status: Continue Action Next Year

This has been unable to be accomplished due to the daily/weekly accommodations we are making for students with COVID or COVID exposure. Consider embedding racial issues in some of the case scenarios; consider using an implicit bias in PTA 121, which is where they start their professional development training.

Impact on District Objectives/Unit Outcomes (Not Required):

Resources Description

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Facilities - Access the COS Theater to hold the Anti-racial discussion and co host Kaweah Delta. (Active)

Why is this resource required for this action?: Large venue

Notes (optional): Not a cost; Theater will have to be disinfected before and the after the event.

Make sure to email Byron/Facilities; Glen Profeta/IT Dean to get actual costs.

Cost of Request (Nothing will be funded over the amount listed.):

Link Actions to District Objectives

District Objectives: 2018-2021

District Objective 2.1 - Increase the percentage of students who earn an associate degree or certificate (CTE and Non-CTE) by 5 percentage points over three years

District Objective 4.2 - Improve organizational effectiveness by strengthening operations of and communication between District departments, divisions, and constituents

District Objectives: 2021-2025

District Objective 3.1 - Reduce equity gaps in course success rates across all departments by 40% from 2021-2025.

Action: 2022=2023; 2021-2022; 2020-2021: 2019-2020 Ensure student success on FSBPT/PTA national examination and critical thinking in the clinical setting (VTEA)

In order to maintain the high pass rate on the NPTE/PTA national examination, the PTA faculty need to attend the FSBPT Test Writing Workshop; Educational Leadership Conference (ELC) is developing a series of workshops for Clinical Instructors, which would also improve the application of critical thinking in the clinical setting.

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Implementation Timeline: 2019 - 2020, 2020 - 2021, 2021 - 2022, 2022 - 2023

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Identify related course/program outcomes: PTA 161:

2. Student will demonstrate expected clinical behaviors in a professional manner in all situations.
7. Student will demonstrate clinical problem solving.

PLO:

Maintain a pass rate on the NPTE/PTA at 85% or higher

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Joseph Castillo

Rationale (With supporting data): We recently had to replace a primary PTA faculty and ACCE and will need ongoing training + ELC/CSM attendance.

Recommend 2-3 Clinical Instructor attend ELC in Fall 2020 to learn how to teach and assess clinical reasoning. Will provide a local workshop to the other 70+ Clinical instructors upon return from this national conference.

FSBPT test level questions in quizzes and tests.

Priority: High

Safety Issue: No

External Mandate: No

Safety/Mandate Explanation:

Update on Action

Updates

Update Year: 2022 - 2023

10/03/2022

Status: Continue Action Next Year

PTA faculty need to write test questions to the critical thinking level of the NPTE/FSBPT level.

Impact on District Objectives/Unit Outcomes (Not Required):

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Update Year: 2021-2022

09/17/2021

Status: Continue Action Next Year

Due to COVID, the FSBPT has not scheduled a test writing workshop for PTA faculty; this is still a goal for our PD and ACCE.

Impact on District Objectives/Unit Outcomes (Not Required):

Resources Description

Equipment - Non-Instructional - FSBPT/ELC/CSM attendance for faculty and PTA PD training. (Active)

Why is this resource required for this action?: Attendance to these meetings provide specific educational workshops to help faculty and PD to transition from clinical setting to classroom/lab.

Notes (optional): VTEA funding will be provided

Cost of Request (Nothing will be funded over the amount listed.): 5000

Link Actions to District Objectives

District Objectives: 2018-2021

District Objective 2.4 - By 2021, Increase the percentage of CTE students who achieve their employment objectives by 5 percentage points

District Objectives: 2021-2025

District Objective 2.4 - Increase the percentage of CTE students who achieve their employment objectives by five percentage points (job closely related to field of study and attainment of a livable wage) and the number of CTE students who successfully complete 9+ CTE units in a single year by 10% from 2021-2025.

District Objective 3.1 - Reduce equity gaps in course success rates across all departments by 40% from 2021-2025.

Action: 2021-2022; improve Ther Ex implementation for PTA students

Produce a hard copy Ther EX manual for all second year students to ensure consistency in SLO assessments.

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Implementation Timeline: 2021 - 2022

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Identify related course/program outcomes: SLO Ther EX.....

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position): Joseph Castillo

Rationale (With supporting data): PTA faculty were teaching various levels and types of Ther EX; so this manual consistency throughout the PTA program.

Priority: High

Safety Issue: Yes

External Mandate: No

Safety/Mandate Explanation: All PTA students need the same level of Ther EX competency prior to clinical assignment

Update on Action

Updates

Update Year: 2022 - 2023

10/03/2022

Status: Action Completed

PTA Lab instructors were paid to produce this collection which has helped increase SLO assessments in Ther ex. But memorizing the exercise is not the same as being able to critically think about or select the correct Ther ex.

Impact on District Objectives/Unit Outcomes (Not Required):

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Resources Description

Equipment - Instructional - Ther EX manual; printed in color; need 28 per year. (Active)

Why is this resource required for this action?: This manual is necessary for compliance and safety of Ther Ex

Notes (optional): will take this out if Joseph can get an amount that is closer to \$500

Cost of Request (Nothing will be funded over the amount listed.): 1000

Link Actions to District Objectives

District Objectives: 2021-2025

District Objective 2.4 - Increase the percentage of CTE students who achieve their employment objectives by five percentage points (job closely related to field of study and attainment of a livable wage) and the number of CTE students who successfully complete 9+ CTE units in a single year by 10% from 2021-2025.