

# Comprehensive Program Review Report



## Program Review - Physical Therapy Assistant

### Program Summary

#### 2023-2024

**Prepared by:** Joseph Castillo MPT; PTA Program Director

**What are the strengths of your area?:** Quality of PTA courses:

The quality of the PTA courses is highly 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 surveys are very high, and students often express gratitude for his dedication to their learning process. We hired Dr. Nicole Marquez to cover the Clinical education courses and act as ACCE. She has finished two full years and has received 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. She also received high marks on student feedback. FTEF was 6.78 2022-2023.

#### Student Success:

We had one student score a 799 this year on their national boards. 800 is perfect score. In addition, our first-time pass rate on the national exam this year is 95.7%.

PTA course pass rate: Overall pass rate was 99%

PT AS degrees - awarded 24 in 2023-2024; average is 24 per year for the last 5 year.

Enrollment -there was significant improvement in enrollment - 2022-2023 was 74.6; 2021-2022 was 53.0.

#### Efficiency

Productivity for the PTA program was 11%. This is due to our outside accreditation by the Commission on 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 healthcare programs. It has provided an excellent 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 applications. Having a counselor in Hospital Rock makes getting the needed services much easier for PTA students.

Mr. Castillo attended a workshop entitled ACCCA Admin 101, sponsored by the 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.

PTA program holds two advisory board meetings per year - fall meeting is focused outcomes from the NPTE exam. And the spring meeting focuses on clinical ed outcomes, from the CPI and feedback from CI. See attached "PTA Final End of Year Report

2023."

**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.

A few pieces of PT equipment need to be purchased or replaced. We are in our 16th 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. The PTA program provides continuing education units to each CI and other training opportunities based on our curriculum to offset the increased work burden. 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. A rubric is needed to assess the clinicals from the student's and ACCE's perspectives.

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.:** Last year, 2022-2023, the courses returned to face-to-face. Even though classes have returned 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 an excellent 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 first-time pass rate is 95.7% (22/23) for 2023. So, the program has returned to 90% and above and has met the SLO objective.

**Changes Based on SLO Achievement:** No changes.

**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 2023 graduation rate was 100% (24/24).

A pass rate of 95.7% on the FSBPT/PTA licensing exam for the class of 2023 (22/23) of those who have taken the exam. The first-time pass rate is expected to be above 97.5% once the other student takes the exam for the first time and passes.

The employment rate is 100% of all those who have passed and have been contacted.

**Changes Based on PLO Achievement:** As the COS PTA program has met workforce needs, we would like a 100% ultimate pass rate when one student retakes her exam in mid-October, and another student takes 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.

**Related Documents:**

[PTA Final End of Year Report 2023.pdf](#)

## Action: 2023-2024

Provide students with industry competencies through faculty development (Perkins).

**Leave Blank:**

**Implementation Timeline:** 2023 - 2024

**Leave Blank:**

**Leave Blank:**

**Identify related course/program outcomes:** Maintain CAPTE Accreditation

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

**Rationale (With supporting data):**

**Priority:** Medium

**Safety Issue:** No

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**External Mandate:** Yes

**Safety/Mandate Explanation:** CAPTE requires currency in their practice and skills.

## Action: 2023-2024 To develop a clinical rubric to identify if clinical sites and CIs are meeting our standards

To meet CAPTE requirements for continued accreditation

**Leave Blank:**

**Implementation Timeline:** 2023 - 2024

**Leave Blank:**

**Leave Blank:**

**Identify related course/program outcomes:**

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

**Rationale (With supporting data):**

**Priority:** High

**Safety Issue:** Yes

**External Mandate:** Yes

**Safety/Mandate Explanation:** CAPTE requires that we assess our clinical sites and CIs to make sure that they are teaching our students and not using them inappropriately.

### Resources Description

**Equipment - Non-Instructional** - To develop a clinical rubric to be able to assess clinical sites and CIs objectively (Active)

**Why is this resource required for this action?:** To make sure that we continue to meet CAPTE standards for accreditation

**Notes (optional):** If funds are needed, this project will be funded by the PTA and VTEA budgets.

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

### 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: 2023-2024 Provide students access to updated equipment in all PTA labs (VTEA eligible)

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

**Leave Blank:**

**Implementation Timeline:** 2022 - 2023, 2023 - 2024

**Leave Blank:**

**Leave Blank:**

**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.

# Program Review - Physical Therapy Assistant

**Equipment - Instructional** - The PTA program will purchase - braces, pulse oximeters, BP cuffs, and balance equipment. (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.):**

## 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: 2023-2024; 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.

**Leave Blank:**

**Implementation Timeline:** 2019 - 2020, 2020 - 2021, 2021 - 2022, 2022 - 2023, 2023 - 2024

**Leave Blank:**

**Leave Blank:**

**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:**

## 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.):**

# Program Review - Physical Therapy Assistant

## 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.

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

## 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.

**Leave Blank:**

**Implementation Timeline:** 2022 - 2023

**Leave Blank:**

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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.

### Update on Action

#### Updates

**Update Year:** 2022 - 2023

09/18/2023

**Status:** Action Completed

Labs equipment updated with a new hi low mat, balance equipment, braces, and there ex equipment.

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

## Resources Description

**Equipment - Instructional** - PTA program will purchase - braces, IV poles, lpads, (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.

# Program Review - Physical Therapy Assistant

## 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

**Leave Blank:**

**Leave Blank:**

**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 CCCCO to have these discussion in our classes.

**Priority:** High

**Safety Issue:** No

**External Mandate:** Yes

**Safety/Mandate Explanation:** CCCCO 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):**

### Resources Description

**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)

# Program Review - Physical Therapy Assistant

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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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):**

## 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.

# Program Review - Physical Therapy Assistant

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