Physical Therapist Assistant Program

Informational Meeting

New Applicant Orientation to Program
Welcome

- Welcome
- Program – 2 year (5 semester) program
- Faculty – 3 full time faculty
  - Dr. Dawn D. Bancsi – Program Chairperson
  - Dr. Victor Obajuluwa – Program ACCE
  - Mrs. Susan Antrim – ACCE Liaison
Adjunct Faculty

- Olubunmi Adebayo, PTA
  - PTA Program Graduate, 2010
  - PTAS 101, 106 and Clinical Courses

- Annetta Wise, PTA
  - PTA Program Graduate, 2012
  - PTAS 101

- Amy Jo Russell, PTA
  - PTA Program Graduate, 2011
  - Clinical Courses (online activities)
Accreditation

- The PTA Program of the NW region is fully accredited
- Received 10 year re-affirmation of accreditation until 2022
- Currently ITCC has three programs:
  - Gary Campus
  - Muncie Campus
  - Sellersburg
- All programs use same application requirements
- Each program has separate application forms
Format of Program – NW Region

- **Prerequisites**
- **First Fall** – PTAS 106, 107
- **First Spring** – PTAS 102, 103, 201, and 115
- **Summer** – no PTAS classes, general education
- **Second Fall** – PTAS 202, 217
  - Must have all gen ed requirements complete by end of this semester
- **Second Spring** – PTAS 205, 215, 224
Prerequisites

- These courses must be completed by the end of the spring semester of the year applying:
  - Intro to Physical Therapist Assistant – PTAS 101
  - Anatomy and Physiology – APHY 101
  - Anatomy and Physiology – APHY 102
  - English Composition I – ENGL 111
  - Physical Science – SCIN 111
  - Test of Essential Academic Skill (last date 3/31)
  - (later slides will discuss application points)
First Fall Semester
(PTAS classes all day Wed/Fri)

- Kinesiology – PTAS 107 – 5 credits
  *(Prerequisite Cumulative Examination)*

- Treatment Modalities I – PTAS 106 – 5 credits

- PTAS Courses – total credits = 10
- Consider PTAS coursework for financial aid
First Fall Semester

- This semester is very challenging with lecture, practical, assignment, and cumulative examination assessments
- Classes are held all day Wednesday and Friday
- Students are also required to do 20 hours of open lab/semester (PTAS 107) and study groups (PTAS106) outside of normal class hours (open labs are offered at various times throughout the week – am and pm)
- Students are required to join the PTA Club
- Students are discouraged from working – historically the students who have worked full time have either failed or dropped the program
First Fall Semester

PTAS 107 – Cumulative Exam

- Throughout the semester cumulative exams are taken (PTAS 107, 207 and 224)
- These exams must be passed at 78% or higher to pass the course
- Students are given three attempts
- Before third attempt student must review with Program Chairperson prior to taking test
- Failure of exam and therefore failure of the course would require student to repeat course the next year (per college/ program policy)
First Spring Semester
(PTAS 102/103/201 – Tues/Thurs/FRI)

- Disease Trauma/ Med Term – PTAS 102 - 3 credits (12 week class)
- Admin Aspects – PTAS 103 3 credits (12 week class)
- Treatment Modalities II – PTAS 201 – 3 credits (12 week class)
- Clinical I – PTAS 115 – 2.5 credits
  - First week – competency testing (must pass to be assigned to a clinical facility)
  - Last 3 weeks of semester – clinical assignment

- PTAS Courses – total credits – 11.5 credits
- Note: cannot take an in-class 16 week gen ed course during clinicals (distance ed only)
First Spring Semester

- Classes this semester are Tuesday/Thursday/Friday
- PTAS 102 class requires open lab participation
- Competency week – this is knowledge and skill testing from PTAS 101, 106, and 107; students must pass 100% to be assigned to PTAS 115 Clinical I
First Spring Semester

- **Clinicals**
  - Students will attend three clinicals during the program
  - All clinicals are full time
  - Students can expect to drive up to 1.5 hours one way
  - Hours are based upon assigned clinical instructor at the facility – academic faculty have limited control over assigned hours per day
  - Hours can be anywhere from 7 am to 8 pm Monday through Sunday
  - Students are assigned by faculty to clinicals and are required to have at least 1 outpatient and 1 inpatient type of experience
Summer

- No scheduled PTAS classes
- General education courses
  - Remember classes are 8 weeks in duration
  - So classes that are 16 weeks: once per week courses will meet twice per week, etc
Second Fall Semester (PTAS courses – Tues/Thurs)

- Treatment Interventions for Special Populations – PTAS 202 – 2 credits
  First Year of Study Cumulative Exam
- Treatment Modalities III – PTAS 217 – 5 credits
- All general education courses must be completed by the end of this semester
Second Fall Semester

- This semester is very similar in intensity as the first fall semester with assessments and required open lab hours (now 20/semester) – note: most students average between 20 and 30 hours

- PTAS 202 – cumulative examination – all information thus far in the program; again three attempts and must pass at 78% or higher
Second Spring Semester

- Clinical II – PTAS 205 – 6 credits/7 weeks
- Clinical III – PTAS 215 – 6 credits/7 weeks
  - Scheduled as an 8 week course with spring break at the END of the course
- Current Issues and Review – PTAS 224 – 1 credit/2 weeks (TBD days)
  - Capstone testing
  - Formal presentations
  - Graduation/ Final Cumulative Exam
Second Spring Semester

- **Clinicals**
  - Again full time assignments
  - Many other requirements
    - Quizzes on Blackboard
    - Journals on Blackboard
    - Discussions on Blackboard
    - Formal Case Study Research Report
Post Graduation

- Apply for licensure – jurisdiction (STATE LICENSING AGENCY)
- Apply to take licensure examination (FSBPT.ORG)
- Schedule licensure examination (PROMETRIC.COM)
- PTAS 281- practice course for licensure examination (optional)
Following graduation, in order to practice as a PTA, graduates must take a national exam (NPTAE) provided by the Federation (FSBPT).

This examination is offered at designated times (historically July and October) after graduation.

Students generally study full time approximately 6 to 8 weeks following graduation to prepare for this examination.

This program has excellent success rates on this examination for both first time and ultimate pass rates.
Applying to the Program

- Be sure to access the Information Packet at ivytech.edu/northwest; academics tab, programs A to Z, PTA (NW region) – will be updated end of MAY each year

- Final pages of packet includes two pages for application (complete fully and submit with application) – Be sure to have most updated Information Packet prior to submitting documents

- Also need -
  - Results from TEAS test – copy of result including total score and scores for each section of test
  - Copies of all college transcripts within the past 10 years of study (This is a frequent error in applications, be sure to send) – MUST INCLUDE COPY OF ITCC TRANSCRIPT
Applying to the Program

- **Two Page Application**
  - These pages provide demographic information – be sure to complete
  - Be sure to identify best means of contacting by phone – if someone were to decline place in program, the next ranked student would be called and **allowed 24 hours to respond**
  - Also, provide any needed info
    - i.e. took classes in spring at different college
    - i.e. repeated a course and need committee to use better grade
    - i.e. repeating TEAS and it will be sent in separate mail
Applying to Program

Transcripts

- Copies are needed (official are not required as long as the official is located in the Registrar’s office)
- Students may not ask Registrar at ITCC for transcripts from other colleges
- Students must print out ITCC transcript from myivy.ivytech.edu and include in packet
- Even if grades are showing from other colleges on the ITCC transcript – still need copy from other college
Applying to Program

- **Transcripts**
  - Must include transcripts for past 10 years of college courses
  - Transcripts are used to identify coursework and grades for scoring
  - **Must have 2.5 minimum GPA to apply – based upon ITCC transcript**
  - Repeat courses – courses that are repeated, the higher grade will be taken
Applying to Program

Prerequisites – minimum requirements to apply

- PTAS 101 – Introduction to the Physical Therapist Assistant
- APHY 101 – Anatomy and Physiology I
- APHY 101 – Anatomy and Physiology II
- ENGL 111 – English Composition I
- SCIN 111 – Physical Science
- TEAS Test – Test of Essential Academic Skills

- ALL SCIENCE CLASSES _ effective March 2018 application deadline – science classes APHY 101, 102, PTAS 101, SCIN 111 _may not be older than 5 years_ from the end of the spring that the student is applying.
Applying to Program

- PTAS 101 – Total worth 30 points
  - Score provided by the achieved percentage in the course
  - All PTAS 101 instructors from all ITCC campuses maintain percentage achieved and are reported to the PTA programs either at the end of the semester OR when applying if from another campus
  - Calculation: if achieved 93.5% in class
    \[ 30 \times 0.935 = 28.05 \]
  - Accepted students have consistently averaged 94% in this class
Applying to Program

- APHY 101 – Total worth 15 points
  - Score provided based upon the GRADE earned in the course
  - Class can be taken at any university that is determined by ITCC registrar to be an equivalent course such that on the ITCC transcript APHY 101 is shown (no other course name or number is acceptable)
  - Grades: (Generally receiving less than an A in this course can be challenging for acceptance to program)
    A = 15
    B = 10
    C = 5
    D = 1
Applying to Program

- APHY 102 – Total worth 15 points
  - Score provided based upon the GRADE earned in the course
  - Classes can be taken at any university that is determined by ITCC registrar to be an equivalent course such that on the ITCC transcript APHY 102 is shown (no other course name or number is acceptable)
  - Grades: (Generally receiving less than an A in this course can be challenging for acceptance to program)
    A = 15
    B = 10
    C = 5
    D = 1
Applying to Program

- **ENGL III – Total worth 10 points**
  - Score provided based upon the GRADE earned in the course
  - Class can be taken at any university that is determined by ITCC registrar to be an equivalent course such that on the ITCC transcript ENGL III is shown (no other course name or number is acceptable)
  - Grades:
    - A = 10
    - B = 8
    - C = 5
    - D = 1
Applying to Program

- SCIN III – Total worth 10 points
  - Score provided based upon the GRADE earned in the course
  - Classes can be taken at any university that is determined by ITCC registrar to be an equivalent course such that on the ITCC transcript SCIN III is shown (no other course name or number is acceptable)
  - Grades
    - A = 10
    - B = 8
    - C = 5
    - D = 1
Applying to Program

- Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) – total worth 15 points
  - Score provided based upon the Total Score
    - Includes math, science, English, and reading
    - Get approval from Student Affairs, pay for test at Business Office, schedule appointment at testing center (see ivytech.edu for testing centers)
    - After test receive print out of results
    - Review for achieved Total Score
    - Example: achieved 89.5%
      - $15 \times 0.895 = 13.425$ (program does not round)
    - Accepted students have consistently averaged 75% on this test
Applying to Program

Understanding TEAS test score:

- Total Score – score used for application
- Program Mean – many health related programs use this test for admissions; comparing the score achieved with this mean will give an idea “How good is my score?”
- If Mean (average) is 63% and your score is 85% - that is a decent score
- If Mean (average) is 63% and your score is 50% - that is a score worth repeating
Applying to Program

- **TEAS**
  - Deadline to take test March 31\(^{st}\) (for any attempts for the application process)
  - Able to take test twice in two year period
  - Must have 30 days between testing
  - Test is good for two years
  - Test attempts count no matter what program is being applied
  - Please register for the Allied Health category
Applying to Program

- Total: Available points = 95
  - Includes only the required courses and TEAS
- No additional points are provided for any other courses or activities –
  - Observations of PT is completed in PTAS 101
  - No interviews or essays or recommendations

*Other program general education courses – no points, great benefit of completion prior to program in order to have the knowledge and the time to focus on PTAS classes only.*
Applying to Program

- **Common Errors – preventing acceptance**
  - Didn’t mail application – must mail postmarked by 3/31
  - Didn’t keep receipt of mail – be sure to have a receipt of when and to whom this information was sent
  - Didn’t keep a copy – make copies of ALL documents included in the application
  - Didn’t take the TEAS test on time – last date is 3/31 for ALL attempts
Applying to Program

- Common Errors – preventing acceptance
  - Didn’t include all transcripts – must include copies of all transcripts for college work up to 10 years; cannot determine minimum 2.5 GPA; cannot apply
  - Didn’t provide contact information – be sure to provide all contact information; without such unable to contact for acceptance
Other Requirements

- Transportation – must have reliable transportation to attend class and clinicals and any other requirements

- Clinical Documentation – yearly
  - Background Check
  - Drug Screening
  - Physical Examination
  - TB test and other Immunizations (records)
  - CPR certification
Other Requirements

- **Uniform**
  - Program polo (available at bookstore)
  - Khaki pants, closed toe/heel shoes
  - ID must be worn at all times
  - Program lab coat (available at bookstore)

- **Supplies (all available at bookstore)**
  - Lab equipment
  - Textbooks
  - ExamSoft requirement for all PTAS courses for testing

- Post graduation: licensure application, examination, and testing center (see specific websites for cost and registration procedures)
EXPECTED UPDATES

- The PTAS programs are completing a pilot study for a comprehensive anatomy test to be added into the application process. This pilot study should reveal the benefits of identifying successful students in the near future.

- Results of this study may affect the application process of spring 2019. Be sure to keep updated for future changes.