Kaskaskia College PTA Program

Last updated by program: 10/30/14

Physical Therapist Assistant Program Accredited by Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)

Date of initial accreditation: 10/96

Current accreditation status: Accreditation

Next visit: Spring 2020

Five-year history: Accreditation

Degree conferred: Associate in Applied Science

General Program Description

The PTA program at Kaskaskia College follows a Hybrid Curriculum Model that requires four semesters of study with a short summer session of clinical work. There is one director with teaching and administrative responsibilities, two full-time faculty members, two part-time instructors and one program tutor. Students spend 21 hours of required general education courses, 36 technical hours, and 17 clinical hours for a total of 74 credit hours. Graduation is in May. There is equal distribution between traditional and non-traditional students.

Clinical Experiences

Clinical sites are varied and include large metro and rural hospitals, rehabilitation agencies, nursing homes, skilled care units, and Centers of Excellence. Clinical Internships consist of one part-time clinical experience and three full-time clinical experiences: Introduction to Clinical Internship in the second semester that is in house and supervised by faculty; Clinical Internship I that is in the summer semester following the second semester that consists of one 6-week rotation; Clinical Internship II that takes place in the fall semester and consists of one 6-week rotation. Clinical Internship III that takes place in the fourth or spring semester that consists of one 7-week rotation.

Faculty

There are three full-time and two part-time faculty members. All five faculty members are engaged in clinical practice. The faculty-to-student ratio is 1:24 for lecture classes and no more than 1:12 for lab classes.

Enrollment

Approximately 48 students applied for entrance for Fall 2014. The PTA program plans for a class size no larger than 24 students.

Admission

Requirements and procedures for admission are as follows: application for admission to the college; a program admission worksheet, a letter of verification of employment for work experience for acquisition of points, and an ACT composite if utilized for acquisition of points; high school transcript or GED scores and if applicable, a college transcript; 18 documented hours of observation in at least three physical therapy facilities within 1 year prior to admission to the program; verification of placement in English 101 and Math 102 through either ACT or Kaskaskia College placement scores, or through completed course
work within the last 5 years; completion of the following prerequisite courses through two high school semesters or one college semester with a grade of C or above: biology and algebra. Students who have met all other admission requirements will be notified of the date and time of freshman orientation after application close. 53% of qualified applicants are accepted to the program (3-year average for students admitted in 2012, 2013, and 2014).

Outcomes

76.5% of admitted students graduate from the program (3-year average for graduates of 2011, 2012, and 2013); 91% of the graduates passed the licensure exam (3-year average for graduates of 2011, 2012, and 2013); and 98% of those program graduates responding to surveys are employed (3-year average for graduates of 2011, 2012, and 2013). For those graduating in 2013, 100% of survey respondents report being employed.

Tuition, fees and financial aid

The average cost of tuition for the program is $8,806.00. In addition, students are responsible for the cost of lab fees, books, insurance, physical exam (including all necessary immunizations), and transportation to clinical sites. Information concerning financial assistance may be obtained from the Kaskaskia College Financial Aid Office.

Student life

Kaskaskia College is located in rural southern Illinois. The main campus houses the PTA program in the Professional & Career Building which was completed in May 2007. As a community college, the college serves several area towns within a 60-mile radius. The college is 55 miles east of St Louis, Missouri, and the area offers an active variety of college activities as well as a variety of outdoor activities. If a student requires special academic or personal accommodation due to a disability, please refer to the following procedure: contact the office of the program in which you are enrolled. If additional services are required, please call the Office of Disability Services at ext. 3062. Students with a hearing impairment can access the college using the Illinois Relay Center TDD 800/526-0844.