

Technical Standards for a Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA)

Students are expected to meet the below technical standards in order to enroll in the Delgado Community College (the College) PTA Program. Technical standards must be met with or without accommodations.

The College complies with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The College will make a reasonable accommodation for an applicant with a disability who is otherwise qualified. If you think you have a disability that requires accommodation please look at <http://www.dcc.edu/student-services/advising/disability-services/> and contact the Office of Disability Services at 504-671-5161.

Students entering the Delgado PTA Program must be able to demonstrate the ability to:

1. Comprehend textbook material at the 11th grade level;
2. Communicate and assimilate information either in spoken, printed, signed, or computer voice format;
3. Gather, analyze, and draw conclusions from data;
4. Stand for a minimum of two hours;
5. Walk for a minimum of six hours, not necessarily consecutively;
6. Stoop, bend and twist for a minimum of 30 minutes at a time and be able to repeat this activity at frequent intervals;
7. Lift a 40-pound person or assist with a larger person and transfer the person from one location to another;
8. Determine by touch: hotness/coldness, wetness/dryness, hardness/softness;
9. Use the small muscle dexterity necessary to do such tasks as gloving, gowning, and operating controls on machinery;
10. Respond to spoken words, monitor signals, call bells, and vital sign assessment equipment;
11. Identify behaviors that would endanger a person's life or safety and intervene quickly in a crisis situation with an appropriate solution;
12. Remain calm, rational, decisive, and in control at all times, especially during emergency situations;
13. Exhibit social skills appropriate to professional interactions;
14. Maintain cleanliness and personal grooming consistent with close personal contact; and
15. Function without causing harm to self or others if under the influence of prescription or over-the-counter medications.