

## **Physical Therapy Assistant**

Physical Therapy Assistants are supervised by Physical Therapists to help patients regain movement and manage pain after injuries and illnesses and are involved in the direct care of patients.

*Physical Therapy Assistants typically do the following:*

- Observe patients before, during, and after therapy, noting the patient's status and reporting it to a physical therapist
- Help patients do specific exercises as part of the plan of care
- Treat patients using a variety of techniques, such as massage and stretching
- Use devices and equipment, such as walkers, to help patients
- Educate patients and family members about what to do after treatment

Under the direction and supervision of Physical Therapists, Physical Therapy Assistants treat patients through exercise, massage, gait and balance training, and other therapeutic interventions. They record patients' progress and report the results of each treatment to the Physical Therapist.

### **Work Environment**

Most Physical Therapy Assistants work in Physical Therapists' offices or in hospitals. They are frequently on their feet as they set up equipment and help care for patients.

**Top Local Employers:** Therapia, LLC, Consensus Health, Cynet Systems, Inc., Covenant Care, HealthPRO Heritage

### **Median Pay**

\$71,393

### **Job Growth (2020-2025)**

29%

### **Education and Training**

Physical Therapy Assistants entering the occupation typically need an associate degree from an accredited program and a license or certification.

### **Local Education:**

[Gurnick Academy](#)

### **For More Information:**

[Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

[American Physical Therapy Association](#)