

**WORKING TO BE A**

# Physical Therapist Assistant

**What type of education is needed to be a physical therapy assistant?**

- Associate's degree in physical therapy assisting recommended

**What licenses or certifications are needed to be a physical therapist assistant?**

- Ohio Physical Therapy Examining Board licenses physical therapist assistants

**What does a physical therapist assistant do?**

- Work with a physical therapist to help with patients
- Help give heat, light, and ultrasound treatments
- Give patients massages and help with exercises that heal muscles, nerves, bones, and joints
- Help patients learn or improve activities with mobility such as walking and climbing
- Record patient progress and report to a physical therapist
- Fit patients for corrective equipment and teach them to use it

**What is the work environment like for a physical therapist assistant?**

- Work on health teams with doctors, nurses, and physical therapists in public and private hospitals, clinics, private offices, and schools for the physically challenged
- Buildings are generally well lit and temperature controlled
- Can be a full or part time employee, often have evening and/ or weekend hours
- Requires lifting and positioning patients
- Good health and endurance needed to help observe patients during treatments

**What is the normal pay range for a physical therapist assistant?**

- \$14.86 - \$25.95 per hour

**What Source partners offer training to be a physical therapist assistant?**

- Owens Community College

**The Source**

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**How can a physical therapist assistant grow in their field?**

- Can work through education and experience to become a physical therapist, physical therapist instructor, or department supervisor