The students who complete the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program at Louisiana College receive an Associate of Applied Science Degree.

**PROGRAM MISSION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Students who complete the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program at Louisiana College are awarded an Associate of Applied Science Degree.

**Mission Statement of Louisiana College:**

The mission of Louisiana College is to provide liberal arts, professional, and graduate programs characterized by devotion to the preeminence of the Lord Jesus, allegiance to the authority of the Holy Scriptures, dedication to academic excellence for the glory of God, and commitment to change the world for Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Mission Statement Louisiana College Physical Therapist Assistant Program:**

The mission of the Louisiana College Physical Therapist Assistant Program is to provide an environment and opportunity in which the three fold strands of the PTA curriculum are woven into a tapestry representing the PTA career.

The strands of the tapestry are:

- **CHRISTIAN SERVICE** - The Physical Therapist Assistant Associate of Applied Science Degree program reflects the mission of Louisiana College’s Christian service component delivered to the client. The program seeks a diverse population of students who will share their talents and gifts in their growth as physical therapist assistants through Christian service by developing a spirit of altruism and healing---- with reverence and love for all of life with all of those entrusted to their care and by serving as a Christian role model/compassionate health care provider to the physical therapy profession and community at large.

- **COMPETENCIES** - Competencies relative to the PTA career will be acquired upon completion of the program, initiating a commitment to a high standard of scholarship and ethical standards which reflect the institution’s mission and heritage of academic excellence. Through facilities of the institution and clinic with emphasis on technology and communication, opportunities will be provided for engagement in scholarly activities to advance the knowledge of physical therapy and an understanding of one’s role as a PTA working under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist.

- **LIFE-LONG EDUCATION** - Life-long appreciation for and furthering of education within the Physical Therapist Assistant career will inspire a commitment to achievement of advanced knowledge, skills and abilities for excellence in provision of care under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist and will assist in creating, anticipating and responding to an evolving health care system and new responsibilities.

**PHILOSOPHY**

The Louisiana College Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program subscribes to and supports the mission, philosophies, values, and goals of Louisiana College and the accreditation standards established by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. The Louisiana College PTA faculty
and students recognize the intrinsic value and right to optimal health. These rights and values are embraced in the threefold strands of the PTA curriculum which are: Christian service, competencies relative to a Physical Therapist Assistant Career, and a lifelong commitment to the PTA career. The PTA Program at Louisiana College is committed to the highest standards of ethics, professionalism and academic excellence. The stakeholders of the PTA Program believe the PTA Program must provide a variety of didactic and clinical learning experiences which support the acquisition of knowledge, skills and behaviors necessary to practice safely and effectively under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist in order to become a vital member of the health care team.

**GOALS**

The mission and philosophy of the Louisiana College PTA Program are reflected in the following goals which correlate to the performance and behavioral expectations of the normative model:

*Upon successful completion of the PTA Program the graduate will:*

1. Exhibit effective verbal, non-verbal, and written communication necessary to obtain as well as convey information and/or education to patients, caregivers, other members of the healthcare team, and the community. (PE 2.0)

2. Incorporate technical skills, knowledge of physical therapy theory, and the knowledge of the utilization of fiscal and human resources into a meaningful, effective and accountable treatment process under the direction and supervision of the physical therapist. This process facilitates the delivery of cost effective quality patient care and attainment of established treatment goals. (PE 1.0, PE 4.0, and BE 6.0)

3. Demonstrate the ability to adapt to a dynamic health care environment while remaining aware of their responsibility and accountability to the patient, Physical Therapy profession, and the community. (BE 12.0)

4. Promote awareness of his/her career role development and lifelong learning opportunities through career advancement, degree advancement, and continuing education. (BE 5.0, PE 10.0)

5. Provide care as a member of the PTA career within the context of a Christian philosophy and standard of ethics in the provision of health care that fosters tolerance for cultural and religious diversity and facilitates ethical choices in professional practices. (BE 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0, 11.0)

6. Demonstrate the ability to collaborate with members of the healthcare team and others in the profession of physical therapy, to actively promote the profession and contribute to societal well-being. (PE 5.0)

**OBJECTIVES**

**OBJECTIVES FOR GOAL 1**

Exhibit effective verbal, non-verbal, and written communication necessary to obtain as well as convey information and/or education to patients, caregivers, other members of the healthcare team, and the community. (PE 2.0)

*Louisiana College’s PTA program is committed to students who, upon completion of the program, are able to:*


A. Effectively and competently communicate both verbally and non-verbally, in a culturally sensitive manner within the client base and professional community as measured by the PTA Clinical Performance Instrument and observations conducted by instructors.

B. Listen actively and attentively to understand what is being communicated by others in order to better respond to what is being communicated as measured by the PTA Performance Instrument and observations conducted by instructors.

OBJECTIVES FOR GOAL 2 (INTERVENTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY)

Incorporate technical skills, knowledge of physical therapy theory, and the knowledge of utilization of human and material resources into a meaningful, effective and accountable treatment process under the direction and supervision of the physical therapist. This process facilitates the delivery of cost effective quality patient care and attainment of established treatment goals. (PE 1.0, PE 4.0, and BE 6.0)

A. Intervention

_Louisiana College’s PTA program is committed to students who, upon completion of the program, are able to:_

1) Review the plan of care established by the physical therapist prior to initiating interventions.

2) Responsibly provide directed interventions established by the physical therapist in a safe manner, minimizing risk to patients, self, and others.

3) Recognize when an intervention is inappropriate due to changes in the patient’s status respond appropriately and report to the physical therapist.

4) Provide instruction to patient/client, family members, and caregivers to achieve patient/client goals and outcomes described in the plan of care established by the physical therapist.

5) Follow established procedures and respond effectively to patient/client and environmental emergencies in any practice setting.

B. Accountability

_Louisiana College’s PTA program is committed to students who, upon completion of the program, are able to:_

1) Demonstrate an understanding of levels of authority and responsibility; planning, time management, supervisory process, performance evaluations, policies and procedures; fiscal considerations for physical therapy providers and consumers; and, continuous quality improvement as verified by program assessment activities conducted by core faculty.

2) Adhere to federal, state and institutional regulations as evidenced by the PTA Clinical Performance Instrument.

3) Act in a manner consistent with the Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant and Guide for Conduct of Physical Therapist Assistant as evidenced by the PTA Clinical Performance Instrument.
OBJECTIVES FOR GOAL 3

Demonstrate the ability to adapt to a dynamic health care environment remaining aware of their responsibility and accountability to the patient, profession, and the community. (BE 12.0)

Louisiana College’s PTA program is committed to students who, upon completion of the program, are able to:

A. Demonstrate ethical standards which will indicate their responsibility to client, profession, institution and the community at large by abiding by relevant ethical codes and standards.

B. Adhere to institutional policies and procedures which were adopted in order to provide optimal health care to clients.

C. Identify questionable ethical situations and will report violations in a timely manner.

D. Demonstrate citizenship and social responsibility by utilizing reporting procedures for persons dealing with physical, emotional, substance, and sexual abuse.

E. Identify the role of social agencies and advocacy groups and mechanisms that impact legislation/regulations.

OBJECTIVES FOR GOAL 4

Promote awareness of his/her career role development and lifelong learning opportunities through career advancement, degree advancement, and continuing education. (BE 5.0, PE 10.0)

Louisiana College’s PTA program is committed to students who, upon completion of the program, will continue:

A. Participation in career development based on self-assessment, performance appraisals, work setting, and special interests.

B. Immersion in physical therapy practices and research based techniques.

C. Participation in organizations and activities that promote physical therapy.

D. Demonstrating reliability in meeting normal job responsibilities such as attendance, punctuality, and following directives as well as ensuring the safety, privacy and confidentiality of patients/clients.
OBJECTIVES GOAL 5

Provide care as a PTA and member of the health care team within the context of a Christian philosophy and standard of ethics in the provision of health care that fosters tolerance for cultural and religious diversity and facilitates ethical choices in professional practices. (BE 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0, and 11.0)

*Louisiana College’s PTA program is committed to students who, upon completion of the program, are able to:*

A. Place patient/client needs above PTA's self-interests by regularly displaying generosity as evidenced by the use of time and effort to meet client/patient needs and demonstrating willingness to change his/her schedule in order to meet patient needs.

B. Exhibit care and compassion by responding to all aspects of the patient’s care. (biological, cultural, and social)

C. Demonstrate empathy and compassion in dealing with all clients.

D. Promote active involvement of the patient in his/her care by actively listening to the individual's needs and supporting the patient's participation in physical therapy care.

E. Identify, respect, and act with consideration in a nonjudgmental manner even when the patient/client’s beliefs and values conflict with his/her system.

F. Demonstrate integrity in all interactions with patients/clients, family members, caregivers, supervising physical therapists, coworkers, other health care providers, students, other consumers, employers and payers as articulated in the *Guide for Conduct of the Physical Therapist Assistant* and the *Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant*.

OBJECTIVES GOAL 6

Demonstrate the ability to collaborate with members of the healthcare team and others in the profession of physical therapy, to actively promote the profession and contribute to societal well-being. (PE 5.0, 10.0)

*Louisiana College’s PTA program is committed to students who, upon completion of the program, are able to:*

A. Describe the physical therapists and other team members’ expertise, background, knowledge and values to facilitate collaboration in the delivery of care.

B. Participate in an APTA organization and recognizes its relationship to the physical therapy profession.