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ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

**ALLIED HEALTH STUDY:
OCCUPATIONAL AND PHYSICAL THERAPIST
AIDES AND ASSISTANTS**

South Central Region

NOVEMBER 2008



CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
South Central Region

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An Initiative of



**ECONOMIC &
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT**
through the
CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY
COLLEGES



Mission: The Centers of Excellence, in partnership with business and industry, deliver regional workforce research customized for community college decision making and resource development.

Vision: We aspire to be the premier source of regional economic and workforce information and insight for community colleges.

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Centers of Excellence, Economic and Workforce Development Program

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Employment in Occupational Therapist Aides and Assistants and Physical Therapist Aides and Assistants occupations is expected to grow much faster than average; almost 200 new and replacement jobs are projected through 2012 in the South Central Region.

— Source: EMSI Complete Employment, Spring 2008 Release v.2

Executive Summary

The healthcare industry in the South Central Region employs over 72,000 workers, accounting for five percent of all healthcare jobs in the state of California and seven percent of all jobs in the region.

This is a study of the healthcare industry with special emphasis on specific allied health occupations — occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants. These particular occupations were selected as part of a group of allied health occupations of interest in the region. They account for one percent of all healthcare jobs in the region employing 742 workers. Growth in these occupations is projected to be faster than average through 2012. What this means for the South Central Region is the creation of almost 200 new and replacement jobs through 2012. Of these almost 200 new and replacement jobs 56 percent or 110 of them are projected in a single occupation — physical therapist aide.

Employment in occupational therapy is very low; less than 70 jobs in 2007 so, while it is an important allied health profession, it does not warrant a community college response. Physical therapy is a little more robust with 675 jobs in 2007, but still relatively low when compared to other allied health occupations (medical assistants, 3,486; home health aides, 4,497; nursing aides, orderlies and attendants, 5,018).

Based on labor market data and a survey of regional employers, this report concludes that a community college response to these particular allied health occupations is not warranted at this time. However, the field of allied health in general is growing and will continue to grow. It is therefore suggested that South Central Regional Colleges incorporate allied health (including occupational and physical therapy) into long term planning efforts in the area of career and technical education.

Introduction

The Economic and Workforce Development Program, through the Center of Excellence initiative identifies industries and occupations with unmet employee development needs and provides community colleges information to allow for a response to industry workforce needs. The mechanism for providing information is through environmental scanning – gathering both internal (college) and external (industry and workforce organizations) data to help colleges make informed decisions about their program offerings and use of resources.

This is an occupational study of non-nursing, allied health occupations with specific focus on occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants. These particular occupations were selected because:

- They have been identified as high-growth, high-demand occupations by the Bureau of Labor Statistics;

- They offer career ladder opportunities;
- They provide a living wage;
- Regional educators have expressed an interest in these occupations; and
- They align well with community college resources.

This report is designed to present general information about the healthcare industry in the South Central Region. It will also provide an overview of the four occupations referenced above and will finally make the case that, while these four allied health occupations are projected to grow faster than average and will increase in demand, they may not, at this time warrant a response from South Central regional colleges. South Central colleges should, however continue to watch these occupations and consider them for inclusion in overall program planning to meet the needs of the healthcare industry.

Industry Overview

As the largest industry in 2004, healthcare provided 13.5 million jobs in the United States. More new wage and salary jobs – about 19 percent, or 3.6 million – created between 2004 and 2014 will be in healthcare than in any other industry. Healthcare jobs are found throughout the country, but they are concentrated in the largest states; California is one of those states.

In 2004, jobs in healthcare in the state of California totaled over 1.3 million, accounting for over nine percent of all healthcare jobs in the United States. Similarly, in 2004, jobs in healthcare in the South Central region totaled over 69,000, accounting for over five percent of all healthcare jobs in the state.

In 2007, the healthcare industry in the South Central Region accounted for over 72,000 jobs, maintaining a five percent share of all healthcare jobs in the state and almost seven percent of all jobs in the region. New jobs in healthcare are expected to grow by 7,790, or 11 percent through 2012.

Allied health is a major sub-sector of the healthcare industry. Allied health professionals are employed across all healthcare industry sectors and, in 2007 represented over 56,000 jobs in the South Central Region. Almost 6,000 new allied health jobs (11 percent increase) are projected through 2012; an additional estimated 4,600 replacement jobs bring the total new and replacement figure to over 10,600 through 2012 for a total of almost 67,000 allied health jobs.

In the South Central Region, new and replacement jobs in allied health are expected to increase 19 percent, or more than 10,600 jobs, through 2012.

— Source: EMSI

Occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants are allied health occupations and the focus of this report. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports that there will be tremendous growth in the demand for allied health workers in the next two decades. Further, the Bureau indicates that of the 30 fastest growing occupations in the labor market, more than half are in the allied health field. Most of the new jobs are to be

in emerging assistive positions, such as physical and occupational therapy and dental and pharmacy technicians (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2004).

Occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants work in a variety of healthcare settings. Top healthcare industry sectors that employ occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants are presented in Table 1 below.

Table 1 – Top Industries for Occupational Therapist Aides and Assistants and Physical Therapist Aides and Assistants in the South Central Region

6-digit NAICS	NAICS Description	2007 Jobs	2012 Jobs	Change	% Change
621340	Offices of physical, occupational and speech therapists, and audiologists	398	514	116	29%
622100	General medical and surgical hospitals, private	114	117	3	3%
930000	Local government	47	51	4	9%
623100	Nursing care facilities	40	41	1	2%
621100	Offices of physicians	40	47	7	17%
920000	State government	19	19	0	0%
621600	Home health care services	15	21	6	39%
	Total	673	810	137	20%

The seven healthcare industry sectors referenced in the above table employ almost 91 percent of all occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants in the South Central Region. Top employment is in home health care services (39 percent); offices of physical, occupational and speech therapist and audiologists (29 percent); and offices of physicians (17 percent).

Occupational Overview

The allied health industry provides a wide array of employment opportunities. These are good paying jobs that frequently offer career pathways for ongoing professional development. This report seeks to address the workforce shortage and training needs for occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics 2008-09 Occupational Outlook Handbook, employment in occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants positions is expected to grow much faster than average because of the increasing demand for occupational and physical therapy services and the increasing use of aides and assistants by occupational and physical therapists. Job prospects for occupational therapist assistants and physical therapist assistants are considered to be very good; aides may experience a more competitive employment environment.

The aide level positions provide entry level employment with career path opportunities. Community colleges can play a role in developing and promoting career path opportunities. With additional training and education, occupational and physical therapist aides and assistants have the opportunity to become physical therapists and occupational therapists and master the skills of their entry level work experience.

Proposed legislation limiting reimbursement for occupational and physical therapy services may adversely impact job growth in the short term. However, in the long run demand will continue to rise because:

- There is an increasing number of individuals with disabilities or limited function generating an increased demand for occupational therapists;
- The population is aging resulting in an increased demand for occupational therapy;
- The baby boomer generation is entering the prime age for heart attacks and strokes, increasing the demand for cardio and physical rehabilitation;
- Current and future medical developments are increasing survival rates of trauma victims creating added demand for therapy services;
- The increased prevalence of sensory disorders in children will increase the demand for occupational therapy services; and
- Cost cutting efforts will result in increased utilization of and reliance on aides and assistants by occupational and physical therapists.

While the percentage growth of new and replacement jobs for occupational aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants through 2012 in the South Central Region is impressive (26 percent) and substantive, actual job counts are relatively low and call into question the need for college response at this time. The following tables present employment information for occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants in the South Central Region between 2007 and 2012. A total of 148 new jobs are expected to be added between 2007 and 2012; this represents an average of 30 regional jobs per year.

Table 2 – Occupational Summary for OT and PT hires in the South Central Region

SOC Code	SOC Title	2007 Jobs	2012 Jobs	Change	2007 Median Hourly Earnings
31-2022	Physical therapist aides	418	501	83	\$11.81
31-2021	Physical therapist assistants	257	312	55	\$21.04
31-2011	Occupational therapist assistants	37	43	6	\$21.44
31-2012	Occupational therapist aides	30	34	4	\$11.95
Total		742	890	148	

Replacement jobs add an additional 48 jobs for a total of 196 hires through 2012. Please see Table 3 below for a breakdown of replacement job projections through 2012.

Table 3 –OT and PT New and Replacement totals in the South Central Region

SOC Code	SOC Title	2012 New Jobs	2012 Replacements	Total
31-2022	Physical therapist aides	83	27	110
31-2021	Physical therapist assistants	55	16	71
31-2011	Occupational therapist assistants	6	3	9
31-2012	Occupational therapist aides	4	2	6
	Total	148	48	196

Occupational therapist aides and physical therapist aides require short-term on-the-job training. Occupational therapist and physical therapist assistants require associate degree education. (Please refer to Appendix B for occupational profiles of these occupations.) Additionally, occupational and physical therapy assistant assistants require licensure and/or certification as follows:

Occupation Therapist Assistant (SOC CODE 31-2-11.00)

- Pass examination offered by the National Board of Occupational Therapists
- Pass examination by the California Board of Occupational Therapy
- Certification by the California Board of Occupational Therapy
- Fingerprinting clearance

Physical Therapist Assistant (SOC CODE 31-2021.00)

- Licensed by the Physical Therapy Board of California
- Fingerprinting clearance

The 2007 median hourly earnings for these occupations presented in Table 2 (above) range from \$11.81 per hour for physical therapist aides to \$21.44 per hour for occupational therapist assistants.

The following table (Table 4) presents regional and state totals for these four allied health occupations. Again, while regional growth is projected at 20 percent through 2012; actual job creation is relatively low at 148 new jobs. The same pattern holds true on a state level. State growth in these select occupations through 2012 is projected at 18 percent or 2,100 new jobs.

Table 4 – Regional and State Growth Totals through 2012

Region	2007 Jobs	2012 Jobs	Change	% Change	2007 Median Hourly Earnings
Regional Total	742	890	148	20%	\$15.49
State Total	11,539	13,639	2,100	18%	\$18.06

Occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants account for roughly one percent of all allied health jobs both regionally and statewide. New and replacement jobs increase projections regionally by an additional 48 jobs (196 total) for an overall 26 percent increase through 2012.

Occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants were clustered together because they have related educational requirements and overlapping career paths. The knowledge, skills and abilities required for these primary occupations provide a solid foundation for further growth in health career occupations. Please see Appendix C for career path charts and Appendix D for occupational data related to the suggested career options.

Employer Needs and Challenges

The allied health workforce has been largely overshadowed by policymakers focus on the nursing shortage and has been largely ignored in workforce policy. Yet allied health workers are a critical component of the health care delivery system and share many of the same challenges and obstacles encountered in the nursing profession:

- Attracting new students and workers – creating a pipeline of new workers
- Retaining existing workers by improving wages, benefits and the work environment
- Sufficient numbers of instructors and clinical sites

South Central regional employers were surveyed to provide local industry data to support this environmental scan report. Over 50 surveys were distributed to employers across the South Central Region to include San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura and north Los Angeles Counties. Twenty-two employers, representing almost 3,500 employees responded to the survey for an overall response rate of 41.5%. At least one response one was received from seven of the eight regional college service areas.

The survey was divided into four sections: 1) Contact Information and Total Employees; 2) Entry-level Skills; 3) Current Employees and Expected Hires; and 4) Vocational and Technical Training. Key highlights include the following:

Table 5 – Entry Level Skills Found Lacking

Skill	# of Responders	Percentage
English	5	23%
Reading	1	4.5%
Math	5	23%
Spelling	10	45%
Writing	11	50%
Employability	18	82%

Survey respondents were asked to indicate how many new employees they expect to hire in each of the four occupations over the next two years. They were also asked to indicate the level of difficulty they experience in finding qualified applicants. Responses ranged from “not very difficult” (1) to “very difficult” (5). Employers reporting the highest level of difficulty in finding qualified applicants (level 4 and 5 responses) are represented in the following table.

Table 6 – Expected Hires Over the Next Two Years

Occupation	# of Responders	Expected Hires	Level 4 and 5 Responses	
			Number	Percentage
Occupational Therapist Aides	4	12	2	50%
Occupational Therapist Assistants	5	8	5	100%
Physical Therapist Aides	17	52	6	35%
Physical Therapist Assistant	12	22	9	75%

Follow up phone calls to regional employers supported the results of the regional survey. As indicated in the above table, the greatest hiring need is for physical therapist aides (52 projected new hires within the next two years). Regional employers reported that this need for physical therapist aides is due to the fact that many individuals in these positions are on a career path; they tend to be part time workers hoping to get into the field and are trying to gain experience to support their educational endeavors.

Employers do seem to have difficulty hiring physical therapist assistants. Medicare and other insurance restrictions and mandates are influencing the use of physical therapist assistants. One employer reported that Medicare patients must be treated by a licensed professional, which is increasing the need for physical therapist assistants. Part of the difficulty in hiring physical therapist assistants is that they tend to seek employment in the communities where they attend school and, since there are no programs on the Central Coast, there is a shortage of workers.

Community Support and Resources

Healthcare in general is receiving a lot of attention in the South Central Region. The Regional Health Occupation Resource Center (RHORC) hosted by Santa Barbara City College is an active participant in the Healthcare Action Partnership of Ventura County. This group meets on a quarterly basis to address the needs of the healthcare industry though its primary focus is generally on the nursing shortage and its challenges. Given the relatively low number of jobs in these specific occupations (occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants), there has not been a lot of attention paid to them.

College Response and Issues

The South Central Region Center of Excellence hosted by Ventura College serves the eight colleges located in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura and north Los Angeles Counties. All eight colleges offer credit programs in healthcare related fields.

In spite of the fact that occupational therapist assistant and physical therapist assistant require associate degrees, none of the South Central regional colleges offer credit programs in occupational or physical therapist occupations. College resources tend to be allocated to programs with critical needs – nursing, licensed vocational nursing, certified nursing assistants, medical assistants, etc. While there is a need for trained professionals in occupational and physical therapy, the demand is not large enough for individual college response. Appendix E provides a list of community colleges offering occupational or physical therapy programs.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants currently account for 742 jobs (one percent of all healthcare jobs) in the South Central Region. An additional 196 new and replacement jobs are projected through 2012. Of these, 110 (56 percent) are projected to be physical therapist aides.

Occupational therapy, while an important allied health profession, does not employ many workers in the South Central Region. As such, occupational therapy training programs will struggle to become a priority for community college allied health education. Physical therapy, on the other hand, does provide a greater number of jobs in the region (675 currently with new and replacement projections of 181 through 2012). Changing educational requirements for physical therapists may result in an increased need for physical therapist assistants and aides.

Occupational therapist assistants and physical therapist assistants require associate degree training and certification. While there is not an immediate call to action for South Central regional colleges in these specific occupations; they should not be overlooked in long term planning and program development to meet healthcare industry needs.

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- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 2008-09 Occupational Outlook Handbook,
www.bls.gov/OCO
- U.S. Department of Education National Center for Education Statistics, <http://nces.ed.gov>
- U.S. Department of Labor ETA – Occupational Outlook, www.doleta.gov

Appendix A: How to Utilize this Report

This report is designed to provide current industry data to:

- Define potential strategic opportunities relative to an industry's emerging trends and workforce needs;
- Influence and inform local college program planning and resource development;
- Promote a future-oriented and market responsive way of thinking among stakeholders; and,
- Assist faculty, Economic Development and CTE administrators, and Community and Contract Education programs in connecting with industry partners.

The information in this report has been validated by employers and also includes a listing of what programs are already being offered by colleges to address those workforce needs. In some instances, the labor market information and industry validation will suggest that colleges might not want to begin or add programs, thereby avoiding needless replication and low enrollments.

About the Centers of Excellence

The Centers of Excellence (COE), in partnership with business and industry, deliver regional workforce research customized for community college decision making and resource development. This information has proven valuable to colleges in beginning, revising, or updating economic development and Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, strengthening grant applications, assisting in the accreditation process, and in supporting strategic planning efforts.

The Centers of Excellence Initiative is funded in part by the Chancellor's Office, California Community Colleges, Economic and Workforce Development Program. The total grant amount (grant number 07-305-011 for \$205,000) represents funding for multiple projects and written reports through the Center of Excellence. The Centers aspire to be the premier source of regional economic and workforce information and insight for California's community colleges.

More information about the Centers of Excellence is available at www.coecc.net.

Important Disclaimer

All representations included in this report have been produced from primary research and/or secondary review of publicly and/or privately available data and/or research reports. Efforts have been made to qualify and validate the accuracy of the data and the reported findings; however, neither the Centers of Excellence, COE host District, nor California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office are responsible for applications or decisions made by recipient community colleges or their representatives based upon components or recommendations contained in this study.

Appendix B: O*NET Occupational Profiles

The following occupational profile information is taken directly from O*NET Online, the Occupational Information Network. For more detailed occupational summary reports, please visit O*NET at <http://onlineonetcenter.org>.

Summary Report for: Occupational Therapist Aides (31-2012)

Under close supervision of an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, perform only delegated, selected, or routine tasks in specific situations. These duties include preparing patient and treatment room.

Sample of reported job titles: Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA), Rehabilitation Aide (Rehab Aide), Occupational Therapy Aide (OT Aide), Occupational Therapy Technician (OT Tech), Rehabilitation Services Aide, Rehabilitation Technician (Rehab Tech), Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Certified Occupational Rehabilitation Aide (CORA), Occupational Rehabilitation Aide, Restorative Therapist

Tasks

- Encourage patients and attend to their physical needs to facilitate the attainment of therapeutic goals.
- Report to supervisors or therapists, verbally or in writing, on patients' progress, attitudes, attendance, and accomplishments.
- Observe patients' attendance, progress, attitudes, and accomplishments and record and maintain information in client records.
- Manage intradepartmental infection control and equipment security.
- Evaluate the living skills and capacities of physically, developmentally, or emotionally disabled clients.
- Prepare and maintain work area, materials, and equipment and maintain inventory of treatment and educational supplies.
- Instruct patients and families in work, social, and living skills, the care and use of adaptive equipment, and other skills to facilitate home and work adjustment to disability.
- Supervise patients in choosing and completing work assignments or arts and crafts projects.
- Assist occupational therapists in planning, implementing, and administering therapy programs to restore, reinforce, and enhance performance, using selected activities and special equipment.
- Perform clerical, administrative, and secretarial duties, such as answering phones, restocking and ordering supplies, filling out paperwork, and scheduling appointments.

Summary Report for: Occupational Therapist Assistants (31-2011)

Assist occupational therapists in providing occupational therapy treatments and procedures. May, in accordance with State laws, assist in development of treatment plans, carry out routine functions, direct activity programs, and document the progress of treatments. Generally requires formal training.

Sample of reported job titles: Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA), Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant-Licensed (COTA-L), Occupational Therapy Assistant, Occupational Therapist Assistant, Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant (COTA), Behavior Specialist, Licensed Occupational Therapy Assistant

Tasks

- Observe and record patients' progress, attitudes, and behavior, and maintain this information in client records.
- Maintain and promote a positive attitude toward clients and their treatment programs.
- Monitor patients' performance in therapy activities, providing encouragement.
- Select therapy activities to fit patients' needs and capabilities.
- Instruct, or assist in instructing, patients and families in home programs, basic living skills, and the care and use of adaptive equipment.
- Evaluate the daily living skills and capacities of physically, developmentally or emotionally disabled clients.
- Aid patients in dressing and grooming themselves.
- Implement, or assist occupational therapists with implementing, treatment plans designed to help clients function independently.
- Report to supervisors, verbally or in writing, on patients' progress, attitudes and behavior.
- Alter treatment programs to obtain better results if treatment is not having the intended effect.

Summary Report for: Physical Therapist Aides (31-2022)

Under close supervision of a physical therapist or physical therapy assistant, perform only delegated, selected, or routine tasks in specific situations. These duties include preparing the patient and the treatment area.

Sample of reported job titles: Physical Therapy Aide (PTA), Physical Therapy Aide (PT Aide), Physical Therapy Technician, Rehabilitation Aide, Physical Therapist Aide (PTA), Physical Therapist Technician, Rehabilitation Technician, Restorative Aide (RA), Clinical Rehabilitation Aide, Physical Therapy Attendant

Tasks

- Clean and organize work area and disinfect equipment after treatment.
- Administer active and passive manual therapeutic exercises, therapeutic massage, and heat, light, sound, water, or electrical modality treatments, such as ultrasound.
- Instruct, motivate, safeguard and assist patients practicing exercises and functional activities, under direction of medical staff.
- Record treatment given and equipment used.
- Confer with physical therapy staff or others to discuss and evaluate patient information for planning, modifying, and coordinating treatment.
- Observe patients during treatment to compile and evaluate data on patients' responses and progress, and report to physical therapist.
- Secure patients into or onto therapy equipment.
- Change linens, such as bed sheets and pillow cases.
- Transport patients to and from treatment areas, using wheelchairs or providing standing support.
- Arrange treatment supplies to keep them in order.

Summary Report for: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)

Assist physical therapists in providing physical therapy treatments and procedures. May, in accordance with State laws, assist in the development of treatment plans, carry out routine functions, document the progress of treatment, and modify specific treatments in accordance with patient status and within the scope of treatment plans established by a physical therapist. Generally requires formal training.

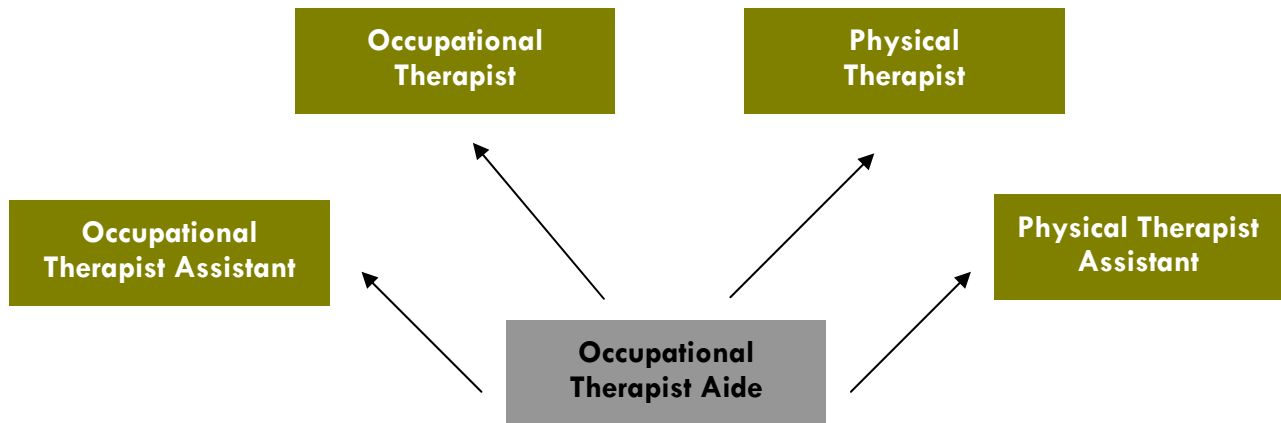
Sample of reported job titles: Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA), Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA), Physical Therapy Technician, Licensed Physical Therapist Assistant (LPTA), Licensed Physical Therapy Assistant (LPTA), Physical Therapy Technician

Tasks

- Instruct, motivate, safeguard and assist patients as they practice exercises and functional activities.
- Observe patients during treatments to compile and evaluate data on their responses and progress, and provide results to physical therapist in person or through progress notes.
- Confer with physical therapy staff or others to discuss and evaluate patient information for planning, modifying, and coordinating treatment.
- Transport patients to and from treatment areas, lifting and transferring them according to positioning requirements.
- Secure patients into or onto therapy equipment.
- Administer active and passive manual therapeutic exercises, therapeutic massage, aquatic physical therapy, and heat, light, sound, and electrical modality treatments, such as ultrasound.
- Communicate with or instruct caregivers and family members on patient therapeutic activities and treatment plans.
- Measure patients' range-of-joint motion, body parts, and vital signs to determine effects of treatments or for patient evaluations.
- Monitor operation of equipment and record use of equipment and administration of treatment.
- Fit patients for orthopedic braces, prostheses, and supportive devices, such as crutches.

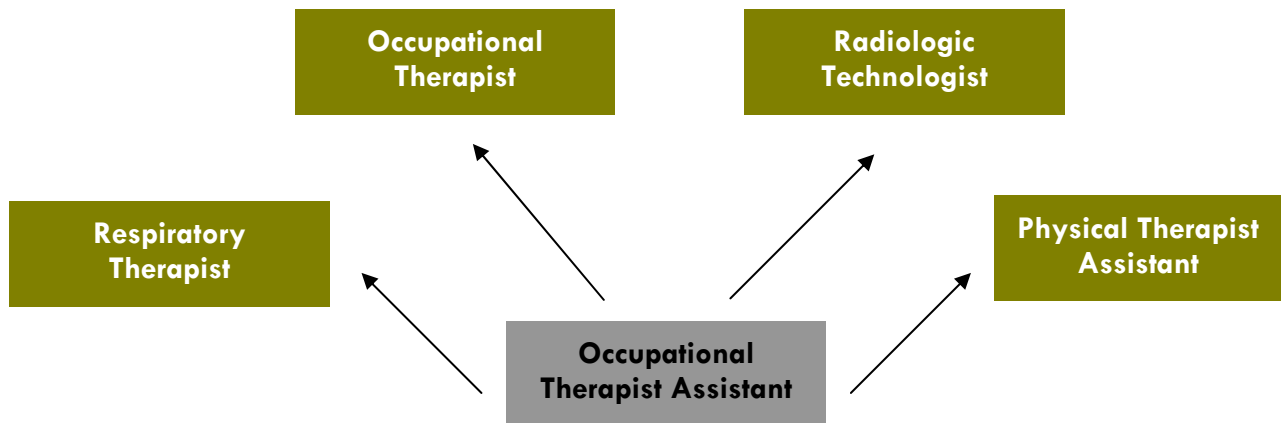
Appendix C: Possible Career Paths

Occupational Therapist Aide



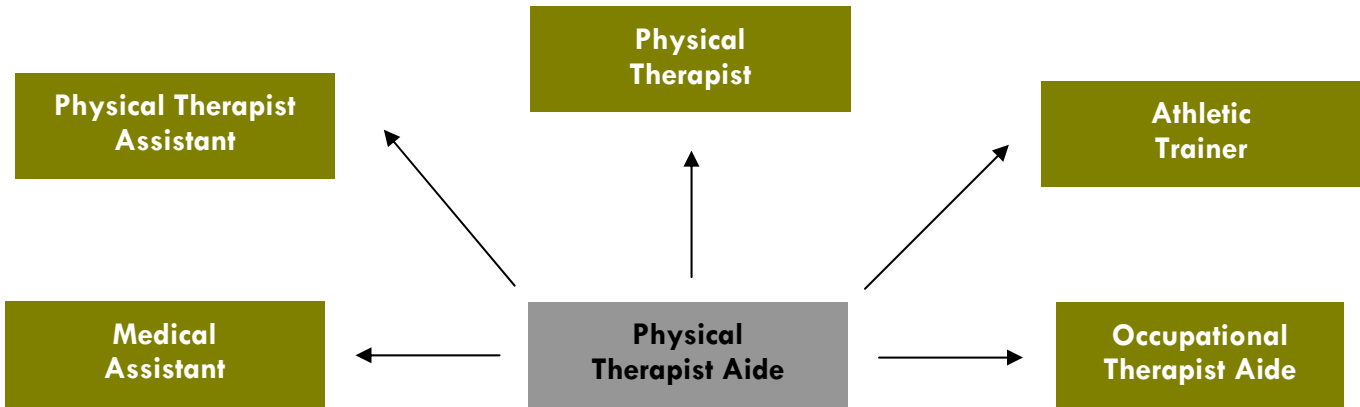
Source: EDD/LMID

Occupational Therapist Assistant



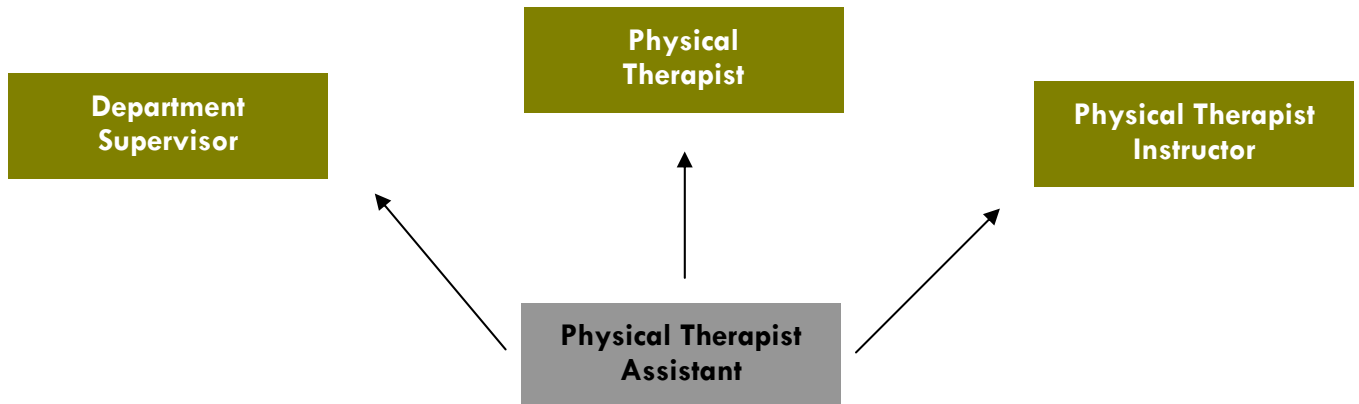
Source: EDD/LMID

Physical Therapist Aides



Source: EDD/LMID

Physical Therapist Assistant



Source: EDD/LMID

Appendix D: Career Path Occupational Data for the South Central Region

The following table presents occupational data for occupational therapist aides and assistants and physical therapist aides and assistants and related career path options. Data sets include five year growth projections, median hourly earnings, new and replacement jobs and annual openings.

Training Level / Occupation	2007 Jobs	2012 Jobs	Change		Earnings	Annual Openings	New & Replacement Jobs
			#	%			
Short-term on-the-job training							
Occupational therapist aides	30	34	4	13%	\$11.95	1	6
Physical therapist aides	418	501	83	20%	\$11.81	22	110
Moderate-term on-the-job training							
Medical assistants	3,486	4,164	678	19%	\$14.31	179	894
Associate degree							
Occupational therapist assistants	37	43	6	16%	\$21.44	2	9
Physical therapist assistants	257	312	55	21%	\$21.04	14	71
Radiologic technologists and technicians	1,034	1,095	61	6%	\$27.16	26	131
Respiratory therapists	621	682	61	10%	\$30.89	21	107
Bachelor's degree							
Athletic trainers	96	111	15	16%	\$22.25	5	24
Master's degree							
Occupational therapists	483	550	67	14%	\$33.23	20	102
Physical therapists	1,150	1,335	185	16%	\$33.77	51	254
Total	7,612	8,827	1215			341	1,708

Source: EMSI Complete Employment, Spring 2008 v.2

Appendix E: Contact Information for Community College OT and PT Programs

The following table provides contact information for California Community Colleges that offer Occupational Therapist Assistant or Physical Therapist Assistant programs.

College/ Department	Address	Director	Phone/ Email or Website
Occupational Therapist Assistant Programs			
Sacramento City College/ Science & Allied Health Div.	3835 Freeport Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95822	Ada Boone Hoerl	(916) 558-2297/ hoerla@scc.losrios.edu
Grossmont College	8800 Grossmont College Dr. El Cajon, CA 92020	Christi Vicino	(619) 644-7304/ christi.vicino@gcccd.edu
Santa Ana College/ Santa Ana Campus	1530 W. 17 th Street Santa Ana, CA 92706	Michelle Parolise MBA, OTR/L	(714) 564-6833/ parolise_michelle@sac.edu
Physical Therapist Assistant Programs			
Cerritos College/ Health Occupations Div.	11110 Alondia Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650	Marijean Piorkowski PT, MS, DPT	(562) 860-2451 x3201/ piorkowski@cerritos.edu
Ohlone College/ Ohlone CCD	43600 Mission Blvd. Fremont, CA 94539	Sheryl Einfalt MPT	(510) 659-6030/ cthoel@ohlone.edu
Sacramento City College/ Science & Allied Health Div.	3838 Freeport Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95822	Elizabeth Chape PT, PhD	(916) 558-2298/ chapee@scc.losrios.edu
San Diego Mesa College	7250 Mesa College Dr. San Diego, CA 92111	Laura Crandall PT, MS, OCS	(619) 388-2229/ lcrandal@sdccd.edu

Source: State Board of Occupational Therapy, State Board of Physical Therapy.