

MALCOLM X COLLEGE

CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

OBSERVATION HOURS REQUIREMENT

Application to the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program requires completion of observation hours. Applicants have **two options** for completing the observation hours requirement. ***All applicants will submit and be evaluated on the quality of a written reflection submitted, not on which option the applicant chooses to meet the observation hours requirement.***

Observation hours instructions and forms are located on the program website to allow students to proactively complete these requirements. However, documentation of observation hours and the subsequent reflection assignment will be submitted at the time of application to the PTA program.

OBSERVATION HOURS OPTIONS:

1. **Traditional in person observation hours** (20 hours total at 2 different locations)

- Provide evidence of a minimum of 20 observation hours of a PT and/or PTA in clinical practice in two different clinical facilities using the **Observation Hours Verification Form**.*
 - *Applicants may complete up to 10 hours of their observation hours in a paid position within a physical therapy practice.*

2. **Alternate Observation Hours** (combination of **TWO** of the following)

- Traditional observation hours at one facility (10-15 hours)
 - *Provide evidence of observation hours of a PT and/or PTA in clinical practice using the **Observation Hours Verification Form**.*
 - *Applicants may complete up to 10 hours of their observation hours in a paid position within a physical therapy practice.*
- Interview of a Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant
 - Complete the **Interview Form**
- Video assignment
 - View the video created by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), [You Can Be Me- A Career in Physical Therapy](#).