



AMCA

American Medical Certification Association

**Working Together to Develop Quality Allied
Healthcare Professionals!**

Physical Therapy Technician/Aide Certification Information Packet

Main Contact

Customer Service

(P) 888.960.AMCA(2622)

(F) 973.582.1801

E-mail: AMCA@AMCAexams.com

Alternate Contact Person

Danielle Sadighi

Vice President of Sales and Marketing

(P) 888.960.AMCA(2622)

(F) 973.582.1801

E-mail: Danielle@AMCAexams.com

Edward Charles Davies

Director of Finance & Operations

(P) 888.960.AMCA(2622)

(F) 973.582.1801

E-mail: Edward@AMCAexams.com

AMCA's National Certification Examinations Provide...

- ✓ Credibility
- ✓ Enhanced Placement Statistics
- ✓ Portability
- ✓ Career Advancement
- ✓ Increased Enrollment
- ✓ Improved Marketability

American Medical Certification Association (AMCA) is headquartered in Fairfield, New Jersey. The AMCA was established in 2010 with a vision of implementing national standards to ensure that each successful exam candidate has proven that they are knowledgeable in their specific subject matter. Additionally, the AMCA collaborates and actively participates in the allied healthcare industry to serve as a support network for allied healthcare professionals. The AMCA has obtained membership in various organizations to strengthen its' ties to the industry.

According to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, the healthcare field continues to represent the fastest growing segment of our nation's economy. The American Medical Certification Association (AMCA) which offers certification exams to the allied healthcare field. The American Medical Certification Association is nationally approved and recognized as a certification organization in all 50 states.

Increasing numbers of trained, career-oriented professionals enter this promising field each year, sharing common goals, interests and needs. To help these healthcare professionals meet their goals, AMCA offers certification exams to increase a candidate's marketability and enhance their career portfolio.

What is Certification?

Certification, or the word certify, as defined by Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (2000) means, "to attest as being true or as represented as meeting a standard." It is through a set of standards that the American Medical Certification Association has developed its certification exams. Each exam is developed by a team of Subject Matter Experts who have many years of experience in their chosen field. The exams are designed to meet standards that will certify each successful exam candidate has proven that they are knowledgeable in their specific subject matter. The exams are based on 5 subject areas: Medical Terminology, Medical Law and Ethics, OSHA and Infection Control, Anatomy and Physiology and the subject matter related to that specific area i.e., phlebotomy, EKG or mental health.

Exam Eligibility:

The population eligible to hold an active AMCA certification:

A. Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent.

B. Must meet ONE of the following three requirements:

Option 1: Graduate from a training program, related to the exam you are applying for, taken at an AMCA Approved Test Site. Proof of course completion is required, and applicants must pass the exam within one year from the date of training completion.

Option 2: Graduate from a training program, related to the exam you are applying for, taken at an institution other than an AMCA Approved Test Site. Proof of course completion is required, and applicants must pass the exam within one year from the date of training completion.

Option 3: Have a minimum of one year full-time work experience directly related to the credential. Work experience must be immediately preceding the date of application and be currently working in that field. Documentation with employer verification is required and will be verified by the AMCA.

C. Agree and adhere to the Code of Ethics.

Candidates qualifying through Option 2 and Option 3 must complete and submit an **AMCA Exam Eligibility Application**. There is a \$25.00 non-refundable application fee due upon submission of the application. Once the application is reviewed, the candidate will receive an email with a determination from the AMCA. If approved, the candidate has 60 days in which to schedule an exam and test, or the process will start over including payment of all fees. The Exam Eligibility Application-is listed on our website under the “Downloads” section. It can also be accessed here.



AMCA Physical Therapy Technician/Aide

Welcome to the American Medical Certification Association. The AMCA always wants to be a resource to the allied healthcare industry. When AMCA sees great job potential, it is our responsibility to bring it to our test site's attention. The AMCA has completed extensive research and surveys that indicate the Physical Therapy Technician/Aide career will have a 28% growth rate from now until the year 2026. According to the 2018 Occupational Outlook Handbook, employment of Physical Therapy Technician/Aides is projected to grow 25% from 2016 to 2026. This is much faster than the average growth rate for most occupations. Demand for physical therapy services is expected to increase in response to the healthcare needs of an older population and growing rates of chronic conditions such as diabetes and obesity

Exam Benchmark:

All AMCA exams must be proctored while taken at an approved AMCA test site, and candidates must pass with a minimum score of 70% or higher.

Period certification is valid:

2-year requirement for maintaining or renewing certification

Re-Certification

An AMCA certification is good for 2 years from the date of testing. The AMCA requires 10 CE credits every 2 years. Policies for recertification are established by the AMCA Certification Board. For example, if a candidate tests in February 2016, then their certification is valid for 2 years, in this case until February 2018.

How to Become a Physical Therapy Technician/Aide:

Physical Therapy Technician/Aides generally have a high school diploma and receive on-the-job training.

Becoming a Physical Therapy Technician/Aide:

People interested in becoming an occupational therapy assistant should take high school courses in biology and health education. They also can increase their chances of getting into a community college or technical school program by doing volunteer work in a healthcare setting, such as a nursing care facility, an occupational therapist's office, or a physical therapist's office.

Occupational therapy aides typically need a high school diploma or equivalent. They are typically trained on the job under the supervision of more experienced assistants or aides. Training can last from several days to a few weeks and cover a number of topics, including the setting up of therapy equipment, infection control procedures, and more. Previous work experience in healthcare may be helpful in getting a job.

Due to the job growth, CTE and Post-Secondary schools have included Physical Therapy Technician/Aide curriculum into the health science, personal trainer and sports medicine programs.

Physical Therapy Technician/Aide Job Tasks:

Under close supervision of a Physical Therapist or Physical Therapy Assistant, a Physical Therapy Technician/Aide can perform only delegated, selected, or routine tasks in specific situations. These duties include preparing the patient and the treatment area as well as the following tasks:

- Clean treatment areas and set up therapy equipment
- Wash linens
- Help patients move to or from a therapy area
- Do clerical tasks, such as answering phones and scheduling patients
- Gait training
- Prepare patient transport

What Physical Therapist Technicians/Aides Do?

Physical Therapy Technician/Aides work under the direction and supervision of Physical Therapists. They help patients who are recovering from injuries and illnesses regain movement and manage pain.

Work Environment

Occupational therapy aides held about 7,500 jobs in 2016. The largest employers of occupational therapy aides were as follows:

Work Environment	%
Offices of physical, occupational and speech therapists, and audiologists	38%
Hospitals; state, local, and private	27%
Nursing care facilities (skilled nursing facilities)	11%
Social assistance	5%
Educational services; state, local, and private	4%

Place of Employment:

Industries with the highest concentration of employment in this occupation:

Industry	Employment (1)	Percent of industry employment	Hourly mean wage	Annual mean wage (2)
Offices of Other Health Practitioners	3,720	0.41	\$13.94	\$28,990
Nursing Care Facilities (Skilled Nursing Facilities)	830	0.05	\$21.73	\$45,200
Vocational Rehabilitation Services	80	0.03	\$13.28	\$27,630
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	1,280	0.02	\$15.52	\$32,290
Offices of Physicians	400	0.02	\$15.67	\$32,600

Potential Pay:

The median annual wage for occupational therapy aides was \$28,160 in May 2018. The median wage is the wage at which half the workers in an occupation earned more than that amount, and half earned less. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$18,260, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$58,660.*

**Provided by the 2018 Occupational Outlook Handbook*

Similar Occupations

Physical Therapy Technician can be compared to Personal Trainers in regards to job duties, education, job growth, and pay.

Physical Therapy Technician/Aides vs. Personal Trainers

- Both use exercises as a way to strengthen and improve
- Both use corrective exercises
- Both concentrate on Anatomy and Physiology
- Both work one on one
- Both work on increasing flexibility
- Both programs are based on science
- Both use repetition and consistency
- Both have certifications and job growth potential

Physical Therapy Technicians/Aides also concentrate on gait training, ambulatory training, patient mobility and rehabilitation. The physical therapist would work in a rehabilitation center, fitness center, or a wellness center whereas the Personal Trainer would mainly work in a gym/wellness center or independently. The personal trainer also does not necessarily require oversight as a physical therapy aide requires oversight by an assistant or a therapist.

Important Qualities for a Physical Therapy Technician/Aide:

- **Compassion:** Physical therapist assistants, technicians and aides should enjoy helping people. They work with people who are in pain, and they must have empathy to help their patients.
- **Detail oriented:** Like other healthcare professionals, Physical Therapist Assistants, Technicians and Aides should be organized and have a keen eye for detail. They must keep accurate records and follow written and verbal instructions carefully to ensure quality care.
- **Dexterity:** Physical Therapy Technician/Aides should be comfortable using their hands to provide manual therapy and therapeutic exercises. Technicians/Aides should also be comfortable working with their hands to set up equipment and prepare treatment areas.
- **Interpersonal skills:** Physical Therapy Technicians/Aides spend much of their time interacting with clients and therefore should be courteous and friendly.
- **Physical stamina:** Physical Therapy Technician/Aides are frequently on their feet and moving as they work with their patients. They must often kneel, stoop, bend, and stand for long periods. They should enjoy physical activity.

Job Placement Assistance:



**Why Choose the
American Medical Certification Association
for your students National Certification**

**FREE JOB
PLACEMENT
ASSISTANCE**

Gainful Employment Action Plan

**46,000 Searchable Job Openings
FREE Daily Emailed Job Leads
All Services FREE for all Users
No Personal Information Required**

At zero cost to your organization, E-Hired can be easily added to your career service action plan. Become an AMCA Approved Testing site and certify your students through the AMCA.

Once your students successfully pass our National Certification exam, they will receive free daily emailed job leads within a 50 mile radius of their zip code, specific to their certification. They will also have access to thousands of searchable allied healthcare job positions.

We believe utilizing AMCA with E-Hired as an action plan to address the requirements of Gainful Employment will be of great help to your career service departments.

Put the AMCA and E-Hire on your team!

Certifications Offered (Study Material Included)

Certification	Acronym	# of Certifications	Exam Fee
Clinical Medical Assistant Certification	CMAC	3	\$169
Clinical Medical Administrative Assistant Certification	CMAAC	4	\$199
Phlebotomy Technician Certification	PTC	1	\$109
EKG Technician Certification	ETC	1	\$109
Phlebotomy/EKG Technician Certification (Combo)	PTC ETC	2	\$139
Mental Health Technician Certification	MHTC	1	\$109
Patient Care Technician Certification	PCTC	3	\$169
Dental Assistant Certification	DAC	1	\$109
Medical Administrative Assistant Certification	MAAC	1	\$109
Physical Therapy Technician/Aide Certification	PTTC	1	\$109
Billing Coding Specialist Certification	BCBS	1	\$109
Electronic Health Record Certification	EHRC	1	\$109
Medical Administrative Assistant w/Billing and Coding Certification	MAA BCSC	2	\$139
Medical Administrative Assistant w/Electronic Health Record Certification	MAA EHRC	2	\$139
Medical Administrative Assistant with Billing and Coding and Electronic Health Record Certification "Triple Play"	MAA BCS EHRC	3	\$169
Professional Instructor Certification	PIC	1	\$195
Trichology Certification	TC	1	\$249

Certification Exam Descriptions and Minimum Requirements

Name of Certification:
Physical Therapy Technician/Aide Certification

Abbreviation of Certification: **PTTC**

Fee charged for the exam: **\$109.00 (Study Material Included)**

Description and purpose of test:

Physical Therapist Technician/Aides work under the direction and supervision of physical therapists. They help patients who are recovering from injuries and illnesses regain movement and manage pain. Physical Therapy Assistants are involved in the direct care of patients. Physical Therapy Technician/Aides often do tasks that are indirectly related to patient care, such as cleaning and setting up the treatment area, moving patients, and performing clerical duties.

Physical Therapy Technician/Aides typically do the following:

- Clean treatment areas and set up therapy equipment
- Wash linens
- Help patients move to or from a therapy area
- Do clerical tasks, such as answering phones and scheduling patients

The test is comprised of 100 questions:

The breakdown is as follows: Patient care/administrative, Law & Ethics, Patient prep/positioning, anatomy and physiology, safety/infection control and therapeutic modalities

Allotted time for examinees is 2 hours

Recommend Workbooks and Textbooks

<p>Physical Therapy Technician/Aide Certification</p>	<p>Physical Therapy Aide – A Work text Publisher: Delmar-Cengage Learning Author: Roberta C. Weiss 3rd Ed. ISBN-13: 978-1-4180-1317-2</p> <p>Medical Terminology Word Builder and communications Workbook w/Flashcards Thierer: Publisher: McGraw Hill Higher Ed. # 0073315443</p>
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