

# AGGREGATE PROGRAM DATA

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2019 PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT EDUCATION PROGRAMS  
FACT SHEETS



# 2019 Fact Sheet

## Physical Therapist Assistant Education Programs

This Fact Sheet is designed to provide the education community with current and historical information about physical therapist education programs, students and faculty. The data included in this Fact Sheet is taken from the following sources:

- THE 2019 ANNUAL ACCREDITATION REPORT SUBMITTED BY ACCREDITED PROGRAMS IN DECEMBER 2018
- THE 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2012 ANNUAL ACCREDITATION REPORTS
- THE 2008, 2006, 2004, 2002 BIENNIAL ACCREDITATION REPORT
- PREVIOUS SURVEYS OF THE PTA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS CONDUCTED BY THE EDUCATION DIVISION
- DEPARTMENT OF ACCREDITATION RECORDS
- LICENSURE PASS RATE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE FSBPT ON APRIL 2006, APRIL 2007, MARCH 2011, APRIL 2012, APRIL 2014, APRIL 2015, APRIL 2016, APRIL 2017, DECEMBER 2017, DECEMBER 2018 AND DECEMBER 2019.

Unless otherwise indicated, the data reflects accredited and developing physical therapist assistant education programs in the United States for the academic year 2018 – 19. All uses of this data should reference the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) as the source of the data and acknowledge that CAPTE bears no responsibility for interpretations presented or conclusions reached based on analysis of the data.

### Symbols

Many tables in this volume use a series of symbols to alert the reader to special statistical notes. These symbols, and their meanings, are as follows:

— Not available.

† Not applicable.

# Rounds to zero.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

**Originally Published March 10, 2020**

**Updates made after the date of original publication will be high-lighted in Yellow**

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CONTENT CONTACT

TEJ CHANA – SR. DATABASE SPECIALIST

[accreditation@apta.org](mailto:accreditation@apta.org)

## Glossary

**Faculty** – All faculty including core and associated.

**Associated Faculty** – Associated faculty are those individuals who have classroom and/or laboratory teaching responsibilities in the curriculum and who are not core faculty or clinical education faculty. The associated faculty may include individuals with full-time appointments in the unit in which the professional program resides, but who have primary responsibilities in programs other than the professional program.

**Core Faculty** – Core faculty are those individuals appointed to and employed primarily in the program. Members of the core faculty typically have full-time appointments, although some part-time faculty members may be included among the core faculty. The core faculty are generally the group with the responsibility and the authority related to the curriculum. Includes Program Directors and DCEs; does not include associated faculty.

**Other Faculty** – Core faculty excluding Program Directors and Clinical Education Coordinators (DCEs & ACCEs).

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## THE AVERAGE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

2019-2020	
Type of Institution (% of Total Programs)	Public (72.7 %)
Geographic Location (% of Total Programs)	South Atlantic (22.9%)
Top 3 States (States with Highest % of Total Programs)	(FL, TX, OH)
<b>Costs (Mean)</b>	
	<b>Public (In District)      Public (Out of District)      Private</b>
Annual Tuition	\$4,976      \$10,241      \$22,638
Annual Fees	\$992      \$992      \$684
Total Cost of Technical Program *Room & Board Excluded	\$12,759      \$22,403      \$39,220
<b>Admissions (Mean)</b>	
	<b>2019</b>
Planned Class Size	24
Total Applicants	59
Applicants Qualified	40
Applicants Offered Place	25
Applicants Enrolled	22
<b>Enrollment (Mean)</b>	
Total Students Enrolled	34
Percent Women Enrolled	64.7%
Percent Men Enrolled	35.3%
Percent Other Enrolled	0%
Percent Minority Enrolled	32.4%
<b>Outcomes</b>	
Graduates Per Program (Mean)	17
Graduation Rate (Mean)	84.6%*
Percent Graduates Minority (Mean)	26.1%
Licensure Pass Rate, First Time Takers (Mean)	87%
Licensure Pass Rate, Ultimate (Mean)	92.3%
Employment Rate, Post 6 Months Graduation (Mean)	98%
<b>Length of Program (Technical Phase)</b>	
Weeks in Class (Didactic/Laboratory) (Mean)	62
Weeks in Class (Full-Time Clinical Education) (Mean)	15
Total Weeks in Program (Mean)	77
<b>Curriculum (Mean)</b>	
Academic Calendar	Semester (85.2% of reporting programs)
Curricular Model	Traditional 49.3% (Hybrid 40.6%, Other 10.1%)
Total Semester Credits Required to Complete	75
Semester Credits in Professional Phase	48.2
Semester Credits in Prerequisite Phase	26.8
<b>Clinical Education (Mean)</b>	
Clinical Education Sites	135
Credentialed Clinical Instructors	39
Certified Clinical Instructors	17

2019-2020

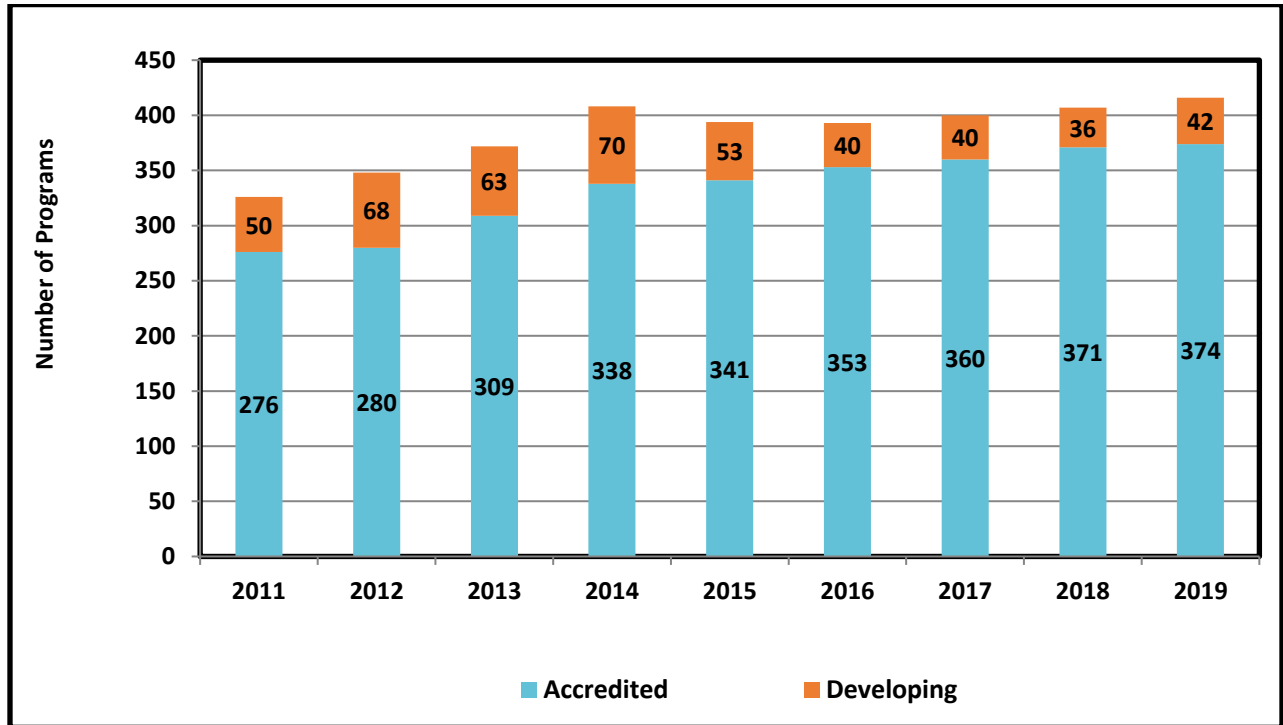
<b>Faculty (Mean)</b>			
Full-Time Core Faculty Positions			2.6
Part-Time Core Faculty Positions			0.56
Associated Faculty Positions			2
Core Faculty to Student Ratio			14.3
Faculty to Student Ratio (Lab)			11.2
<b>Full-Time Core Faculty Characteristics (Mean)</b>			
	<b>Director</b>	<b>DCE</b>	<b>Faculty</b>
Age	50.1	48.7	48.3
Total Years as Faculty Member	12	9	8
Years as Faculty Member (Current Program)	11	8	7
<b>Full-Time Core Faculty Workload (%)</b>			
Workload Allotted to Teaching in Entry Level	49%	58.5%	79.3%
Workload Allotted to Service	10.4%	9.2%	8.0%
Workload Allotted to Clinical Practice	1.5%	2.7%	4.2%
Workload Allotted to Scholarship	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%

\*A new method of collecting and calculating graduation rates was implemented on the 2019 annual reports

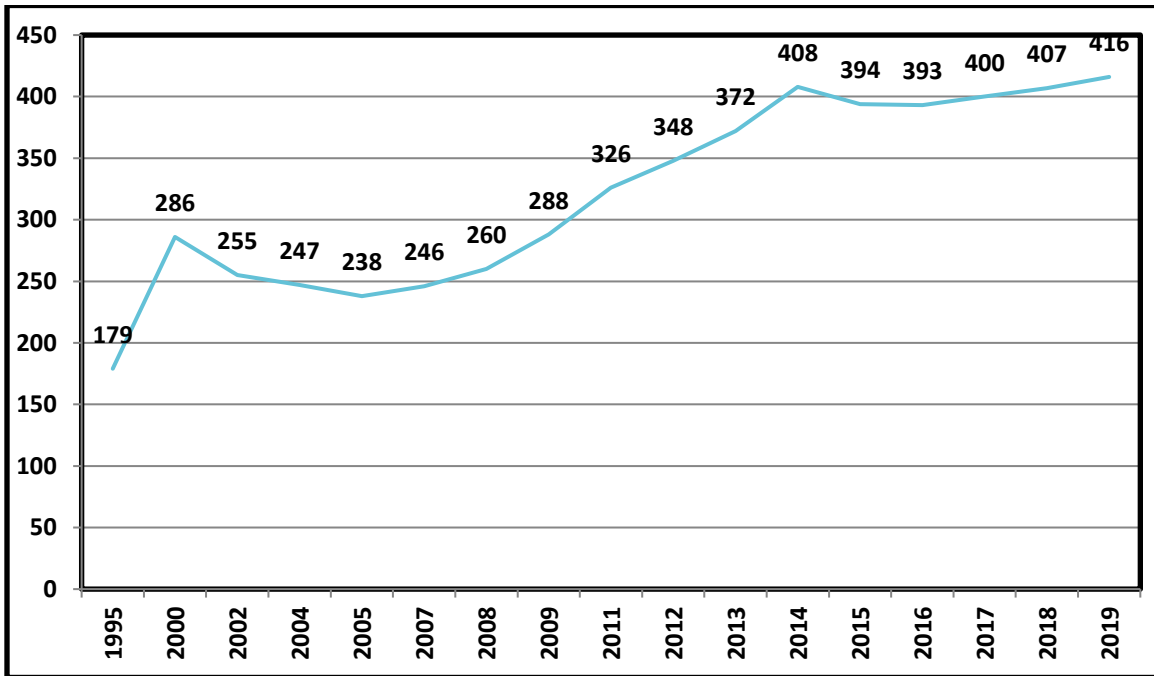
# PROGRAM DATA

## NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF PTA PROGRAMS

Figure 1 Number of Accredited and Developing PTA Programs (2011 - 2019)



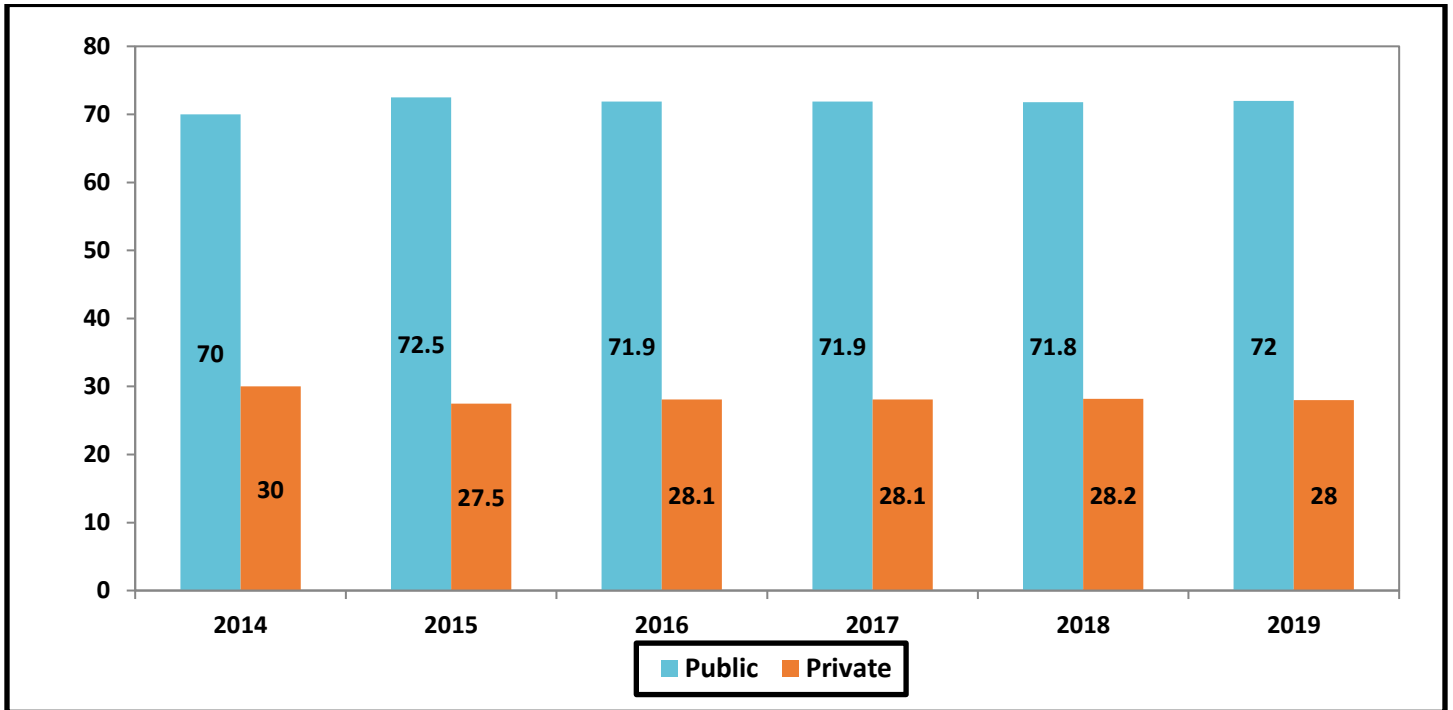
**Figure 2** Number of Accredited and Developing PTA Programs 1995 – 2019



**Table 1** Distribution of Accredited and Candidacy PTA Programs by Geographic Region

	States	2017	2018	2019
New England	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT	15	15	14
Middle Atlantic	NJ, NY, PA	39	39	39
East North Central	IL, IN, MI, OH, WI	73	74	75
West North Central	IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD	37	37	36
South Atlantic	DE, DC, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV	90	93	99
East South Central	AL, KY, MS, TN	27	31	35
West South Central	AR, LA, OK, TX	46	46	48
Mountain	AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT, WY	30	30	32
Pacific	AK, CA, HI, OR, WA	28	33	38

**Figure 3**      **Distribution of Accredited and Developing PTA Programs by Type of Institution**





**Table 2**      **Distribution of Accredited PTA Programs by Carnegie Classification**

Classification	Number of Programs	Number of Programs	Number of Programs	Number of Programs
	2016	2017	2018	2019
Doctoral/Research Universities				
Research Universities (very high research activity)				1
Research Universities (high research activity)	1	1	1	1
Master’s Colleges and Universities (larger programs)	5	6	6	8
Master’s Colleges and Universities (medium programs)	2	2	2	3
Master’s Colleges and Universities (smaller programs)	5	7	7	10
Baccalaureate Colleges – Diverse Fields	18	19	18	18
Baccalaureate/Associate's Colleges	24	27	27	28
Associate's--Public Rural- serving Small	3	4	4	9
Associate's--Public Rural- serving Medium	65	67	65	68
Associate's--Public Rural- serving Large	56	62	62	64
Associate's--Public Suburban-serving Single Campus	23	23	23	25
Associate's--Public Suburban-serving Multi campus	20	22	21	22
Associate's--Public Urban-serving Single Campus	11	11	11	10
Associate's--Public Urban-serving Multi campus	39	41	40	41
Associate's--Public Special Use	1	1		
Associate's--Private Not-for-profit	6	6	5	6
Associate's--Private For-profit	40	42	44	45
Associate's--Public 2-year colleges under 4-year universities	6	6	8	12
Associate's--Public 4-year Primarily Associate's	4	5	5	6
Special Focus Institutions— Medical schools and medical centers	2	2	2	2
Special Focus Institutions— Other health professions schools	7	7	7	9
Not Classified	13	16	13	14

**7 Institutions have not provided a classification**

## FINANCING PTA EDUCATION

**Table 3 Tuition, Fees and Other Costs**

	Public			Private		
	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
<b>Annual tuition (in district)</b>	\$4,615 \$825 - \$21,919	\$4,773 \$858-\$21,919	\$4,976 \$700-\$24,187	\$22,111 \$4,018 - \$52,315	\$22,287 \$4,118-\$35,000	\$22,531 \$4,160-\$36,599
<b>Annual tuition (out of district)</b>	\$9,530 \$970 - \$31,460	\$9,911 \$970-\$33,044	\$10,241 \$970-\$34,716	----	----	----
<b>Annual fees</b>	\$938 \$0 – \$9,724	\$974 \$0-\$14,419	\$992 \$0-\$15,244	\$1,116 \$0 - \$26,905	\$645.42 \$0-\$3,312	\$686 \$0-\$5,175
<b>Other Program Expenses</b>	\$2,449 \$0 - \$8,274	\$2,503 \$0-\$16,278	\$2,415 \$0-\$11,700	\$2,171 \$0 - \$6,483	\$2,166 \$0-\$5,827	\$2,279 \$0-\$5,313
<b>Total cost of technical program in district (not incl. room &amp; board)</b>	\$12,276 \$ 3,488 - \$45,710	\$12,448 \$0-\$45,710	\$12,844 \$4,281-\$47,025	\$38,900 \$0 - \$72,504	\$38,922 \$11,538-\$74,572	\$39,082 \$14,710-\$76,144
<b>Total cost of technical program out of district (not incl room and board)</b>	\$21,606 \$3,728 -\$53,584	\$21,246 \$0-\$58,472	\$22,403 \$5,123-\$58,082	----	----	----

## MEASURES OF PTA PROGRAM LENGTH

**Table 4** Length (in weeks) of Technical Curriculum (all program types)

		2017	2018	2019
Number of weeks in didactic portion	Range	34-101	27-97	27-109
	Mean	62	62	62
Number of weeks in full-time Clinical Education	Range	6-26	6-26	6-24
	Mean	15	15	15
Total number of weeks in program	Range	34-101	34-123	34-123
	Mean	77	77	77

## CREDITS REQUIRED

**Table 5** Pre-technical and Technical Credits Required

		2017	2018	2019
Pre-Technical	Range	12 - 96	13-74	13-78
	Median	26	26	26
	Mean	27	26.6	26.9
	STDEV	7.50	6.5	7.94
Technical	Range	29-94	29-91	29-91
	Median	46	46	46
	Mean	48.9	48	48.2
	STDEV	11.7	10.3	10.9
Clinical Education	Range	12.80 - 35	4-35	4-33
	Median	13	12	13
	Mean	12.80	12.5	12.7
	STDEV	4.6	4.2	4.6

**Table 6** Pre-technical and Technical Credits Required By Type of Program

		Integrated Two-Year				One-Plus-One				All Programs			
	Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016	2017	2018	2019	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total Credits	Mean	77.7	73.7	75.9	73.1	80.3	80.6	81.5	78.7	77.8	75.7	74.4	75

## CLINICAL EDUCATION

**Table 7** Length of Final Clinical Education Experience (weeks)

		2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of weeks in final clinical experience	Range	5-18	5-16	5-20	5-20
	Mean	10	10	10	10

## OUTCOMES

**Table 8 Trends in Graduation Rates (%)**

	2012	2013	2014	2016	2017	2018	*2019
Mean	78.83	81.0	85.7	85.4	86.5	83.65	83.42
Range	42-100	41.7-100	25-100	45-100	45.5-100	41.7-100	43.7-100

\*An updated formula for calculating graduation rate was implemented in 2019

**Table 9 Pass Rates of First time Takers on Licensure Exam 2011-19(%)**

	2012 <sup>1</sup>	2013 <sup>2</sup>	2014 <sup>3</sup>	2015 <sup>4</sup>	2016 <sup>5</sup>	2017 <sup>6</sup>	2018 <sup>7</sup>	2019 <sup>8</sup>
Mean	85.3	84.7	85.9	84.5	85	87	87.2	83.7
Range	28.6-100	25-100	38.5-100	41.1-100	16.7-100	40-100	0-100	0-100

<sup>1</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 3/31/2012

<sup>2</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 3/31/2013

<sup>3</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 4/1/2014

<sup>4</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 4/17/2015

<sup>5</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 4/1/2016

<sup>6</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 12/1/2016

<sup>7</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 12/1/2017

<sup>8</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 12/1/2018

<sup>9</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 12/1/2019

**Table 10**      **Number of Programs by Pass Rate of First Time Takers 20010 – 19**

	2010 <sup>1</sup>	2011 <sup>2</sup>	2012 <sup>3</sup>	2013 <sup>4</sup>	2014 <sup>5</sup>	2015 <sup>6</sup>	2016 <sup>7</sup>	2017 <sup>8</sup>	2018 <sup>9</sup>	2019 <sup>10</sup>
0-9%	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
10-19%	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	
20-29%	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
30-39%	1	3	1	1	2	0	3	0	1	1
40-49%	3	5	3	6	5	2	4	7	5	1
50-59%	12	6	12	15	6	4	8	6	12	19
60-69%	18	22	20	23	27	12	30	29	18	36
70-79%	44	34	39	42	40	16	53	25	39	57
80-89%	62	65	67	84	83	59	79	90	88	94
90-99%	57	75	88	68	88	86	86	98	106	88
100%	40	46	53	66	66	158	77	82	83	58
<b>N=</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>357</b>

<sup>1</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 3/31/11

<sup>2</sup> Based on date provided by FSBPT 4/1/12

<sup>3</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 4/17/13

<sup>4</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 4/1/14

<sup>5</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 4/1/15

<sup>6</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 4/1/16

<sup>7</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 12/1/16

<sup>8</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 12/1/17

<sup>9</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 12/1/18

<sup>10</sup> Based on data provided by FSBPT 12/1/19

**Table 11 Employment Rates (%) at 12 Months Post Graduation**

	2011	2012	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>Range</b>	60-100	60-100	38-100	12-100	11-100	20-100	23-100	16-100
<b>Mean</b>	97.3	95.9	96	80	97.7	98	98	98

Defined as employment within 1 year of passing the licensure exam

## STUDENT DATA

### ADMISSIONS

**Table 12 Average Trends in Admissions 2015 – 19**

		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Planned class size	Range	8-64	5-64	9-64	9-60	9-60
	Mean	24.8	24.3	24	24	24.2
Applicants	Range	79.3	12-350	5-522	7-341	4-303
	Mean	8-550	72.4	71	65	59
Qualified Applicants	Range	8-268	8-263	3-184	2-186	4-251
	Mean	52.8	51.3	49	45	40.5
Applicants Offered place in class	Range	8-268	8-263	3-93	5-114	6-67
	Mean	52.8	51.3	26	26	25
Applicants enrolled	Range	0-55	9-50	2-64	4-53	6-55
	Mean	23	22.6	23	22	22
Minority students enrolled	Range	0-48	1-46	0-73	0-95	0-65
	Mean	5.87	7	10	10.6	11

**Table 13 Admissions Trends by Public/Private Institutions 2015-19**

	Public				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Planned class size	0-55	9-54	9-54	9-56	9-56
	23.6	23.3	23	24	23.6
Applicants	8-550	13-350	14-522	7-250	9-271
	84.4	79.4	81	71	64
Qualified Applicants	0-268	8-268	11-184	7-186	8-251
	60.9	58.7	54	51	46
Applicants Offered place in class	5-121	9-119	8-84	7-114	8-67
	27	27.1	26	26	24.7
Applicants enrolled	0-55	9-50	7-48	7-52	8-55
	23	22.6	23	23	22

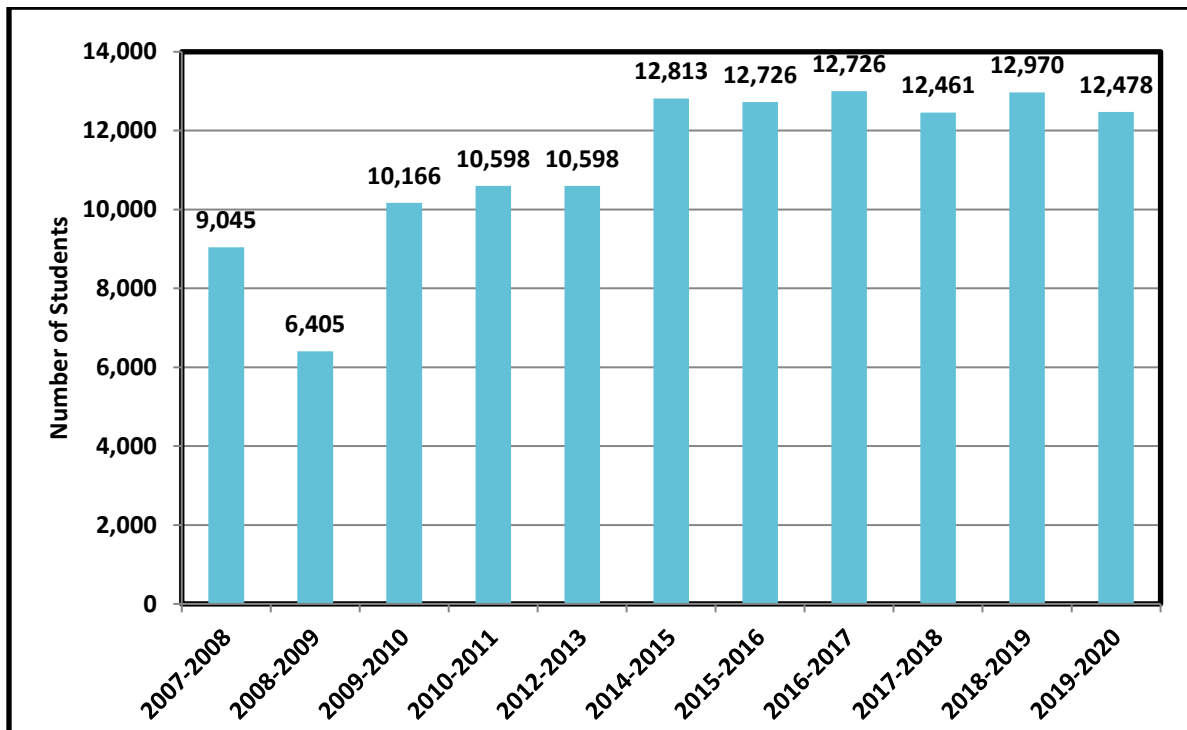
	Private				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Planned class size	0-64	5-64	12-64	11-60	11-60
	26.7	26.2	26	25	25
Applicants	0-550	15-326	13-170	7-341	4-303
	62.9	56.1	53	53	50
Qualified Applicants	9-102	15-98	6-116	2-112	6-70
	34	35.5	34	31	29
Applicants Offered place in class	9-76	15-75	6-93	5-71	6-64
	26	27	27	25	24.9
Applicants enrolled	0-52	5-55	6-64	4-53	6-52
	23	23.9	24	22	21

As of 2012, expansion programs required to report data separate from parent program



## ENROLLMENT

**Figure 4** Enrollment 2008-2020



**Table 14** Enrollment by Sex

		Female			Male			Other/No Answer*			Total		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
<b>Number of students in all programs</b>		8,056	8,313	8,050	4,423	4,652	4,423	5	5	5	12,461	12,970	12,478
<b>Number of students per program</b>	Mean	22.01	22	22	12	22	12	0.01	0.01	0.01	34.05	34.96	34.24
	Range	0-71	0-76	0-57	0-67	0-68	0-51	1 - 4	0-1	0-2	0-103	0-76	0-91

- Option added to 2017 AAR for Student and Faculty Gender 'Other/Choose Not To Answer'

**Table 15** Percent of Enrollees by Degree Held on Admission to Technical Program

Degree Held	% enrolled				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
None	68.59%	68.38%	67.23%	66.2%	65.3%
Baccalaureate	29.9%	30.34%	31.34%	32.3%	33.5%
Master's	1.5%	1.22%	1.32%	1.3%	1.1%
Doctoral	--	0.07%	0.05%	.2%	.1

**Table 16** Ethnicity of Students Enrolled In Physical Therapist Assistant Programs

	14-15 N=13,071	15-16 N=12,726	16-17 N=13,004	17-18 N=12,461	18-19 N=12,970	19-20 N=12,478
American Indian	0.6%	0.6%	0.58%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%
Asian	4.1%	4.4%	5.04%	5.1%	5.5%	5.9%
African American	5.3%	5.4%	6.08%	6.4%	6%	6.2%
Caucasian	75.6%	74.1%	71.88%	72.2%	69.8	67.9%
Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	1.0%	0.9%	1.14%	0.92%	1%	0.6%
Hispanic	10.1%	10.6%	11.3%	10.8%	12.8%	14.3%
Other	1.6%	1.8%	2.11%	2.4%	2.6%	2.7%
Unknown	1.3%	1.7%	1.81%	1.6%	1.8%	1.9%

## GRADUATES

**Table 17** Number of Graduates per Program

		2010	2011	2012	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>All Programs</b>	Mean	19	21.1	20.5	19	19.5	19.6	18.11	19	18.7
	Range	0-104	0-80	5-133	0-64	0-65	0-56	0-89	0-52	0-69
<b>Public</b>	Mean	16	18	19.2	18	19	18	16.8	18	18
	Range	2-34	0-54	6-133	0-47	0-43	0-49	0-42	0-42	0-64
<b>Private</b>	Mean	22	25	25.9	20.4	26	23	21.4	22	22
	Range	6-61	9-104	5-58	0-64	0-65	5-56	0-58	0-52	0-69

**Table 18** Ethnicity of Graduates of Physical Therapist Assistant Programs

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
	N=6,661	N=6,630	N=6,987	N=6,627	N=7,040	N=6,713
<b>African American</b>	5%	5%	5%	5.95%	5.45%	5.9%
<b>American Indian/Alaskan Native</b>	1%	0.6%	0.76%	0.69%	0.75%	0.6%
<b>Asian</b>	4%	4%	4.57%	5.25%	5.49%	5.7
<b>Hawaiian Native/Pacific Islander</b>	1%	1.1%	1.12%	1.22%	1.07%	0.8
<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	10.8%	9.3%	10.88%	10.49%	11.94%	12.8%
<b>White</b>	78%	77.3%	74.28%	74.4%	73.1%	70.8%
<b>Other</b>	--	1.4%	1.63%	2.16%	2.20%	2.4
<b>Unknown</b>	1%	2%	1.77%	1.1%	1%	1.1%

## FACULTY DATA

### NUMBERS

**Table 19** Number of Core and Associated Faculty 2019 – 2020 (accredited and candidacy programs)

Totals (Core)	
Total number of full-time core faculty positions	962
Total number of part-time core faculty positions	205
Mean (Core)	
Full-time core faculty positions	2.6
Part-time core faculty positions	0.56
Core faculty FTEs	3.17
Mean (Associated)	
Number of associated faculty	3
Total FTE of associated faculty	0.39

### STUDENT TO FACULTY RATIO

**Table 20** Ratio of Students per Core Faculty and Laboratory Faculty Member 2019-20 (accredited programs)

Number of students per core faculty member	14.31
Number of students per faculty member in laboratory experiences	11.23

### WORKLOAD

**Table 21** Workload: % Workload Devoted to Teaching (accredited programs)

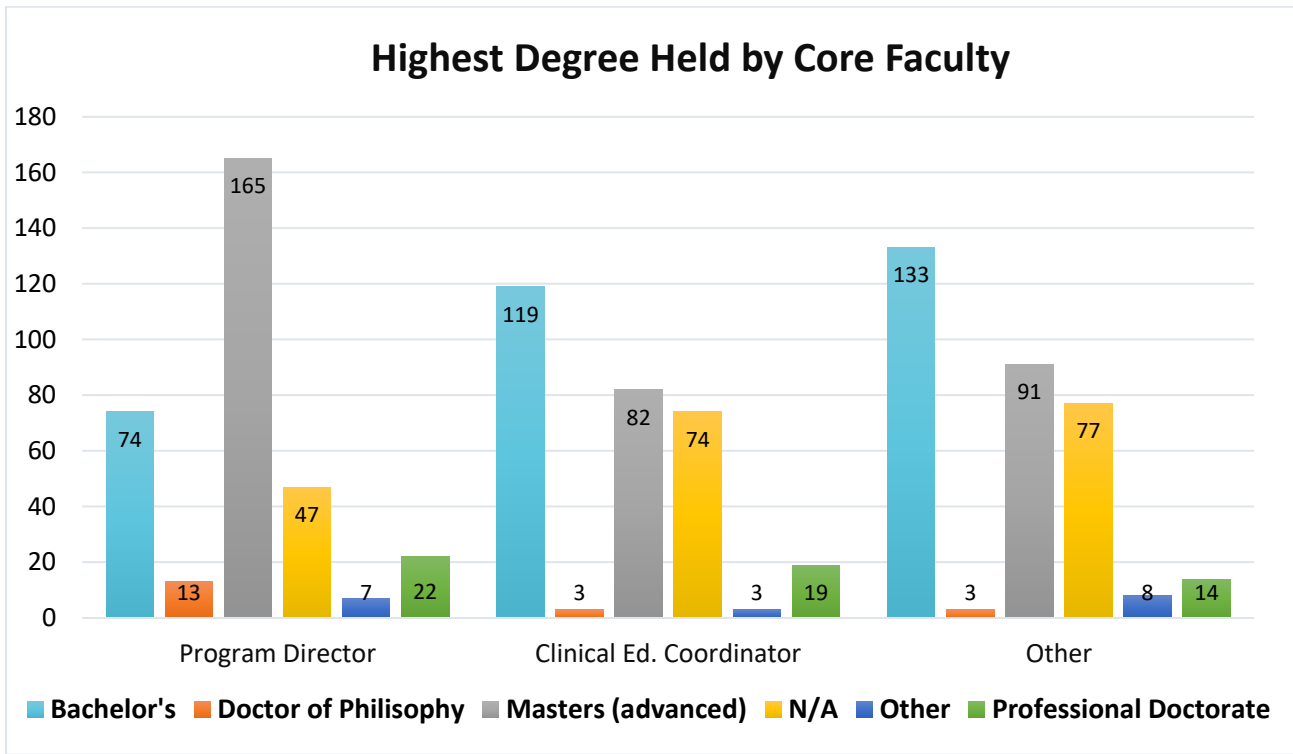
	Teaching Entry-level Program	% of Time Devoted to				
		Other Programs	Scholarship	Administration	Service	Clinical Practice
Program Director	49.5%	0.5%	.5%	37.1%	10.4%	1.5%
DCE	58.7%	0.5%	.3%	28.6%	9.1%	2.8%
Other Faculty	79.8%	2%	.4%	6.2%	8%	3.9%

**Table 22** Number of Core Faculty who are Certified Clinical Specialists 2016-2019 (accredited programs)

	2016 – 17	2017 – 18	2018-2019	2019-20
Total	-	973	937	956
%	13.8%	12.4%	14.3%	15.5%

## DEGREES HELD

Figure 5 Highest Degree Held by Core Faculty 2019-2020 (accredited programs)



## RANK, TENURE STATUS

Figure 6 Tenure Status of Faculty % (accredited programs)

