The College of Health is proposing a Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Associate of Applied Science program. The program was initiated in response to a request from the Alaska healthcare industry to prepare Physical Therapist Assistants (PTAs) for employment in the state of Alaska. Alaska is currently the only state without physical therapy education of any kind.

Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for licensure as Physical Therapist Assistants. PTAs provide physical therapy services under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist. Responsibilities include teaching patients to exercise, training for activities such as walking with crutches, using ultrasound and electrical stimulation, and reporting observations on patients to the physical therapist.

The curriculum was informed by needs assessments with local employers and the requirements established by the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). Legislative appropriations and Alaska Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) funds have supported development of this program and work to establish a partnership to offer Physical Therapy education in Alaska. The portion of these funds dedicated to the PTA program has supported curriculum development, hiring the program director, and purchasing necessary laboratory equipment. TVEP funds will be used for the initial start-up years, as well as the continued development of the PT partnership. In the event that TVEP funds are not available, the program’s expenses will be met through reallocation of the available PT/PTA funds and college funds.

The program proposal has been approved by the faculty, dean, and appropriate UAA curriculum committees. The program faculty have also coordinated with colleagues throughout the University of Alaska System through the Allied Health Alliance.

UAA plans to seek CAPTE program accreditation for this program. To apply for candidacy by the March 2014 deadline, the program must have approval from the institutional accreditor. This application will allow an initial site visit in Summer 2014, which must be completed prior to admitting any students or offering any PTA courses.

Attachments: BOR Program Action Request Form, Program Executive Summary and Prospectus
Board of Regents Program Action Request  
University of Alaska  
Proposal to Add, Change, or Delete a Program of Study

1a. Major Academic Unit (choose one)  
UAA  
1b. School or College  
College of Health  
1c. Department or Program  
Physical Therapist Assistant

2. Complete Program Title  
Associate of Applied Science, Physical Therapist Assistant

3. Type of Program  
- Undergraduate Certificate  
- AA/AAS  
- Baccalaureate  
- Post-Baccalaureate Certificate  
- Master’s  
- Graduate Certificate  
- Doctorate

4. Type of Action  
- Add  
- Change  
- Delete

5. Implementation date (semester, year)  
Fall  
Spring  
Year 2014

6. Projected Revenue and Expenditure Summary. Not Required if the requested action is deletion.  
(Provide information for the 5th year after program or program change approval if a baccalaureate or doctoral degree program; for the 3rd year after program approval if a master’s or associate degree program; and for the 2nd year after program approval if a graduate or undergraduate certificate. If information is provided for another year, specify (3rd) and explain in the program summary attached. Note that Revenues and Expenditures are not always entirely new; some may be current (see 7d.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projected Annual Revenues in FY 17</th>
<th>Projected Annual Expenditures in FY 17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>Salaries &amp; benefits (faculty and staff)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$193,094</td>
<td>$246,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Tuition &amp; Fees</td>
<td>Other (commodities, services, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$62,304</td>
<td>$8,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect Cost Recovery</td>
<td>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
<td>$255,398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TVEP or Other (specify):</td>
<td>One-time Expenditures to Initiate Program (if &gt;$250,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
<td>(These are costs in addition to the annual costs, above.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Receipts</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TVEP or Other (specify):</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL REVENUES</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$255,398</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page # of attached summary where the budget is discussed, including initial phase-in: 3

7. Budget Status. Items a., b., and c. indicate the source(s) of the General Fund revenue specified in item 6. If any grants or contracts will supply revenue needed by the program, indicate amount anticipated and expiration date, if applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue source</th>
<th>Continuing</th>
<th>One-time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. In current legislative budget request</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Additional appropriation required</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Funded through new internal MAU redistribution</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Funds already committed to the program by the MAU</td>
<td>$193,094</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Funded all or in part by external funds, expiration date</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Other funding source Specify Type: Student tuition and fees</td>
<td>$62,304</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Facilities: New or substantially (>=$25,000 cost) renovated facilities will be required.  
Yes  
No

If yes, discuss the extent, probable cost, and anticipated funding source(s), in addition to those listed in sections 6 and 7 above.

9. Projected enrollments (headcount of majors). If this is a program deletion request, project the teach out enrollments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1:</th>
<th>Year 2: 10</th>
<th>Year 3: 10</th>
<th>Year 4: 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Page number of attached summary where demand for this program is discussed: 2

*Sometimes the courses required by a new degree or certificate program are already being taught by an MAU, e.g., as a minor requirement  
Similarly, other program needs like equipment may already be owned. 100% of the value is indicated even though the course or other resource may be shared.

UAA Physical Therapist Assistant AAS Prospectus  
2 of 22
10. Number* of new TA or faculty hires anticipated (or number of positions eliminated if a program deletion):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Graduate TA</th>
<th>Adjunct</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Tenure track</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. Number* of TAs or faculty to be reassigned:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Graduate TA</th>
<th>Adjunct</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Tenure track</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Former assignment of any reassigned faculty: N/A
For more information see page 2 of the attached summary.

12. Other programs affected by the proposed action, including those at other MAUs (please list):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Affected</th>
<th>Anticipated Effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GER and pre-requisite courses</td>
<td>All impacted UAA disciplines have been notified and coordinated as part of the regular curriculum process.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page number of attached summary where effects on other programs are discussed: 1-2

13. Specialized accreditation or other external program certification needed or anticipated. List all that apply or 'none':

- Accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)

Page in attached summary where alignment is discussed: 1

14. Aligns with University or campus mission, goals, core themes, and objectives (list): Supports workforce development in a high-demand health service area; collaboration with healthcare industry for clinical rotation placements.

Page # in attached summary where e-learning is discussed: 2

15. State needs met by this program (list): Healthcare Workforce development, specifically Physical Therapist Assistant

Page in the attached summary where the state needs to be met are discussed: 1-2

16. Program is initially planned to be: (check all that apply)

- Available to students attending classes at UAA campus(es).
- Partially available to students via e-learning.
- Partially available students via e-learning.

Page # in attached summary where e-learning is discussed: 2

Submitted by the University of Alaska Anchorage with the concurrence of its Faculty Senate.

Provost: [Signature]  Date: 9/13/2013

Chancellor: [Signature]  Date: 9/13/2013

Recommend Approval
\Box Recommend Disapproval

UA Vice President for Academic Affairs on behalf of the Statewide Academic Council: [Signature]  Date: 9/13/2013

*Net FTE (full-time equivalents). For example, if a faculty member will be reassigned from another program, but his/her original program will hire a replacement, there is one net new faculty member. Use fractions if appropriate. Graduate TAs are normally 0.5 FTE. The numbers should be consistent with the revenue/expenditure information provided.

Attachments:  \Box Summary of Degree or Certificate Program Proposal
\Box Other (optional)

Revised: 10/12/2012
New Program Proposal

Executive Summary

This is a summary of a full prospectus. The full prospectus is available upon request.

Degree/Certificate Title & Responsible Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Academic Unit</th>
<th>School or College</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UAA</td>
<td>College of Health</td>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complete Program Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate of Applied Science, Physical Therapist Assistant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergrad Certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA/AAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Relationship of the proposed program relative to the educational mission of the University of Alaska and the MAU.

The proposed Physical Therapist Assistant program has been developed in response to a request from the Alaska healthcare industry to prepare Physical Therapist Assistants (PTAs) for employment in the state of Alaska. There are currently no Physical Therapy education programs in Alaska, nor have there been any programs delivered in the past. Alaska is currently the only state in the US that is without physical therapy education of any kind.

The 2012 workforce data study by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) reported 153 licensed PTAs in the state of Alaska, 62 of which are current residents. For the 62 resident PTAs, there are 8.58 PTAs per 100,000 residents. This places Alaska at 49th in the nation. This proposal addresses the need for PTA education in the state of Alaska, and aligns with the strategic priority of workforce development in the high demand area of health services.

2. History of the development of the proposed program.

The Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association approached the UA Office of Health Programs Development (OHPD) requesting education programs in both Physical Therapist Assistant and Physical Therapy. OHPD contracted for two separate needs assessment, one by a local Licensed Physical Therapist and the other by a consultant who is associated with the American Physical Therapy Association. Based on the findings of these two studies, the UA OHPD sought general funding for the establishment of a PTA program at UAA and the development of a partnership with an accredited PT school; initial funding was secured in FY13. Curriculum was developed during AY13, based on requirements established by the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

3. Impact of the proposed program on existing UA programs, including the GER.

It is anticipated that the impact on other academic units will be minimal since the program is projecting annual cohorts of 10 – 15 students. All impacted UAA disciplines have been notified and coordinated with as part of the regular curriculum process. The program is
designed to meet the needs of the entire state; applicants will be able to complete the pre-requisite courses, including GER courses, through UAA, UAF and UAS campuses.

4. State needs met by the proposed program.

Providing an AAS degree program in Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) will meet the need for trained healthcare workers in Alaska. Two separate needs assessments were completed in 2011. These needs assessments both document the need for physical therapy education programs in Alaska; a PTA program will partially meet this healthcare workforce need. Currently there are few PTAs in the state of Alaska because of the lack of an educational program within Alaska; it is anticipated that the establishment of this program will decrease the number of non-resident PTAs employed in Alaska.

5. Student opportunities, outcomes, and enrollment projections.

Graduates who successfully complete the PTA program will be eligible to take the National Physical Therapy Examination for PTA. Upon successful completion of this exam, graduates will then be eligible to apply for licensure in the state of Alaska; licensure is required for PTAs to work in the state. PTAs may work in acute care settings, such as hospitals, or they may find employment in home health, schools, outpatient clinics or an extended care facility.

The program student learning outcomes and the curriculum are aligned with standards established by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. The program is designed so that students complete pre-requisite coursework, including GERs, prior to enrollment in the PTA courses. Each year, a cohort of 10-15 students will be selected to enter into the PTA courses and will complete the program over three semesters. A new cohort of 10-15 will be selected each year, thus it is projected that 10-15 students will graduate each year. Over a five-year period of time, we anticipate 50-75 students enrolled as full majors. At any point in time, the number of pre-majors, taking pre-requisite courses will vary; it is anticipated that there will be 40-50 pre-majors each year.

All didactic content for the PTA program will be delivered on the UAA campus. During the second year of the program, while students are at clinical sites, seminar courses will be conducted via distance delivery.

6. Faculty and staff workload implications.

Delivery of the proposed PTA program requires two full-time faculty, as well as adjunct faculty for 5 credits. One full-time faculty serves as program director; the other full-time faculty serves as the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education (ACCE). A program director was hired in March 2013 and the AACE will be hired during AY14. Initial staff support is being provided through the School of Allied Health. As the development of the program progresses, a half-time administrative assistant will be hired.
7. Fiscal Plan for the proposed program.

Financial projections are based on personnel requirements as outlined above (2 faculty, .5 FTE administrative assistant and 5 credits of adjunct faculty) and a minimal contractual and commodities budget. Incremental increases are due to accreditation application and site visit costs, and projected yearly salary increases. TVEP funding was secured for FY13, and has been received for FY14. General funds have been secured for the delivery of this PTA program and the development of a partnership for PT education delivery.

Table ES7.1
Incremental Expenses, Revenues, and Balances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>New Expenses</th>
<th>New Revenue</th>
<th>Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1</td>
<td>136,654</td>
<td>136,654</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 2</td>
<td>242,769</td>
<td>242,769</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3</td>
<td>248,501</td>
<td>248,501</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 4</td>
<td>249,376</td>
<td>249,376</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5</td>
<td>255,398</td>
<td>255,398</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Degree/Certificate Title & Responsible Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Academic Unit</th>
<th>School or College</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UAA</td>
<td>College of Health</td>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Complete Program Title**
Associate of Applied Science, Physical Therapist Assistant

**Type of Program**
- Undergrad Certificate
- AA/AAS
- Baccalaureate
- Masters
- Graduate Certificate
- Doctoral
-

2. Catalog descriptions of the program and of new or modified courses that constitute the major field of study.

See Attachment A.

3. Rationale for the new program and educational objectives, student learning outcomes and plan for assessment.

a. The Role of the Physical Therapist Assistant:
Physical Therapist Assistants (PTAs) provide physical therapy services under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist (PT). PTAs help people of all ages who have medical problems, or other health-related conditions that limit their ability to move and perform functional activities in their daily lives.

Some of the care provided by a PTA may include teaching patients or clients exercises for mobility, strength and coordination, training for activities such as walking with crutches, canes, or walkers, massage, and the use of physical agents and electrotherapy such as ultrasound and electrical stimulation. PTAs also observe the patient’s abilities and report their observations to the physical therapist. Unlike a physical therapist, the PTA cannot evaluate a patient, update a plan of care, or discharge a patient.

PTAs are employed wherever physical therapists work. Hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, home and public health agencies, schools, private physical therapy practices, and the armed forces are major employers.

b. The need for PTAs
In order to assess the need for physical therapy professionals in the state of Alaska and nationwide, the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) had two separate needs assessments done, one by a local physical therapist (Zuzana Rogers, PT, COMT) in January of 2011, and one by the Lead Specialist of PTA Services in the Academic Affairs Department at the American Physical Therapy Association (Janet Crozier, PT, DPT, MEd) in September of 2011. Both of their reports included data obtained through
formal and informal sources, to include reports from the Alaska Center for Rural Health, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the American Physical Therapy Association and interviews with Physical Therapists in the state.

There are currently no Physical Therapy education programs in the state of Alaska, nor have there been any programs delivered in the past. Alaska is currently the only state in the US that is without PT education of any sort. In response to the need for physical therapists/physical therapist assistants in Alaska, the Alaska State Legislature appropriated $350,000 in the 2012 session to the University of Alaska Anchorage for the development of PT/PTA education programs.

The academic program, the educational objectives, the learning outcomes, and the assessment plan were developed following the Evaluative Criteria for PTA Programs, established by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education.

### Table 3.1
**Educational Objectives**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>To train students to be competent entry-level Physical Therapist Assistants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>To prepare students for national licensure examinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>To teach students proper patient care techniques</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>To teach students methods for effective communication in a healthcare setting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 3.2
**Program Student Learning Outcomes and Plan for Assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Plan for Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Exhibit professional behavior in their role as responsible physical therapist assistants, adhering to appropriate ethical, legal, and regulatory standards. | Employer Survey  
Clinical Performance Instrument |
| 2. Engage in evidence-based practice, responding to the dynamics of a changing healthcare system. | Employer Survey  
Graduate Survey  
Clinical Performance Instrument  
PTA Licensure Exam |
| 3. Integrate the principles of the physical, biological and behavioral sciences with the clinical practice of physical therapy | Employer Survey  
Graduate Survey  
Clinical Performance Instrument  
PTA Licensure Exam |
| 4. Communicate effectively and sensitively with patients, families and other members of the health care team. | Employer Survey  
Graduate Survey  
Clinical Performance Instrument  
PTA Licensure Exam |
5. Relevance to the MAU and UA mission, goals, and objectives.

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program is designed to provide education and training for workforce development and high-demand careers, aligning with UAA’s 2017 strategic plan, specifically Strategic Priority A. This proposal establishes a new and relevant program that provides an educational opportunity which has previously never been available in the state of Alaska. UAA, in conjunction with the UA Office of Health Programs Development, has assessed Alaska’s current and projected workforce needs; this proposal directly responds to an identified workforce need in health care, with a focus on preparing physical therapist assistants for both urban and rural Alaska. Developing this program in response to state needs also supports the UA Academic Master Plan Goal 4.

6. Collaboration with other universities and community colleges:

The UA Allied Health Alliance (AHA), comprised of deans and directors from UAS, UAF, CRCD and UAA health programs, meets twice each academic year to collaborate on the delivery of the allied health education programs and to prioritize areas for new health care training.

Physical Therapist Assistant has been identified by the UA AHA as a priority for development of a new program, and this development has been coordinated through the UA Office of Health Programs Development.

Upon approval of the program, the UAA faculty will collaborate with UAA community campuses and UA campuses to reach interested and qualified students. Advising for prospective students will be provided to all campuses through videoconferenced informational sessions to groups of interested students; advising will be provided to students on an individual basis as requested. The department will work closely with advisors on other UA campuses so that prospective students will be aware of prerequisites and the application process. All didactic content for the PTA program will be delivered on the UAA campus; students from geographic locations other than the Anchorage will need to relocate in order to attend the PTA program.

7. Demand for program (citing manpower studies or similar statistics), relation to State of Alaska long-range development, relation to other programs in the University of Alaska that may depend on or interact with the proposed program.

A. Demand for the program

- The 2009 Alaska Health Workforce Vacancy Study\(^1\) by the Alaska Center for Rural Health estimates that the vacancy rate for PTAs in Alaska is 30.5% (16 vacancies in 53 total estimated PTA positions). Further, this study reported that the mean length of position opening for PTA positions was 6.9 months, with the maximum amount of time a PTA position was typically open was 12 months. This study also estimated that all 16 openings for PTAs could be filled by new graduates.
- The 2012 workforce data study\(^2\) by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) reported 153 licensed PTAs in the state of Alaska, 62 of which are
current residents. For the 62 resident PTAs, there are 8.58 PTAs per 100,000 residents. This places Alaska at 49th in the nation.

- The 2012 Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook report estimates that 51,110 new PTAs will be needed nationally between 2010 and 2020, which represents 45% job growth. The national average expected job growth for all occupations during the same time period is 14%. Changes to restrictions on reimbursement for PT services by third-party payers will increase patient access to services and thus increase demand. The increasing number of people who need therapy reflects, in part, the increasing elderly population. The elderly population is particularly vulnerable to chronic and debilitating conditions that require therapeutic interventions. These patients often need additional assistance in their treatment, making the roles of assistants and aides vital. In addition, the large baby-boom generation is entering the prime age for heart attacks and strokes, further increasing the demand for cardiac and physical rehabilitation.

- Medical and technological developments should permit an increased percentage of trauma victims and newborns with birth defects to survive, creating added demand for rehabilitative services.

- Physical therapists are expected to increasingly use assistants and aides to reduce the cost of physical therapy services. Once a patient is evaluated and a treatment plan is designed by the physical therapist, the physical therapist assistant can provide many parts of the treatment, as directed by the therapist.

B. Relation to State of Alaska long-range development

Having a PTA program in Alaska will make it possible for a greater percentage of PTA jobs in Alaska to be filled by Alaskans, and not by outside contractors who are not likely to become permanent residents of Alaska.

C. Relation to other programs in the University of Alaska that may depend on or interact with the proposed program.

The PTA program will work cooperatively with other health-related professions educational programs at the university, including nursing and other rehabilitation programs. This will enable the various programs to share resources and provide opportunities for students to participate in team-projects and educational experiences. Clinical rotations for PTA students will be completed in health care facilities where UAA has clinical rotations set up for other Allied Health and Nursing. In addition, new agreements will be created with facilities not currently being used by UAA, including facilities not in Anchorage or the Mat/Su Valley (as needed). The PTA will build upon affiliation agreements previously established with various hospitals and clinics across the state.

8. Effects of program on other academic units (e.g. GER course requirements)

The impact on other academic units should be minimal since the program is not projecting significant numbers (~10) of new students enrolling, using existing available course capacity. PTA students will complete 17 credits of GER courses. Prerequisite courses will include Anatomy and Physiology, English, Communication, Psychology, Medical Terminology and
Essentials of Human Disease; the majority of these prerequisite courses will also meet the general university course requirements. All impacted UAA disciplines have been notified and coordinated with as part of the regular curriculum process. Pre-requisite courses are available on UAF and UAS campuses, as well as UAA campuses.

9. **Availability of appropriate student services for program participants.**

The School of Allied Health provides student success support and assistance for students enrolled in other allied health programs and will provide the same support services to PTA students. Academic advising will be provided by the PTA program faculty. Students will be located on the main UAA campus for the didactic portion of the program, and will have access to all services on campus. During the clinical rotations, advising and technical support for completion of the Clinical Performance Instrument will be provided by PTA faculty to students who will be off-campus for clinical practicum placement.

10. **Opportunities for research and community engagement for admitted graduate and undergraduate students.**

There is no research component within this associate degree. Community engagement for the PTA students is embedded within the clinical practicum courses where students will be placed in clinical training sites, working with clinical educators to provide patient care at the sites. Each student will complete approximately 440 hours in clinical rotations at multiple Physical Therapy departments/facilities. Clinical rotation sites will be located at facilities in underserved areas, as well as in Anchorage facilities.

11. **Outline of schedule for implementation of the program.**

The timeline for implementation of the PTA program is dependent to a significant degree on the accreditation process. In order to start the accreditation process, a full-time program director must be hired and approved by CAPTE. Once that has occurred, the program gains access to the accreditation portal on the CAPTE website and can begin entering information to be included with the candidacy application. A UAA program director has been hired and approved by CAPTE. This enables the program to enter the queue for the initial pre-accreditation site visit.

CAPTE site visits only occur three times a year, and, depending on the number of programs seeking accreditation, the site visit can be scheduled for more than a year in the future. UAA is currently scheduled for a candidacy site visit in July of 2014 and is on the waitlist for an earlier date. Should the site visit result in advancement to candidacy, the program may then admit students. Final accreditation is not granted until after a second site visit, which must occur during the final semester of the first cohort of students.
Table 11.1
Critical Tasks/Milestones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical Task</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Hire Program Director</td>
<td>March 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Submit Application for Candidacy to CAPTE</td>
<td>Prior to March 2014 deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Hire second faculty member/ACCE</td>
<td>Spring 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. CAPTE site visit</td>
<td>April 2014−July 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Matriculate students</td>
<td>Fall 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. CAPTE site visit</td>
<td>Summer 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. CAPTE decision re: accreditation</td>
<td>Late fall 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. First graduates</td>
<td>Summer 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Projection of enrollments (FTE (full-time equivalent) and headcount) and graduates over next five years.

The PTA program will be offered in a traditional academic year format. Full-time and part-time students will be admitted as pre-majors while completing pre-requisite coursework; pre-majors will be admitted throughout the academic year. Students will be required to complete pre-requisite courses prior to applying to the department for full major status.

Each academic year, a cohort of 10-15 students will be selected by the department through an applications process. The cohort of students will complete PTA courses in 3 semesters; a new cohort of students will be selected each year. The number of pre-majors will vary from year to year; the number of graduates is anticipated as 10-15 per year. It is anticipated that the first graduates will complete the program in summer 2015, with a cohort of graduates following each academic year.

Table 11.1
Enrollment Projections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>AY14</th>
<th>AY15</th>
<th>AY16</th>
<th>AY17</th>
<th>AY18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FTE Enrollment</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment Headcount</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduates</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. Availability and quality and/or requirement for new faculty and/or staff to support the program.

The program requires a minimum of two full-time faculty (a Program Director and an Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education [ACCE]) for accreditation, as well as sufficient clinical/adjunct faculty to meet program needs. A Program Director (Carrothers) was recently hired and is currently serving in a 9-month bipartite position during program development and the ACCE will be hired as program development progresses. Funding for this position has been obtained from the legislature. Upon approval of the program, this faculty will continue in a 9-month bipartite position, with a teaching assignment of 12 credits per semester for two semesters. This full-time faculty will teach didactic and laboratory
courses and the ACCE will serve as clinical coordinator and instructor for the clinical practicum courses. Adjunct faculty will be hired to teach portions of didactic courses to augment faculty knowledge/expertise, and clinical faculty will be used as preceptors for the clinical portion of the program.

The program will be supported by the current School of Allied Health director, administrative staff, student success coordinator and fiscal professional. There will be no additional staff requirements. The full-time faculty will serve as assessment coordinator for the program.

A. Existing Faculty

    Name:  LeeAnne Carrothers, PT, PhD
    Highest academic degree or certification:  PhD
    Academic rank/position title:  Term Assistant Professor/Program Director, Physical Therapist Assistant
    Professional registrations/qualifications:  State licensure as a Physical Therapist
    Type of appointment:  Bipartite
    Relevant scholarly activity/experience:
        • a minimum of five years clinical experience that includes experience in the PT/PTA relationship, to include currency in PT practice.
        • experience in a variety of areas of academia to include curricular development, implementation and evaluation.
        • knowledge of contemporary curricular content for the education of the physical therapist assistant
        • experience in administration, academic governance, fiscal management and human resource management
        • service on behalf of physical therapy education, the community, and/or the profession
    Current assignment:  Program Director and Assistant Professor of Physical Therapist Assistant
    How workload will be adjusted to meet demands of the new program:  Current assignment/workload is development of the program (writing curriculum, preparing accreditation application/self-study, assessing possible clinical rotation sites, identifying equipment). Once development is completed, the position will continue as Program Director and faculty.
    If being relieved of current duties, describe how are current duties are to be met:  N/A

B. New Faculty and Staff

    New Faculty:  Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education
    Minimum academic degree or certification required:  Master's degree
    Academic rank/position title at time of hire:  Term Assistant Professor/Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education
    Required professional registrations/qualifications:  n/a
    Type of appointment:  Bipartite
    Required relevant scholarly activity/experience:
• a minimum of two years of experience as a center coordinator of clinical education (CCCE) and/or clinical instructor (CI), or experience in teaching, curriculum development, and administration in a physical therapist assistant or physical therapist program
• clinical or educational administration experience
• experience in human resource management
• experience in a variety of areas of teaching (academic, clinical, continuing education, in-service)

13. Library, equipment, and similar resource requirement, availability, appropriateness, and quality.

A physical therapy education program requires availability of reference books and medical journals. The university library currently provides library access (obtained for other health care education programs) to electronic journals and databases (PubMed, ProQuest Nursing and Allied Health Source) which will enable PTA students to access and read the literature as needed. The startup cost of core physical therapy reference textbooks is included in the proposed budget; the UAA Consortium Library has funds available to assist with the purchase of reference materials.

The majority of laboratory equipment was purchased during FY13; some existing equipment will be shared with the Occupational Therapy program. Funds for audio/visual equipment have been secured and the equipment will be installed in summer 2013 for the main PTA classroom.

14. New facility or renovated space requirements.

The program will utilize space in the Professional Studies Building which was previously utilized by the School of Nursing as nursing labs. This space will require minimal remodeling which is planned for Summer 2013.

15. Projected cost of all required resources, revenue from all sources and a budgetary plan for implementing and sustaining the program.

In response to the documented need for PTAs in the state of Alaska, and the lack of an academic program, the Office of Health Programs Development was successful in securing general funds for a PTA program in FY13. This program represents one portion of the Physical Therapy Careers legislative appropriation, which was also intended to support developing a partnership to offer PT education in Alaska. The revenues and expenses described in this prospectus only apply to the PTA program proposed.

Costs include salary and benefits for the following new positions: a director/faculty, an ACCE faculty, 5 credits of adjunct faculty assignment, and a .5 FTE administrative assistant. The majority of equipment was purchased with Alaska Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) funds during FY13.1 TVEP funds have also been received for this program in FY14. Program revenues are projected based on enrollment of 10 students per year, with a

1 [http://labor.state.ak.us/bp/tvep.htm](http://labor.state.ak.us/bp/tvep.htm)
new cohort each academic year. There are no major anticipated incremental increases or
decreases in costs or revenues.

Table 15.1
Budget Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projected Annual Revenues in FY17</th>
<th>Projected Annual Expenditures in FY17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Salaries &amp; benefits (faculty and staff)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>Other (commodities, services, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Tuition &amp; Fees</td>
<td>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect Cost Recovery</td>
<td>One-time Expenditures to Initiate Program (if &gt;$250,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TVEP or Other (specify):</td>
<td>(These are costs in addition to the annual costs, above.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Receipts</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TVEP or Other (specify):</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL REVENUES</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 15.2
Budget Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue source</th>
<th>Continuing</th>
<th>One-time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. In current legislative budget request</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Additional appropriation required</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Funded through internal MAU redistribution:</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Funds already committed to the program by the MAU</td>
<td>$193,094</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Funded all or in part by external funds, expiration date</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Other funding source Specify Type: Student Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$62,304</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. Other special needs or conditions that were considered in the program’s development.

Because of the limited number of clinical rotation sites in Anchorage, students may be
required to complete clinical rotations in other communities. The program will make efforts,
where feasible, to connect students from communities outside of Anchorage with clinical
rotations in or near their home communities. Students in rotations outside of Anchorage will
receive the same academic support as those who are in Anchorage. Site visits with the
ACCE, student and clinical instructor will occur per CAPTE requirements. Representatives
from Physical Therapy clinics and hospital departments around the state will be included on
the PTA Advisory Board and will be solicited in the discussion of possible sites for clinical
rotations. The School of Allied Health works closely with the Alaska Area Health Education
Center (AHEC) regarding placement of students at sites outside of the Anchorage area.
A formal affiliation agreement will be established prior to placement of students in each clinical site. Clinical instructors/educators will be responsible for training at the clinical sites, and this will be facilitated/monitored by the ACCE, who will provide training to the clinical educators regarding program requirements.

During the second year of the program, while students are at clinical sites, seminar courses will be conducted via distance delivery. The ACCE will travel to sites during Clinical Practica II and III to meet with the student and clinical instructor/educator to assess the student’s progress toward meeting criteria for entry-level competency.

17. Consultant reviews, reports from visitations to other institutions, or names and opinions of personnel consulted in preparing the proposal.

The UA Office of Health Programs Development provided two needs assessments which were conducted through that office:


b. Needs and Requirements Analysis for Developing a Physical Therapy Education Program at the University of Alaska Anchorage, September 26, 2011, by Janet M Crosier, PT, DPT, MEd

18. Concurrence of appropriate advisory councils

The Alaska Physical Therapy Association (AKPTA) recommended creation of this program, and is in full support of a PTA program. A formal advisory committee for the PTA program is in development.

References:


PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

Allied Health Science Building (AHS), Room 171, (907)786-6932
http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/alliedhealth

Associate of Applied Science, Physical Therapist Assistant

Description and Student Learning Outcomes

Physical Therapist Assistants (PTAs) provide physical therapy services under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist. PTAs help people of all ages who have medical problems, or other health-related conditions that limit their ability to move and perform functional activities in their daily lives.

Some of the care provided by a PTA may include teaching patients or clients exercises for mobility, strength and coordination, training for activities such as walking with crutches, canes, or walkers, massage, and the use of physical agents and electrotherapy such as ultrasound and electrical stimulation. PTAs also observe the patient’s abilities and report their observations to the physical therapist. Unlike a physical therapist, the PTA cannot evaluate a patient, update a plan of care, or discharge a patient.

Generally, Physical Therapist Assistants are employed wherever physical therapists work. Hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, home and public health agencies, schools, private physical therapy practices, and the armed forces are major employers.

Graduation from a Physical Therapist Assistant education program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; phone: 703-706-3245; accreditation@apta.org is necessary for eligibility to sit for the licensure examination, which is required in all states.

The University of Alaska, Anchorage is seeking accreditation of a new physical therapist [assistant] education program from CAPTE. The program will submit an Application for Candidacy, which is the formal application required in the pre-accreditation stage. Submission of this document does not assure that the program will be granted Candidate for Accreditation status. Achievement of Candidate for Accreditation status is required prior to implementation of the [professional/technical] phase of the program; therefore, no students may be enrolled in [professional/technical] courses until Candidate for Accreditation status has been achieved. Further, though achievement of Candidate for Accreditation status signifies satisfactory progress toward accreditation, it does not assure that the program will be granted accreditation.

At the completion of the Physical Therapist Assistant program, students are able to:

1. Exhibit professional behavior in their role as responsible physical therapist assistants, adhering to appropriate ethical, legal, and regulatory standards.
2. Engage in evidence-based practice, responding to the dynamics of a changing healthcare system.
3. Integrate the principles of the physical, biological and behavioral sciences with the clinical practice of physical therapy.
4. Communicate effectively and sensitively with patients, families and other members of the health care team.

Admissions Requirements

See Associate’s Degree Admissions Requirements in Chapter 7, Academic Standards and Regulations.

Students will be admitted to UAA Physical Therapist Assistant program as a pre-major. Prior to being admitted as a full major, the student must complete the following additional requirements:

1. Student must meet with the UAA Physical Therapist Assistant program advisor regarding application and program admission requirements prior to application deadline.

2. Provide documentation, from official transcripts, successful completion of the following courses with a minimum grade of C:

   - BIOL A111/L  Human Anatomy and Physiology I with Laboratory  4
   - BIOL A112/L  Human Anatomy and Physiology II with Laboratory  4
   - One of the following:  3

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COMM A111 Fundamentals of Oral Communications (3)
or COMM A235 Small Group Communication (3)
or COMM A237 Interpersonal Communication (3)
or COMM A241 Public Speaking (3)
ENGL A111 Methods of Written Communications 3
MA A101 Medical Terminology 3
MA A104 Essentials of Human Disease 3
One of the following 3
PSY A111 General Psychology (3)
or PSY A150 Lifespan Development (3) (recommended)

3. Complete the Physical Therapist Assistant program application process.
5. Provide evidence of current immunizations as required by the department.
6. Once admitted, and prior to the program start, submit to a national-level criminal background check.

Advising
Special admission and application procedure requirements apply. Interested students should contact the Physical Therapist Assistant department for selection criteria. Completion of admission requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the program. Due to the risks associated with working in a healthcare setting, students are required to have health insurance. Health insurance is available for purchase through the UAA Student Health and Counseling Center.

Graduation Requirements
A. General University Requirements
Complete the General University Requirements for Associate of Applied Science Degrees located at the beginning of this chapter.

B. Associate of Applied Science Degree Requirements
Complete the Associate of Applied Science degree requirements in oral and written communications (9 credits) as outlined at the beginning of this chapter. In the Physical Therapist Assistant program, the General Course Requirement (6 credits) is fulfilled by completing BIOL A111 and BIOL A112.

C. Major Degree Requirements
1. Complete the following courses with a minimum grade of C or Pass (52 credits):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL A111/L Human Anatomy and Physiology I with Laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL A112/L Human Anatomy and Physiology II with Laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A101 Fundamentals of Physical Therapy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A105 Tests and Measures</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A110 Kinesiology and Biomechanics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A120 Rehabilitation I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A130 Physical Therapy Interventions I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A150 Psychosocial Aspects of Health Care</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A195 Clinical Practicum I</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A210 Therapeutic Exercise</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A220 Rehabilitation II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A230 Physical Therapy Interventions II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A250 Neurological Interventions Across the Lifespan</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A292 Physical Therapist Assistant Seminar</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A295A Clinical Practicum II</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA A295B Clinical Practicum III</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. A total of 61 credits are required for the degree.
Course Descriptions:

**PTA A101: Introduction to Physical Therapy**

Contact Hours: 2 + 0  
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Introduces the profession of physical therapy, to include the history, scope of practice, professionalism, the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), ethical behavior, the health care team, interpersonal communication and documentation in a medical record.

**PTA A105: Tests and Measures**

Contact Hours: 1.5 + 3  
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Introduces common standardized tests and measures used to determine the interventions required for the plan of care developed by the supervising physical therapist.

**PTA A110: Kinesiology and Biomechanics**

Contact Hours: 2 + 2  
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Presents human anatomy with an emphasis on the musculoskeletal system, identification of structures and their relationship to function, normal and abnormal biomechanical principles of joint patterns and gait. Explores human movement during performance of activities, especially the geometry of movement (kinematics) and the forces influencing movement (kinetics).

**PTA A120: Rehabilitation I**

Contact Hours: 1.5 + 3  
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Introduces the clinical manifestations and common management strategies for diseases/disorders of the musculoskeletal, endocrine, integumentary, cardiovascular and pulmonary systems as they pertain to physical therapy interventions.

**PTA 130: Physical Therapy (PT) Interventions I**

Contact Hours: 2 + 4  
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Introduces adaptive/assistive devices and equipment, gait training, activities of daily living (ADLs), wheelchair skills, isolation/standard precautions, aseptic technique, draping, transfers, passive range of motion (PROM), and mechanical modalities.

**PTA A150: Psychosocial Aspects of Health Care**

Contact Hours: 2 + 0  
Registration Restriction: Department Approval
Introduces health-related human behavior to include coping and adjustment behaviors in acute and chronic illness, and the role that culture and family systems play in response to illness or injury.

**PTA A195: Clinical Practicum I**

Contact Hours: 0 + 3  
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Provides the Physical Therapist Assistant student an opportunity to observe and participate in a structured clinical setting under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant. Provides an opportunity for the student to perform tests and interventions, and apply critical thinking skills developed in prior coursework.

**PTA A210: Therapeutic Exercise**

Contact Hours: 2 + 4  
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Introduces exercise as a preventive and treatment mechanism for pathological conditions that influence strength, endurance and flexibility of the human body. Emphasis is placed upon design and application of exercise, developmental sequence of exercise, types of exercise, and the use of exercise equipment. Includes the body’s physiological response to exercise.

**PTA A220: Rehabilitation II**

Contact Hours: 1.5 + 3  
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Introduces the clinical manifestations and common management strategies for diseases/disorders of the neurological, immune, lymphatic, hepatic/biliary, hematologic, gastrointestinal and genitourinary systems as they pertain to physical therapy interventions.

**PTA A230: PT Interventions II**

Contact Hours: 2 + 4  
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Introduces physical therapy interventions including management of integumentary pathologies, use of physical agents, environmental safety and accessibility evaluations, prosthetics and orthotics, and select manual therapy interventions.

**PTA A250: Neurological Interventions Across the Lifespan**

Contact Hours: 2 + 2  
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Introduces fundamentals of growth, development and aging, with implications for physical therapy. Focuses on neurological interventions used throughout the lifespan for individuals with abnormal development, neurological injuries, and neurological disorders.
PTA A292: Physical Therapist Assistant Seminar

Contact Hours: 2 + 0
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Prepares the student for transition into the workforce. Includes discussion of the national Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) exam, employment, Alaska practice act, professional development, employment opportunities and community service. Presents challenges and opportunities involved with providing physical therapy in the state of Alaska.

PTA A295A: Clinical Practicum II

Contact Hours: 0 + 15
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Provides continued supervised physical therapy experience in a healthcare setting.

PTA A295B: Clinical Practicum III

Contact Hours: 0 + 15
Registration Restriction: Department Approval

Provides continued supervised physical therapy experience in a healthcare setting.
### Attachment B: Course Sequencing

#### 1st semester
- **BIOL A111**  
  Anatomy and Physiology I  
  4
- **COMM GER**  
  Communications GER class  
  3
- **ENGL A111**  
  Methods of Written Communication  
  3
- **MA A101**  
  Medical Terminology  
  3

#### 2nd semester
- **BIOL A112**  
  Anatomy and Physiology II  
  4
- **ENGL A200**  
  200-level English GER requirement  
  3
- **MA A104**  
  Essentials of Human Disease  
  3
- **PSY A111 or PSY A150**  
  Psychology course  
  3

#### 3rd semester
- **PTA A101**  
  Fundamentals of Physical Therapy  
  3
- **PTA A105**  
  Tests and Measures  
  3
- **PTA A110**  
  Kinesiology and Biomechanics  
  3
- **PTA A120**  
  Rehabilitation I  
  3
- **PTA A130**  
  Physical Therapy Interventions I  
  4

#### 4th semester
- **PTA A150**  
  Psychosocial Aspects of Health Care  
  2
- **PTA A195**  
  Clinical Practicum I  
  1
- **PTA A210**  
  Therapeutic Exercise  
  4
- **PTA A220**  
  Rehabilitation II  
  3
- **PTA A230**  
  Physical Therapy Interventions II  
  4
- **PTA A250**  
  Neurological Interventions Across the Lifespan  
  3

#### 5th semester
- **PTA A292**  
  Physical Therapist Assistant Seminar  
  2
- **PTA A295A**  
  Clinical Practicum II  
  5
- **PTA A295B**  
  Clinical Practicum III  
  5