



STEM Careers

Physical Therapist

Job Description: Assess, plan, organize, and participate in rehabilitative programs that improve mobility, relieve pain, increase strength, and improve or correct disabling conditions resulted from disease or injury.

What does a Physical Therapist do?

- Administer manual exercises, massage, or traction to help relieve pain, increase the patient's strength, or decrease/prevent deformity or crippling
- Test, measure, and record patient's strength, motor development and function, sensory perception, functional capacity, or respiratory/circulatory efficiency
- Administer treatment involving application of physical agents, using equipment, moist packs, or ultrasound machines
- Evaluate, fit, readjust, or repair prosthetic or orthotic devices; recommend modifications to orthotist
- Provide educational information about physical therapy or therapists, injury prevention, ergonomics, or ways to promote physical health
- Identify and document goals, anticipated progress, and plans for reevaluation

Your Interests:

- Do you like working with people?
- Do you like helping others?
- Do you have good communication skills?
- Are you interested in how the body works?

Outlook: BRIGHT

Average Salary - \$45.97 hourly, \$95,620 annually

Projected Job Openings - 15,600 in the next 10 years

Education/Program of Study:

- Most positions require a master's degree, and higher-level positions require a Ph.D.
- Degree paths include biology, physical therapy, and related fields.

Sources:

<https://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/29-1123.00>