

# Indian Hills Community College

## Physical Therapist Assistant Program Observation Form for Incoming Students in Fall Term

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Last 4 digits Social Security:** \_\_\_\_\_ **OR IHCC Student ID #:** \_\_\_\_\_

In an attempt to assure that persons applying for acceptance into the IHCC Physical Therapist Assistant Program possess an understanding of the responsibilities and duties of Physical Therapist Assistants each prospective student is required to have a **minimum of forty (40) hours** of exposure to the Physical Therapy Profession. These exposure hours may include hours spent: 1) observing a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant while working, 2) volunteering in a physical therapy department **or** 3) being employed in a physical therapy facility.

**Please have this form completed by the P.T. or P.T.A. whom you observed.**

Facility	Date	Hours	O=observed V=volunteered E=employed	P.T./P.T.A Signature	License#

**Complete and Return by 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in August to:**  
 Caroline Peyrone, PTA Program Director  
 Indian Hills Community College  
 525 Grandview Avenue  
 Ottumwa, IA 52501  
[Caroline.peyrone@indianhills.edu](mailto:Caroline.peyrone@indianhills.edu)  
 641-683-5271

***Form may be scanned and emailed, mailed via postal service or submitted by hand.***



**Indian Hills Community College  
Physical Therapist Assistant Program  
Observation Hours Guidelines**

- It is the responsibility of each student to arrange their own schedule of observation hours, by contacting the facility, identifying themselves as an incoming Indian Hills PTA student, and requesting available opportunities to observe a licensed PT or PTA.
- During the time when a student is observing in a clinical setting, it is understood that they will be dressed professionally, in the manner that paid staff members are dressed. Unless otherwise noted by the facility representative, the dress code will be, for example, khaki pants, a nice shirt, such as a polo, and nice shoes (not tennis shoes or high heels, etc.). No T-shirts or jeans should be worn. No open-toed shoes are allowed, and socks are required. Excessive jewelry should be removed. Acceptable jewelry would include one set of non-dangling earrings. Any visible tattoos should be covered.
- Some facilities may require an observation student to participate in some form of orientation before seeing patient care. This may include signing a confidentiality form, indicating that a student agrees not to divulge any personally identifying information about patients that may encounter while observing patient care.  
**Whether or not a student signs a confidentiality agreement, it is understood that no private information will be shared with others who are not involved in the patient's care.**
- It is the expectation that students participating in observation of Physical Therapy practice will act professionally, using appropriate language, body posture and demeanor at all times. It is appropriate to ask questions of the PT or PTA that you are observing, and to assist when asked with equipment or supplies. A student will not be permitted to participate in hands-on patient care at this time.
- Physical Therapy settings that are appropriate for observation include hospital-based Physical Therapy, out-patient clinics, nursing home/rehab center physical therapy, home health care, Area Education Association therapy. All recorded observation time must be signed by a licensed Physical Therapist or PTA.