On April 29, 2015, the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education made the following decision regarding the Physical Therapist Assistant education program at George C Wallace Community College.

Status: ACCREDITATION

Action Taken: Continue Accreditation

Effective Date: April 29, 2015

Information Used to Make Decisions: Compliance Report received 2/28/2015

Reason for Decision: The Commission's decision to continue accreditation status is based on the program's demonstration of general compliance with the intent of the Evaluative Criteria and on the professional manner in which the program has addressed the Commission's previous concerns.

The program is reminded that the status of accreditation has been continued based on the program described in the materials reviewed by the Commission. The institution and program are responsible for notifying CAPTE of all substantive changes in the program prior to implementation. Unexpected substantive changes are to be reported immediately after they occur. (See Part 9 of CAPTE's Rules of Practice and Procedure for more information about reporting changes.)

Next Activity: Self-Study Report and On-site Visit in Fall 2023

Notices: The program is advised to heed the following notices which are appended:

NOTICES

REQUIRED STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

Once a program has been accredited, and for as long as it remains accredited, the program must use the statement provided in §8.20 on all educational and promotional materials, including the institution/program web site, where the program’s accreditation status is disclosed:
NOTE: If the institution offers other physical therapy programs not subject to accreditation by CAPTE (e.g., transitional DPT, post-professional degree program, residency or fellowship), the above statement must be edited to clearly indicate that the additional programs are not accredited by CAPTE. Additionally, the information available to the public regarding these programs must clearly state that they are not accredited by CAPTE.

ACCURATE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF THIS DECISION BY THE INSTITUTION
CAPTE’s recognition by the United States Department of Education requires a limitation of two years for programs to be out of compliance with an evaluative criterion. [34 CFR 602.20(a)(2)(iii)] When, after review of a Compliance Report, the program remains out of compliance with any criterion and sufficient progress toward compliance has not been demonstrated, CAPTE may act to place the program on probationary accreditation. CAPTE will place the program on probationary accreditation when a program remains out of compliance for 18 months. If the program continues to be out of compliance with any criterion at the end of the two year period following the initial finding that the program is out of compliance, CAPTE will withdraw accreditation unless CAPTE judges the program to be making a good faith effort to come into compliance with the evaluative criteria. CAPTE defines a “good faith effort” as 1) a completed comprehensive assessment of the problem/issue under review, 2) an appropriate plan for achieving compliance within a reasonable time frame not to exceed two years, 3) a detailed timeline for completion of the plan, 4) evidence that the plan has been implemented according to the established timeline, and 5) reasonable assurance that the program can and will achieve compliance as stated in the plan.

It is the program’s responsibility to make the case that a good faith effort has been made. During the extension for good faith, probationary accreditation status will be maintained and the program’s progress will be monitored. In no case, however, will an extension for good faith be longer than two years.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF DECISIONS BY CAPTE
Following all decisions, including decisions to place a program on warning, probation or show cause, or to deny candidacy, withdraw candidacy, withhold accreditation, or withdraw accreditation, the Department of Accreditation will, within 24 hours of notifying the programs and institutions of the decisions, provide notice to the public by placing notice of the decisions on its web site.

RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT CHANGE(S)
The institution and program are responsible for notifying CAPTE of all reportable changes in the program prior to implementation. Unexpected changes are to be reported immediately after they occur. Reportable changes, some of which may require pre-approval, are described in Part 9 of CAPTE’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (http://www.capteonline.org/AccreditationHandbook/). It is the program’s responsibility to be familiar with these expectations and to provide notification of program changes as required.
Commission’s Findings:

The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education judged the program to be in compliance with the intent of the following previously cited evaluative criteria: 1.2.4; 4.1.5; and 4.1.6.

The Commission has now deemed the program to be in compliance with the intent of all of the Evaluative Criteria for Accreditation of Education Programs for the Preparation of Physical Therapist Assistants. The Commission appreciates the thorough and professional manner in which these obligations have been addressed.