

## Alternative Careers in Healthcare

**Non-Regulated: Assisting Healthcare Jobs** 

## Physiotherapy Aide

Overview	Physiotherapy aides or attendants assist Physiotherapists and/or Physiotherapy Assistants in scheduling, preparing and implementing physical therapy programs. They maintain patient records and attendance as well as planned programs. They also prepare and maintain equipment and supplies			
	Documentation of care services, overall programs and various interactions is also their part of the job. Sometimes, they may need to join outings and other special events as directed by the physiotherapists.			
	They also need to do routine office and administrative activities. They also assists physiotherapists to carry out treatment programs such as thermotherapy, traction, hydrotherapy and electrotherapeutic techniques to rehabilitate patients with various injuries or disabilities to maximize their ability to independently manage daily activities.			
	They may work in outpatient clinics with clients who have orthopedic issues, in schools and preschools to help children develop physical and social skills, in extended care settings with geriatric clients, or in hospital settings with patients who have a variety of disorders or have undergone surgery. Whatever the setting, they work under the direction and supervision of physiotherapists.			
NOC Code	Other Assisting Occupations In Support Of Health Services (3414)			
Alias Job Titles	Activationist - health support services; Activities co-ordinator - health support services; Activity aide - health support services; Activity leader - seniors; Activity worker - health support servicesPhysical therapy attendant; Physiotherapy attendant; Physiotherapy helper; Rehabilitation aide; Rehabilitation assistant; Therapist assistant - medical; Therapy aide - medical; Therapy assistant - medical			
Qualifications Required	Mostly on-the-job training so does not require a diploma but having some kind of certification course will be appreciated			
Salary Range	Average hourly         Range hourly         Average yearly         Range yearly           \$13.59         \$10.70 - \$15         \$26,496         \$20,866 - \$29,250			

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Job Demand	Medium
	Employment outlook is good to fair across provinces. More information is available <a href="here">here</a> .
Growth Opportunity	Without further education, advancement opportunities for physiotherapy aides are limited.
Years' Experience Required	0-1 years
Training Options (if available)	Having a certificate in Physiotherapy aide program will facilitate employment:
	<u>Diploma in Physical Therapy Aide</u> at Alison (free)
	Physical Therapy Aide at Stratford Career Institute
	Physical Therapy Aide at eLearn Canada College
Personal Qualities	Excellent communication skills; empathetic; ability to work independently, Patience, Flexibility, Organizational skills and attention to detail; Manual dexterity; teamwork
Notes/Other Information	No certification is currently required. Physiotherapy aides work in a variety of settings including private practices, hospitals, continuing or long-term care facilities, rehabilitation facilities, schools, and private homes. They generally work weekdays but may be required to work some evenings and weekends.
	Difference between Physiotherapy Aide and Assistant
	<b>Physiotherapy aide</b> is the most entry level position that typically requires no specific degree or extensive experience. Their job responsibilities are much more restricted and are limited to administrative/clerical tasks and attendant type tasks such as helping patients move into or out of the therapy area/equipment, cleaning and preparing treatment areas.
	<b>Physiotherapy assistant</b> , one the other hand, requires specific degree and certain level of experience. Additionally, certification from a local/national membership/regulatory body is often expected by the employers.

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Steps towards capacity building to become competitive for this job	<ol> <li>Completing a certificate course on Physiotherapy aide program</li> <li>Experience as health care aide and other assisting health-related occupation could act as acceptable experience to get into such position</li> <li>Through networking, directly such position can be obtained.</li> </ol>		
References and	xvi.	Alberta Learning Information Service	
resources	xvii.	Job Bank Canada	
	xviii.	National Occupation Classification ESDC	
	xix.	<u>Neuvoo</u>	
	XX.	<u>Indeed</u>	