

SPORTS MEDICINE

Career Pathways Overview

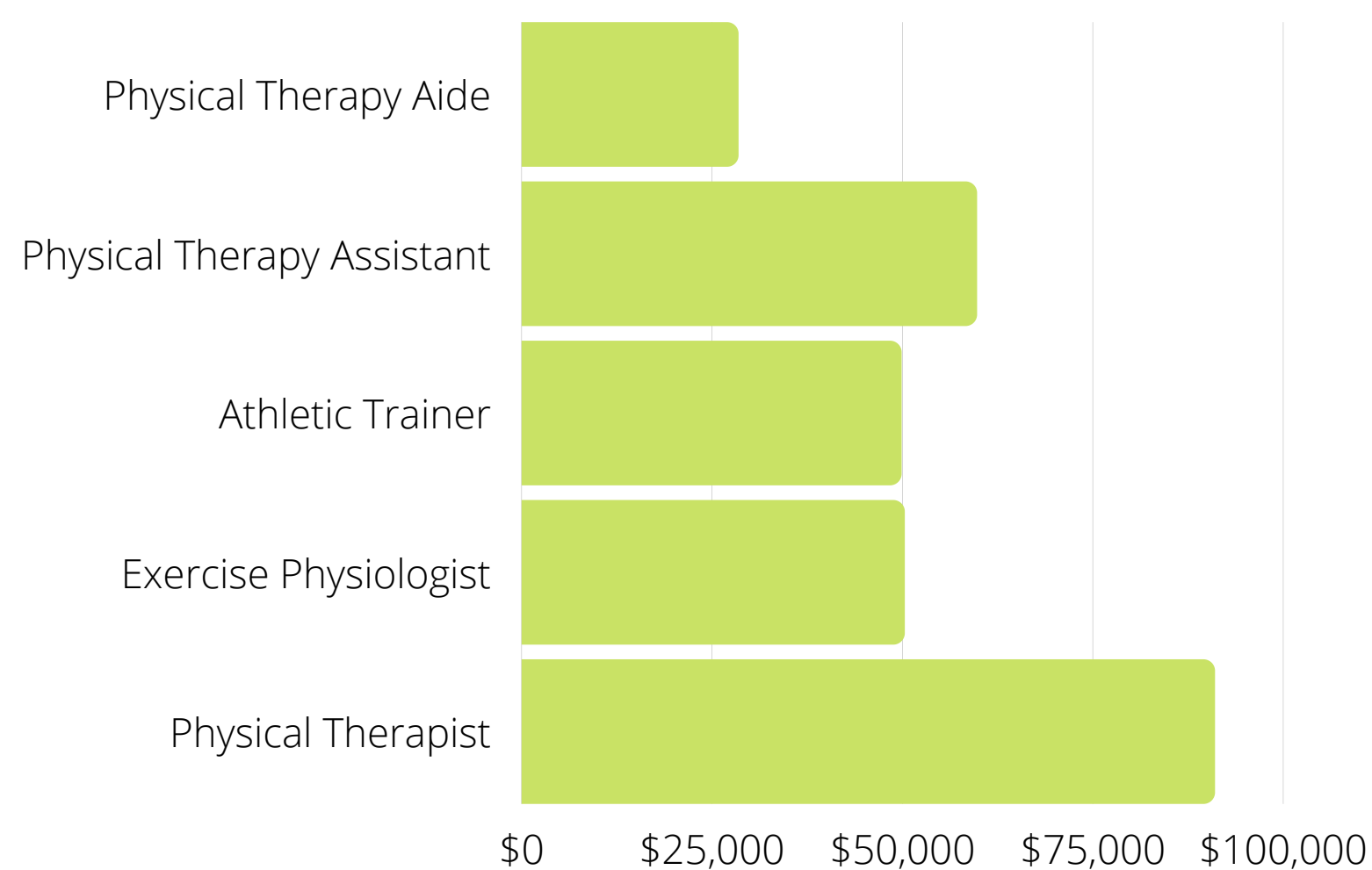


OVERVIEW

Sports medicine is a branch of medicine that deals with physical fitness and the treatment and prevention of injuries related to sports and exercise.

THE STATISTICS

Careers within this pathway include Physical Therapy Aide, Physical Therapy Assistant, Athletic Trainer, Exercise Physiologist and Physical Therapist. National median wages for these occupations are listed below. The outlook for this pathway is projected to grow about 20% from 2019 - 2029.



PATHWAY



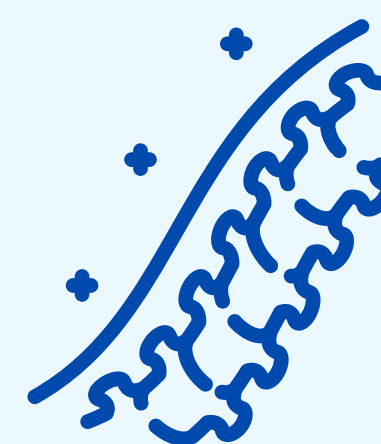
PHYSICAL THERAPY AIDE



PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT



ATHLETIC TRAINER



EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGISTS



PHYSICAL THERAPIST

SPORTS MEDICINE

Career Pathways Overview



PHYSICAL THERAPY AIDE

Physical therapist aides work under the direction and supervision of physical therapists.

Credentials Required: High School Diploma, On-the-job training
Outlook: Projected 21% growth between 2019-2029

PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

Physical therapist assistants work under the direction and supervision of physical therapists helping patients who are recovering from injuries and illnesses to regain movement and manage pain.

Credentials Required: Associates Degree, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education, National Physical Therapy Exam for physical therapist assistants.
Outlook: Projected 33% growth between 2019-2029

ATHLETIC TRAINER

Athletic trainers specialize in preventing, diagnosing, and treating muscle and bone injuries and illnesses. They carry out rehabilitation programs for injured athletes.

Credentials Required: Bachelor's Degree, Certification Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), Board of Certification for the Athletic Trainer (BOC) exam
Outlook: Projected 16% growth between 2019-2029

EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST

Exercise physiologists develop fitness and exercise programs that help patients recover from chronic diseases and improve cardiovascular function, body composition, and flexibility. Exercise physiologists analyze a patient's medical history to determine the best possible exercise and fitness regimen.

Credentials Required: Bachelor's Degree, Exercise Physiologist Certified (EPC) certification, Certified Exercise Physiologist (EP-C), Certified Clinical Exercise Physiologist (CEP), Registered Clinical Exercise Physiologist (RCEP)
Outlook: Projected 11% growth between 2019-2029

PHYSICAL THERAPIST

Physical therapists provide care to people of all ages who have functional problems resulting from back and neck injuries; sprains, strains, and fractures; arthritis; amputations; neurological disorders, such as stroke or cerebral palsy; injuries related to work and sports; and other conditions.

Credentials Required: Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree from Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE),
Outlook: Projected 18% growth between 2019-2029