**Degree Definitions**

* **Physical Therapist Assistant** (**PTA**)
  + A two year Associates degree in physical therapy
* **Bachelor’s Degree in physical therapy (PT)**
  + A 4 year Bachelor’s degree in physical therapy
* **Master’s of Physical Therapy** (**MSPT or MPT**) or **Master’s in Health Science** (**MHSPT**)
  + A Bachelor’s degree plus a two year Master’s program in physical therapy
* **Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT)**
  + A Bachelor’s degree plus a three year Doctorate program in physical therapy

Additional courses/training can be taken to be certified in specialty areas of physical therapy:

* Orthopaedic Clinical Specialist (**O.C.S.**)
* Sports Clinical Specialist (**S.C.S.**)
* McKenzie Specialist (**MDT**)
* Certified Active Release Technique **(ART)**