

# A.S. in Physical Education, Recreation & Recreation Therapy (PERRT)

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION, RECREATION & RECREATION THERAPY (PERRT) PROGRAM

The mission of the program is to prepare students for transfer into a baccalaureate program or occupations in athletics, sport management, or recreation activities.

The **Physical Education concentration** prepares students to teach and lead physical education classes in public and private schools (grades K-12), as well as community centers, health clubs, and camps. Courses consist of methodology of teaching physical education, leadership, organization and administration, fieldwork, sport and American society, health, and sports skills (individual, dual and team sports).

The **Recreation & Recreation Therapy concentration** prepares students to work in hospitals, nursing homes, recreation centers, rehabilitation centers, day programs and with disabled individuals in community settings. They work with people of all ages as well as people with physical, emotional or developmental disabilities. Courses emphasize learning by doing. Students take activity skills courses in leadership, introduction to recreation, social recreation, fieldwork experience, organization and administration of recreation, health, and arts and crafts.

The **Sports Management concentration** provides students with the educational and practical experiences for careers in college athletics departments, sports business, and sports facilities planning and management. Courses consist of business and sport management, fieldwork, sport and American society, economics.

Students complete one semester of 100 hours of supervised fieldwork experience at one of the forty community agencies (including hospitals; nursing homes, YMCA's, Community Centers etc.) with whom the program has fieldwork agreements.

## SKILLS

**Compassion.** Recreational therapists should be kind and empathetic when providing support to patients and their families. They may deal with patients who are in pain or under emotional stress.

**Speaking skills.** These fields require the ability to communicate well with your patients/clients. You must give clear directions during activities or instructions on healthy coping techniques.

**Listening skills.** In these fields, you must listen carefully to patients' or clients' problems and concerns, asking appropriate follow up questions.

## CAREER INFORMATION

Recreation and Fitness Studies Teachers (Postsecondary) teach courses pertaining to recreation, leisure, and fitness studies, including exercise physiology and facilities management. Includes both teachers primarily engaged in teaching and those who do a combination of teaching and research.

Recreational therapists plan, direct, and coordinate recreation-based medical treatment programs for people with disabilities, injuries, or illnesses. Recreational therapists work in a variety of settings, including hospitals, nursing homes, and government parks and recreation departments. Most work full time.

## EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

Employment of recreation and fitness studies teachers is projected to grow 0.1 percent from 2018 to 2030.

Employment of recreational therapists is projected to grow 3 percent from 2024 to 2034, about as fast as the average for all occupations.

Overall employment in entertainment and sports occupations is projected to grow about as fast as the average for all occupations from 2024 to 2034. About 99,700 openings are projected each year, on average, in these occupations due to employment growth and the need to replace workers who leave the occupations permanently.

## CAREER PATH

Most recreation and fitness studies teachers require graduate school. The nationwide median salary is \$72,650.

Recreational therapists typically need a bachelor's degree to enter the occupation. Many employers require them to be certified. The median annual wage for recreational therapists was \$60,280 in May 2024.

The median annual wage for this group was \$54,870 in May 2024, which was higher than the median annual wage for all occupations of \$49,500.

## CAREER COACH – SEARCH CAREER INFORMATION & CURRENT LOCAL WAGE DATA

<https://kingsborough.lightcastcc.com/programs/physical-education-recreation-and-recreation-therapy-as/190619>

**INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY: [www.cuny.edu/apply](http://www.cuny.edu/apply) or 718-368-4600**

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