

**PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIAN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM  
(NVC FAST TRACK PT PROGRAM)  
CLASS OF 2026**

The Psychiatric Technician (PT) Apprenticeship Program is a one-of-a-kind program that has partnered the Department of State Hospitals-Napa (DSH-Napa), Napa Valley College (NVC), and the Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC). This program starts by training participants for 2 1/2-months to be a Certified Nursing Assistant (C.N.A.). Successfully passing the C.N.A board allows participants to move into a 12-month PT Program (aka NVC Fast Track PT Program). The Psychiatric Technician Apprentice Program includes On the Job Training (OJT) at DSH-Napa.

This PT Apprenticeship Program is fast-paced and mentors future leaders in the field of Mental Health. The PT Apprenticeship Program has a 95% pass rate for the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT) Board Exam. The PT Apprentice is hired as a limited term, full time state employee. This means the PT Apprentice will go to school full time, work part-time while receiving a salary, healthcare, and other state employee benefits.

### **Qualifications**

Requirements for the PT Apprenticeship Program (aka NVC Fast Track PT Program) and the Traditional NVC Psychiatric Technician Program are similar except that the Psychiatric Technician Apprenticeship Program requires a C.N.A. certificate and no college prerequisites. The NVC Fast Track PT Program has corequisite classes.

These corequisite classes are taken with the PT Apprenticeship Program core courses. Listed below are the corequisite classes:

- Pharmacology
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Health and Nutrition
- Human Growth and Development

Classes may be a combination of in person and distance learning. Computer skills are necessary for success in the program.

The PT Apprentice must pass their C.N.A. Board Exam, must maintain a passing grade while in the NVC Fast Track PT Program, and must meet expectations for their OJT in-order to continue with the PT Apprenticeship Program. Failure to do so means dismissal from both the Psychiatric Technician Apprenticeship Program and employment at DSH-Napa.

Immunizations must be current before and during the program. The PT Apprentice must be prepared to receive COVID vaccination and annual influenza vaccination and any other required vaccinations by DSH-Napa, the clinical sites, and NVC.

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### **Napa Valley College (NVC) Requirements**

For the most up to date college requirements, please go to the NVC website:

[Psychiatric Technician Apprenticeship Program \(Fast Track\) \(napavalley.edu\)](https://www.napavalley.edu/psychiatric-technician-apprenticeship-program-fast-track)

### **Tuition and Fees**

The Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) has an agreement with NVC that covers tuition fees. The PT Apprentice will have their C.N.A. Board Exam and Live Scans reimbursed by the JAC if the C.N.A. certificate was obtained while hired as a PT Apprentice.

Some of the out-of-pocket expenses are books, simulation programs, student fees, school supplies, uniforms, additional live scan costs and BVNPT Board Application for Exam. Estimated cost is \$2,000.

### **Felony Convictions**

The PT Apprentice is a health care provider and thus, is subject to stringent Department of Justice (DOJ) and FBI background checks. The California Department of Public Health C.N.A. Board will not issue a certificate and the BVNPT will not issue a license to persons with felony convictions. The following is a list of convictions but, are not limited to illegal drug possession or illegal drug trafficking, theft, negligence, abuse, assault and battery. Some clinical sites may be more stringent with their background requirements due to the age and dependent nature of their population. Inability to attend clinical means inability to continue with the Psychiatric Technician Apprenticeship Program.

### **Application Process:**

Go to [www.calcareers.ca.gov](http://www.calcareers.ca.gov). Follow the prompts for “How to Apply for a State Job”.

**Final File Date: August 2024 (tentative)**

**Monthly Salary: \$2,745 - \$3,650**

### **Tips:**

1. Create an account on [www.calcareers.ca.gov](http://www.calcareers.ca.gov). Complete and save your [Examination and Employment Application](#) (STD 678). You will need to submit your STD 678 (application form) again as soon as you have passed your qualification exam.
2. Have two extra copies of your high school diploma/transcript or GED certificate.
3. Ensure your Driver's License is current (**not expired**).
4. Have your original Social Security Card, **unlaminated**.
5. Request for a transcript review with Napa Valley College (NVC) Office of Admissions for the Fast Track PT Program. Keep the letter that states your transcripts comply with the math and English requirements for the NVC PT Program.

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6. Have a record of your titers, immunizations, etc. as required by Napa Valley College Health Occupations Program.

[Health & Safety Requirements \(napavalley.edu\)](http://napavalley.edu)

Please note: only submit your documentation **after** the hiring process is completed and you have been notified of your status.

**Contact Information for the Psychiatric Technician Apprenticeship Program:**

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