A viability review is required prior to forwarding a program initiation or discontinuance proposal and must have taken into consideration the following:

**1. The impact on students and student success**;

The students in the CHC service area will be provided a high quality program in a high demand job market. This will attract additional full-time students to Crafton. The PTA program will be offered as a two year AA degree with a potential for employment in the industry after successful completion of the California State PTA licensure exam. According to Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education’s 2014-2015 Fact Sheet published October 2015, the Graduation rate for individuals enrolled in an accredited Physical Therapy program is 81%. The pass rates for all first time takers of the Licensure exam is 85.9%. As such this program will provide students an affordable point of entry into the field of physical therapy and can serve as a first step in the path to achieving a doctorate in Physical Therapy.

**2. The impact on the comprehensiveness and balance of offerings across the college curriculum and within the district**

This program will add to both the traditional academic and career components of the college. This program will have students in general education courses as well as specific science courses. The career process will be developed using the new program and course guidelines from the state chancellor’s office.

**3. The impact the educational and budget-planning process used at the institution**

As a new program there would be an impact on the educational and budget-planning processes. The program would be required to complete a program review and would also need to tract the income verses the expense of offering a quality program.

**4. The positive and/or negative impact on transfer to four-year colleges and universities**;

Students who successfully complete a PTA Associates degree would be able to transfer

**5. The effects of the program on local businesses and industries**;

The CHC PTA graduates would be able to work in one of several Local businesses and medical facilities. Including hospitals, home health care services, nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities and outpatient physical therapy clinics would have a well-trained work force. According to the Employment Development Department (EDD) 2015 Occupational Employment statistic Survey the number of physical therapy assistances jobs in the Inland Empire is expected to grow much faster than the average growth rate for all occupations. Jobs for physical therapist assistants are expected to increase by 35.6% with a projected need of 21 new PTA employees each year from 2012-2022. Additionally the state of California is expecting to realize an additional 250 PTA jobs per year during the same time frame.

The current job market for PTAs is strong and demand is projected to increase. The Employment Projections for 2010-2020 issued in February, 2012 by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked PTAs as 9th among the 30 occupations with the fastest projected employment growth in the next decade. This increase is partly due to the high number of "baby boomers" retiring in the coming decade, a large group of individuals who also may need more rehabilitation services. Income for licensed PTAs ranges from $40,000 to $55,000/year depending on experience, location and type of setting.
6. The effects of the program on faculty and staff;

The PTA program will require a full-time program director and 2.5 part-time faculty for a total FTE faculty load of 3.5. The PTA program would bring new faculty to the CHC campus.

7. In the case of program discontinuance, provisions that can and should be made for students in progress to complete their educational goals.
Not Applicable

This plan should include the following as needed:

Qualitative Indicators based on the mission, values, and goals of the instruction and access and equity for students. These indicators should include, but are not limited to:

1. Balance of the college curriculum;
   A PTA program at CHC would attract additional FT students who would also need to complete all required GE courses. This would help with grow the student population at CHC. A PTA program would add an additional certification to the Department of Allied Health. (Department needs to discuss how a PTA program would complement what is currently offered at CHC).

2. Effect on students of discontinuing the program;
   Not applicable

3. Potential for a disproportion impact on any one group of students;
   none

4. Quality of the program and how it is received by students, articulating universities, local business and industry, and the community;
   Not applicable

5. Community needs assessment (SCANs report data); (ASK KEITH to pull this data from SCANs)

According to the most recent SCANs report

   Added as separate file attached.

6. Student employability and/or transferability;

The CHC PTA graduates would be able to work in one of several Local businesses and medical facilities. Employment opportunities are available in Physical Therapy Departments located in in-patient, out-patient, rehabilitation, geriatric, and pediatric centers. According to the Employment Development Department (EDD) 2015 Occupational Employment statistic Survey the number of physical therapy assistant jobs in the Inland Empire is expected to grow much faster than the average growth rate for all occupations. Jobs for physical therapist assistants are expected to increase by 35.6% with a projected need of 21 new PTA employees each year from 2012-2022. Additionally the state of California is expecting to realize an additional 250 PTA jobs per year during the same time frame. Employment rates the last three years, for students completing the PTA program at Cerritos Community College has been 95% or higher.
Students who successfully complete a PTA Associates degree would be able to transfer to a 4 year college or university.

7. Replication of programs in the District/surrounding area;

Cerritos is the only other Community College in within 50 miles of the CHC service area that offers a PTA program. Each year the Cerritos College PTA program accepts 32 students from a pool of 300-350 applicants. There is tremendous demand and few affordable options for PTA programs within the Southern California area. There are no community colleges in the Inland Empire that offer a PTA AA course of study.

LLUMC offers an accredited 15 month, five quarter PTA program. The cost of the program is $30,000. Each year approximately 132 students apply to the program and of that 52 or 39% are accepted. Of those accepted 50 students or 96% actually enroll in the program. This means there are an additional 80 students in the Inland Empire area who could benefit from a PTA program at Crafton Hills College.

There are private partners in the CHC service area who offer PTA programs of study, however these options would not be viable for community college students who are looking to retrain and have limited incomes.

8. Interviews with faculty, staff, students and administrators in the affected area and in related instructional areas.

Through discussions with the department faculty, staff, students and administrators there were no concerns with the implementation of this program within the Allied Health Department.

Quantitative indicators must be considered in any discussion of program viability. Any data used as a basis for decision-making must be sound, comprehensive, uniform and reliable. Quantitative indicators should include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Enrollment and retention trends
   Each year the Cerritos College PTA program accepts 32 students from a pool of 300-350 applicants. There is tremendous demand and few options in terms of affordable programs within the Southern California area.

2. Persistence/completion/success of students in the program
   Cerritos Once accepted into the program, the class to class success rate varies between 84-100%. Graduation rates vary between 80-100%. Employment for the last three years has been 95% or higher. National Board pass rates for first time takes have varied between 70-95% with an ultimate pass rate varying between 83-100%.

3. Enrollment management committee discussions
4. **Fiscal impact (needs to be completed/reviewed by department)**

Average is - $226,000 of operating Expenses – Including approx. $26,000 for operating expenses and $200,000 for Salaries and benefits.

Income on average is $5,100 per student and if the program accepts and retains 32 students. The college would need to accept and retain 50 FTE students to make the program viable. As 50 FTE students would bring in $255,000 in FTE apportionment.

At least one well-publicized open forum should be held to allow any concerned member of the campus community or of the College’s service area the opportunity to voice opinions and express concerns.

CTA and CSEA presidents will make a formal recommendation on the proposal to be sure the proposal abides by all terms of the districts negotiated classified and certificated contracts.