

PTA CPI Web Talking Points for PTA Program Administrators

APTA and Academic Management Systems (AMS) recognize that securing financing for PTA CPI Web can be a difficult task, especially in these tough economic times of budget cutbacks. For that reason, we offer the following 'Talking Points' to assist PTA Program administrators:

1. The annual cost for PTA CPI Web is \$775 per academic year. This fee is paid to AMS. APTA is absorbing the estimated \$60,000 development costs.
2. AMS will provide ACCEs/DCEs, clinical instructors, and students with 24/7 technical assistance.
3. The program will save money on copying, postage, and labor typically used to manage the paper process. The program includes tools for matching students with clinical sites and other pre-clinical education experience tasks. The ACCE can track the student throughout the clinical education experience from the office.
4. The PTA CPI Web provides outcome data that can be incorporated into the overall program assessment plan to meet CAPTE Section 4 requirements.
5. Users of the PTA CPI Web are required to complete the free online training and final assessment; and receive 0.2 CEUs. The ACCE/DCE is no longer required responsible to provide training in use of the PTA CPI. Additionally, the program can demonstrate compliance with CAPTE criteria pertaining to educating clinical faculty.
6. The new PTA CPI Web has been tested for validity and reliability. From a risk management position, the PTA CPI Web reduces the PTA program's vulnerability should a student challenge a grade or rating.
7. Some colleges provide grants and/or other types of funding for educational assessment programs. Using PTA CPI Web may qualify programs for these grant monies.
8. AMS provides excellent data storage and security, eliminating the need for the college to provide these resources. Services include the following:
 - ... All of the data is stored on AMS servers and is kept forever. All evaluation data, reports, files, surveys and archived files are the property of the campus. All archived data from company servers will be available to the campus.
 - ... Security on Academic Management Systems' hosting servers for PTA CPI Web has three components: Physical, Server, and Network.
 - ... Physical security is provided by AMS's co-location hosting partner, Matrix Telecommunications Corporation. Access to the co-location facility is limited to facility employees and authorized customer representatives only. All building entrances are monitored, and all server room entrances are kept locked at all times and are accessible to authorized personnel only. Additionally, all AMS servers are kept in locked server cabinets with redundant power and cooling. Finally, the co-location facility is equipped with redundant network connections, uninterruptible backup power, environmental control, and fire suppression systems.
 - ... At the Server level, PTA CPI Web runs on its own protected server, with no shared components with other systems (except for backups). The hosted instance of PTA CPI Web is accessible only to authorized client personnel (for administration) and authorized AMS technical and support staff (for client support). Access is account-based with logins and passwords assigned to authorized personnel only. Low-level server administration is performed only by authorized AMS staff, and server administration access is completely segregated from PTA CPI Web instance access.
 - ... For network security, each AMS hosting server is behind its own dedicated hardware firewall with only ports 80 and 443 exposed to the Internet. All sensitive communication between client sites and PTA CPI Web is conducted over Secure Socket Layer (SSL) using 128 bit encryption; and AMS maintains up-to-date SSL certificates issued by the Comodo Group. Finally, AMS's hosting servers are not directly networked together, and each must be accessed individually; thus, access to one server does not grant access to all servers.