

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT (PTA) PROGRAM

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

*****ALL MATERIALS DUE BY FEBRUARY 15, 2016, FOR EARLY ADMISSION AND BY
MAY 15, 2016, FOR FINAL ADMISSIONS FOR FALL 2016*****

MINIMUM APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

STUDENTS MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMPLETED IN ORDER TO APPLY TO THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM. (This is compliant with CAPTE standards.)

1. SCC General Admissions Application
2. Official Transcripts: Provide Surry Community College Admissions Office with official transcripts from:
 - a. High school or High School Equivalency scores
 - b. All colleges attended, if applicable

Official transcripts should be mailed from the institution(s) attended or be hand delivered by applicant in an envelope sealed by a representative of the school(s) attended.

3. Placement Test(s): Meet or exceed the benchmark scores for the placement test(s) or successfully complete all developmental prerequisites.
4. GPA: Achieve and maintain an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher in all college courses taken in the last 3 years. For high school students who have not completed any post-secondary courses, the student must have at least a 3.0 GPA in their high school courses.
5. Science Courses: Students who have not successfully completed BIO 168 (Anatomy & Physiology I) must have completed Biology and Chemistry with a grade of "C" or better in high school or BIO 111 and CHM 092 or CHM 131 (preferred) and associated lab component with a grade of "C" or better in order to take BIO 168 - Anatomy & Physiology I.
6. Experience: Complete a minimum of 20 observation/volunteer hours in a physical therapy clinical setting under the supervision of a licensed PT or PTA. These hours must be documented and signed off on by the PT or PTA. A form to document these clinical hours is available for download on the SCC PTA website.

PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT COURSES

Students applying for the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) should complete the following courses toward their degree and earn points considered for admission to the PTA program:

- ACA 111
- **BIO 168***
- **BIO 169***
- **ENG 111***
- ENG 114
- **PHY 110***
- **PHY 110A***
- **PSY 150***
- PSY 241

***Students earning a grade of B or higher in these courses will earn points toward admission.**

COLLEGE PLACEMENT TEST SCORES

- If an applicant scores less than the minimum cutoff scores on the College Placement Test(s), he/she will be required to complete the essential sequence of developmental courses. If the student successfully completes all of the required developmental courses (grade of "P") prior to the application deadline date and meets the other minimum requirements, he/she may be considered eligible to apply to the program.
- The Health Sciences Division follows the college placement testing policy of the college.

REQUIRED GRADES AND LENGTH OF TIME SINCE COMPLETING ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I IF TAKEN PRIOR TO ADMISSION.

- Students must have achieved at least a "C" in all curriculum courses with no more than three attempts. BIO 168 & BIO 169 completion must have been within the last five years.

TEST FOR ESSENTIAL ACADEMIC SKILLS FOR ALLIED HEALTH (TEAS-V for Allied Health)

- Students should contact the Health Sciences Division Administrative Assistant (336-386-3275) in order to register for the test no later than noon on the day prior to the scheduled test.
- The cost of the test is approximately \$45.00 and payment must be paid at the time of registration with cash, check, or money order made out to Surry Community College.
- Taking the TEAS-V for Allied Health does not necessarily qualify the student for admission to the PTA program.
- Students will receive their score at the conclusion of the test and will know if they have met the minimum score required to qualify for admission to the PTA program.
- Once the test has been completed, the Associate Dean of Health Sciences will provide Student Services with a list of students who have taken the TEAS-V for Allied Health and they will conduct an audit of the student's file to ensure all criteria for admission have been met.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION TO THE PTA PROGRAM

- Phase I: Students will be ranked based on their GPA, grades earned in BIO 168, BIO 169, PHY 110, PHY 110A, ENG 111, and PSY 150, work experience as a Physical Therapy Aide/Tech or currently licensed Massage & Bodywork Therapist, bachelor's degree in allied health related field*, associate degree in allied health related field*, and TEAS-V for Allied Health score.
- Phase II: Applicants who have successfully completed Phase I will be selected to continue to Phase II, where they will be interviewed and required to write an essay.
- Final Admissions: Applicants who successfully complete Phase II will be eligible for the final admissions phase, where applicants are ranked according to their performance in phases I and II.

***Allied health related fields include: Exercise physiology, athletic training, orthotics, prosthetics, COTA, respiratory therapy, speech language pathology, etc. NOT included among "Allied Health" are certified nurse aides, personal trainers, etc.**

ADMISSION NOTIFICATION

- Students who are accepted for early admission into the PTA program will be notified by mail in late April. Medical forms, acceptance cards, and orientation information will be included in the acceptance packets.

- Students who are accepted for final admission into the PTA program will be notified by mail in late July. Medical forms, acceptance cards, and orientation information will be included in the acceptance packets.
- Students must return acceptance cards by the designated date in order to maintain their admitted status.
- Students who are not admitted into the PTA program who wish to be considered for the following year must reapply and retake the TEAS-V for Allied Health.
- Once all seats are filled, alternate students will be chosen by rank if an accepted student declines or is disqualified.
- Only one prior admission to the SCC PTA program will be permitted.
- Final admission status is contingent upon completion of the required items (see Additional Admission Requirements).

ADDITIONAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission into the PTA program is contingent upon completion of the following items by the dates requested. Prospective students must submit:

1. A **completed medical form** with test results and the most recent dates of immunizations/proof of immunity, including positive Hepatitis B titer or signed declination form; positive varicella (Chicken Pox) titer or recent immunization; positive MMR titer or proof of two vaccinations of MMR; and Tetanus booster within the last eight years. The completed medical form must be submitted to the Administrative Assistant for Health Sciences no later than the designated date for PTA students.
2. **Evidence** of appropriate health and/or accident insurance (or can be purchased through school).
3. **Malpractice insurance** dues must be paid by designated date and may be included in fees paid with tuition.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK & DRUG SCREEN

Criminal background checks and drug screening are required by MOST clinical agencies. PTA students prohibited from participating in a clinical internship based on their criminal background check and/or drug screen will be dismissed from the PTA program due to their inability to progress.

The Physical Therapist Assistant program at Surry Community College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314; Telephone: 703.706.3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: www.capteonline.org.