

(Information in this packet is subject to change)

Please refer to the Physical Therapist Assistant website at www.scc-fl.edu/pta

A.S. DEGREE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

GENERAL INFORMATION for Pre-PTA Students

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program Faculty at Seminole Community College appreciate your interest in the PTA program and have designed this information packet to help guide you in the application process, and to answer some commonly asked questions.

What is the role of the PTA and where are they employed?

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) is a skilled health care worker who implements selected treatment interventions under the direction and supervision of the Physical Therapist. These treatment interventions are concerned with health promotion, the prevention of physical disabilities, and with the treatment and rehabilitation of persons ill, injured, and/or born with disabilities. Some duties of the PTA include reading patient's charts; transferring patients; assisting the patient in exercise and ambulation; applying physical agents such as heat, cold, and electrical stimulation to specific muscles; instructing the patient and care giver in functional skills; and observing and reporting changes in a patient's condition to the Physical Therapist. Physical Therapist Assistants work in settings where Physical Therapists are employed. They include hospitals, outpatient clinics, private practices, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, school systems, and other qualified agencies.

What do I need to do to get into the SCC PTA Program?

The PTA Program has two very distinct phases. The first phase is called the **Preparation Phase**. This is the time when students are completing admission requirements and preparing to submit these items to the appropriate offices prior to the deadline date. You are currently in the Preparation Phase. The second phase, the **Professional Phase**, follows the Preparation Phase and is only available to those students who have successfully completed the "Application Process" and been formally accepted in the PTA Program. In the Professional Phase, the students can enroll in the specific professional courses to become a PTA. A FBI criminal background check is required for all students admitted to the PTA program.

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ADMISSION / APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Before applying to the PTA Program you must:

1. Submit a completed Seminole Community College Application for Admission to the Admissions Office and complete required college placement testing if necessary.
2. Request official transcripts from all colleges attended after reviewing the Seminole Community College Guidelines for Transcript form. A grade of "C" or better must be attained in all the general education course requirements for the Physical Therapist Assistant program. Official transcripts from other colleges must be submitted to the SCC Records Office no later than 4 months prior to the date you intend to submit your Physical Therapist Assistant Application.
3. Submit a completed Application Packet to room A106 or A108 on the Altamonte Springs Campus by May 31. Place all the required information in a sealed envelope; write your name, the date, and 'Physical Therapist Assistant Program' on the outside of the envelope. This packet must include:

1. The Physical Therapist Assistant application:

<http://www.scc-fl.edu/pta/app-process.htm>

This completed form with ALL attachments (MySCC unofficial transcript and Form #2) should be submitted by May 31st and is valid for only that current academic year. For those students not admitted, a new application packet must be submitted the following year.

2. A copy of your MySCC unofficial transcript

An **Overall GPA** of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale is required to apply to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program. In addition, a grade of "C" or better must be attained in all the general education and support course requirements. There are seven general education courses. You **must** complete at least these 4 courses before entering the PTA program: ENC1101 - English I, BSC2093C - Anatomy & Physiology I, MAC 1105 - College Algebra and one course from either a Psychology/Sociology category or a Humanities category. The remaining 3 general education courses needed for the completion of your degree are indicated on the Curriculum page in this packet. Though only 4 prerequisites are required, more than 4 are recommended and may be considered in the selection of candidates.

3. Completion of a Minimum of 20 Recent Volunteer/ Observation and/or Work Experience Hours in Physical Therapy Departments

Physical Therapy is a gratifying profession where Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants frequently feel vitally important and instrumental in the recovery and restoration of the **quality** of life of their patients. You need to be sure Physical Therapy is the field for you. Therefore, it is required that you work, volunteer and/or observe for a minimum of 20 hours in Physical Therapy Departments. These hours must be recent (within the academic year prior to the class for which you are applying) and are required to ensure your exposure to the healthcare field you desire to enter. To verify these clinical experiences, a Physical Therapy Experience Form (Form #2, attached) must be completed and signed by the supervising Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant from that facility. Though a minimum of 20 hours is required, more than 20 hours at more than one type of facility are required and may be considered in the selection of candidates.

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CURRICULUM

For your academic success, and to become a more competitive candidate, we strongly recommend that you complete as many General Education courses as possible before applying to the A.S. Physical Therapist Assistant Program. Please remember that many of the General Education courses have prerequisites and you should check the catalog or speak to a counselor if you have questions.

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES		
Course No.	Course Name	Units
ENC 1101	English I	3
MAC 1105	College Algebra or higher level MAC or MAP prefix	3
HUMxxxx	Humanities Elective	3
BSC 2093C	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
ENC 1102	English II	3
BSC 2094C	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
PSYxxxx or SYGxxxx	Psychology Elective or Sociology Elective	3
Total General Ed. Credits		23
<p>General Biology BSC1010C is a pre-requisite for A&P I. MAT1033 or MAT0025 with a minimum grade of C or better or sufficient score on placement test is pre-requisite for College Algebra.</p>		

MAJOR COURSES		
Course No.	Course Name	Units
PHT 1000	Introduction to Physical Therapy	2
PHT 1120	Functional Kinesiology	3
PHT 1120L	Functional Kinesiology Lab	2
PHT 1200	Basic Patient Care	2
PHT 1200L	Basic Patient Care Lab	2
PHT 1213	Phy. Therapy Prin. and Procedures	3
PHT 1213L	Phy. Therapy Prin. and Procedures Lab	2
PHT 1801C	Pre-Clinical Practice I Integration	4
PHT 1800L	Physical Therapy Clinical Practice I	5
PHT 2224	Therapeutic Exercise I	1
PHT 2224L	Therapeutic Exercise I Lab	2
PHT 2228	Therapeutic Exercise II	2
PHT 2228L	Therapeutic Exercise II Lab	2
PHT 2310	Orthopedic Disabilities and Treatment	3
PHT 2162	Neurological Disabilities and Treatments	2
PHT 2162L	Neurological Disabilities and Treatments Lab	2
PHT 2810L	Physical Therapy Clinical Practice II	5
PHT 2820L	Physical Therapy Clinical Practice III	5
PHT 2931	Trends in Physical Therapy	2
Total Physical Therapy Units		51
TOTAL EARNED FOR DEGREE		74

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CORE CURRICULUM SEQUENCE

Status	Term I Aug-Dec	Term II Jan-May	Term III May-Aug
Freshman	PHT1120 – 3 units Functional Kinesiology PHT1120L – 2 units Functional Kinesiology Lab PHT1200 – 2 units Basic Patient Care PHT 1200L – 2 units Basic Patient Care Lab PHT 1000 – 2 units Introduction to Physical Therapy	PHT1213 – 3 units Physical Therapy Prin. and Procedures PHT 1213L – 2 units Physical Therapy Prin. and Procedures Lab PHT 2224 – 1 unit Therapeutic Exercise I PHT 2224L – 2 units Therapeutic Exercise I Lab	PHT 1801C - 4 units Pre-Clinical Practice I Integration PHT 1800L – 5 units PT Clinical Practice I
Sophomore	PHT 2228 – 2 units Therapeutic Exercise II PHT 2228L – 2 units Therapeutic Exercise II Lab PHT 2310 – 3 units Orthopedic Disabilities and Treatment PHT 2810L – 5 units PT Clinical Practice II	PHT 2162 – 2 units Neurological Disabilities and Treatments PHT 2162L – 2 units Neurological Disabilities and Treatments Lab PHT 2931 – 2 units Trends in Physical Therapy PHT 2820L – 5 units PT Clinical Practice III	

Once you have been accepted into the Professional Phase of the PTA Program you will have classroom (lecture and lab) and clinical experiences. Each entering class begins in August and completes two years (five semesters) of study. The program is a limited access/ limited quota, lock-step design, which means that a limited number of students are accepted each year, and a course must be successfully completed before going to the next courses. The courses cannot be taken out of sequence.

What else can a prospective candidate do before starting the program?

You need to be certified in CPR. The specific course you need is “Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers” certification course. You can check with the American Heart Association or ASHI for places that may offer the course. The certification is good for two years, after which you take a re-certification course to renew.

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FAQS

Is employment possible while I am in the program?

Depending on the student's study habits, part-time employment is possible throughout the curriculum except during the three full-time internships and pre-clinical integration class.

What about Financial Aid?

The PTA Program is allocated some scholarship funds for students in need. The Financial Aid Office at Seminole Community College should be contacted for consultation as to eligibility of the student for a variety of financial aid programs that have been developed to assist students who would be unable to attend college without aid. Please apply for Financial Aid the semester before you start.

What are the estimated costs of the program once I'm accepted?

We have tried to think of not only registration fees for credit hours, but those expenses that crop up as part of the program from time to time and have included them in these estimates.

Projected Expense: Professional Phase of the PTA Program - 51 credit hours

Florida Resident Tuition Fees	\$ 76.28 per credit hour (51 total)
<i>(Non-resident Tuition Fee, \$231.07 per credit hour)</i>	
Books	\$ 800.00
Professional Attire	\$ 135.00
Passport Photo	\$ 15.00
Lab Fees and Liability Insurance	\$ 160.00
School Accident Insurance	\$ 86.00
Background check	\$ 35.00
SCC Transcript copies	\$ 5.00
Graduation	\$ 120.00
Student Membership APTA	\$ 90.00
Licensure Exams (2)	\$ 705.00
Physical Exam/ Hepatitis B Vaccine.	<u>\$ 250.00</u>
Total (Florida Resident)	\$6291.28

Projected Expense: Preparation Phase (Gen. Ed.) 23 credit hours \$1754.44 (books and lab fees not included)

What if I have other questions, or need something clarified?

Please feel free to contact a faculty or staff member at (407) 404-6004 with questions. For questions about courses you have taken and to know if they will be accepted as prerequisites for the program, please contact the counseling office at (407) 708- 2337, and ask for the counselor for health programs.

Visit us on the web at www.scc-fl.edu/pta for program updates.

Now for the most important question....

Why should I come to SCC's PTA Program?

Because this program:

- is a **HIGH QUALITY program**
- provides a **solid educational foundation** which integrates academic courses with hands-on clinical experiences
- has **experienced** faculty who care about their profession and their students

If you don't want to take our word for it, you might find what you're looking for in one of the following comments from....

Employers (In Employer Survey of Graduate Performance)

- "I've had the **pleasure** of working and supervising your interns, new grads, and they have all been **excellent**...."
- "I have nothing but **praises** for the students that I have been in contact with. They are **professional and well rounded**..."
- "All seem to have **sound understanding** of **PTA role** and interaction with PT-limits, expectations, goals, etc.."
- "Thank you for preparing your grads in being a **vital member** of the rehab. team..."

Patients (In Questionnaire for Patients of Graduates of the PTA Program)

- "We are **truly impressed** with her ability"
- "Thus far my expectations have been **exceeded**...."
- "She is such an **asset** to the PT Dept...."
- "This gentleman is a **credit to his profession**...."

Graduates (In a PTA Graduate Survey)

- "The program **prepared me well** for every clinical internship and for employment....
Professionalism as well as **patient's first**"
- "Overall **excellent** program....."

For more information on the Physical Therapy profession visit the American Physical Therapy Association's website at www.apta.org

Criminal Background Check Policy

Applicants for Seminole Community College's Nursing and Health Care Professions programs must be free of offenses that would disqualify one for employment in a health care setting. This policy, required by the clinical agencies that the programs utilize for clinical experiences, complies with state and federal regulations.

Each applicant will be screened through an SCC approved criminal background check process. All fees for required background checks are the responsibility of the applicant. Judgments of guilty or pleas of Nolo Contendere to crimes listed in the Florida State Statutes 435.04, sections a – uu, and 741.28 will disqualify the applicant from admission into any of SCC's nursing program. These statutes can be viewed at <http://www.flsenate.gov/Statutes/index.cfm>. Below is a non inclusive list of the offenses:

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Vehicular homicide
- Assault
- Battery
- Aggravated assault
- Aggravated battery
- Kidnapping
- False imprisonment
- Sexual battery/misconduct
- Domestic Violence
- Prohibited acts of persons in familiar or custodial authority
- Prostitution
- Lewd and lascivious behavior
- Lewdness and indecent exposure
- Arson, theft, robbery, and related crimes
- Fraudulent sale of controlled substances
- Drug offenses involving a minor
- Incest
- Abuse or neglect of a disabled adult or elderly person
- Exploitation of a disabled adult or elderly person
- Child abuse
- Aggravated child abuse
- Negligent treatment of children
- Sexual performance by a child
- Delinquency and/or dependency of a child
- Resisting arrest with violence
- Obscene literature
- Violation of drug abuse prevention and control laws (including but not limited to possession, sale, purchase, manufacture, or use of controlled substance)

While enrolled in any of the SCC Nursing and Health Care Professions programs, the student is also responsible for notifying the program director of any arrests, regardless of adjudication, that occur after acceptance and during enrollment in the program. Failure to promptly notify the program director shall be grounds for dismissal from the program. After admission into the program, the student must remain free of the disqualifying charges listed in the above mentioned state statutes. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from the program.