

Students seeking enrollment in the Health Sciences Programs requiring participation in clinical training in area hospitals and related clinics must provide evidence of having passed a 10-panel urine drug screen prior to participating in clinical or practicum experiences. Find out more information about the screening procedures and locations. More than one drug screen may be required. Specific details regarding the background check and urine drug screen are given to students after conditional acceptance into the program has been earned

In order to practice as a Physical Therapist Assistant, the individual must complete the licensure requirements of each state in which he/she wishes to practice. Currently, due to legal requirements, the first licensure exam available to students graduating from the VSCC PTA Program is in April. Graduation from a Physical Therapist Assistant Program does not guarantee the right to practice.

The program has determined that its curriculum meets the state educational requirements for licensure or certification in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands secondary to its accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education, based on the following:

CAPTE accreditation of a physical therapist assistant program satisfies state educational requirements in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Thus, students graduating from CAPTE-accredited physical therapist assistant programs are eligible to take the National Physical Therapy Examination and apply for licensure in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. For more information regarding state qualifications and licensure requirements, refer to the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy website at <https://www.fsbpt.org>

Employment opportunities in Physical Therapy are dependent on federal and state policies and on the recognition of Physical Therapy by insurance companies. While the number of PTA positions open to new graduates has remained high over the last several years, no graduate is guaranteed employment.

I certify that I have read and understand the above information.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

A signed copy of this memorandum (PROGRAM COPY) must accompany your screening application.

Mail completed application to:

VOLUNTEER STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Division of Health Sciences
Physical Therapist Assistant Program
1480 Nashville Pike, Bldg. 100, Room 101-B

Your transcript should demonstrate that you have successfully completed or be currently enrolled in all the first-year prerequisite courses (A grade of C or higher is required for transfer of credits into the program (ENGL 1010, PSYC 1030 & Fine Arts). Grades of "D" or "F", or

Students seeking enrollment in the Health Sciences Programs requiring participation in clinical training in area hospitals and related clinics must provide evidence of having passed a 10-panel urine drug screen prior to participating in clinical or practicum experiences. Find out more information about the screening procedures and locations. More than one drug screen may be required. Specific details regarding the background check and urine drug screen are given to students after conditional acceptance into the program has been earned.

In order to comply with the clinical education affiliates, all students participating in clinical rotations must undergo a drug screen. The cost of this drug screen shall be absorbed by the student. Any student wishing to participate in clinical rotations may be required to undergo a urine drug screen as required by the clinical affiliate within the thirty (30) days preceding commencement of the clinical rotation. The drug screen due date will be provided to the students by the director of clinical education during the latter part of the fall semester. The site has the right to express an additional drug screen anytime during the externship.

The drug screen report must be sent by the agency to the College. Agencies conducting the check should be directed to forward the report electronically to AHD.StudentChecks@volstate.edu. If the results are negative, the student will be able to proceed in the program. If the results are positive, the requirements of the College's clinical or practicum site partners will not be met. Positive results may inhibit successful completion of the clinical or practicum component and prevent completion of the program.

ASSOCIATED COSTS IN ADDITION TO TUITION

In addition to the considerable intellectual and emotional investment made, each student will also incur financial expenses. The basic college expenses for tuition, vehicle registration for on-campus parking and application for graduation are outlined in the college catalog. Additional expenses include the expense of traveling to the college and to assigned clinical facilities. A few of these facilities may charge a fee for parking. Each student is responsible for the costs including transportation, additional medical requirements, drug screens, parking, uniforms, etc. that are related to clinical education.

GENERAL INFORMATION

While some of our students in the past have been able to work part-time, your priority while in the program must be completing the requirements of the program. Clinical and classes will not be arranged around a work schedule. You are advised that some of the classes may meet in the evening and some of the clinical sites may expect you to be present on the weekends. You must be present based on the schedule that is assigned by the clinical site or the PTA Program.

You are required to practice all techniques on a laboratory partner before using the techniques to treat patients. You are also required to serve as the simulated patient for other students. Just as you will be expected to protect the dignity of your patients, your dignity will be protected during laboratory practice. Just as it is necessary to expose portions of a patient's body for effective treatment, you will need to expose portions of your body during laboratory sessions. All non-invasive procedures will be practiced in the laboratory. If you have any questions concerning these procedures, please discuss them with the Program Director prior to entering the program.

Students are required to complete a minimum of 15 weeks of full-time clinical education. Students must commute at their expense up to 80 miles (each way) from their home or the college, whichever is further.

Our mission is to graduate generalist Physical Therapist Assistants. In order to graduate, the student must complete all PTA courses with a grade of (75%) "C" or better. Since the program does not allow time to repeat a course, a student with less than a (< 75%) "C" in any course will be dismissed from the Program.

In order to practice as a Physical Therapist Assistant, the individual must complete the licensure requirements

NOTICE TO PTA PROGRAM APPLICANTS (PROGRAM COPY)

The size of the 2023-2024 class is limited by several factors including: the number of spaces available for clinical training, the predicted number of positions available in the health care industry for graduates, and enrollment limitations imposed by accreditation agencies. Admission to the program is based on several factors including successful completion of the admission requirements and interviews with an admissions committee of professionals in the appropriate field. A minimum GPA of 3.00 of general education and prerequisite courses is currently required for a student to be eligible for an interview.

Clinical assignments are the responsibility of the academic faculty. While the student's concerns may be considered, the final placement decision rests with the academic faculty. All students must complete internships in a variety of settings to meet competencies determined by the academic and clinical faculty. Specialization is not an option in an entry-level program. In order to complete the program, all students must successfully complete a total of 15 weeks of full-time clinical work which takes place in three 5-week periods required throughout the curriculum. Clinical education must be completed where assigned, or the student must withdraw from the program.

Students may be placed up to 80 miles from VSCC, or 80 miles from their home, whichever is farther. Inability to commute, to drive in city traffic, or to arrange for childcare is not an adequate reason to refuse placement. Students should anticipate one or more placements at a considerable distance. Some students may be assigned to facilities that are too distant for commuting (beyond 80 miles from home or campus). Those placements will be voluntary.

Drug screening may be required prior to the beginning of each clinical rotation. Students participating in clinical training in area hospitals and related clinics must provide evidence of having passed a 10-panel urine drug screen prior to participating in clinical or practicum experiences. [Find out more information](#) about the screening procedures and locations. The cost of the screening is the responsibility of the student.

All students will be required to complete a criminal background check upon formal acceptance in the PTA program. The results of the background check will be forwarded to the Health Sciences Administrative Staff at Vol State. Please review our [Background Check Requirements](#) and steps on how to get your results submitted. More than one background check may be required. **DO NOT COMPLETE THE STUDENT BACKGROUND CHECK PROCESS NOW!** Due to time requirements, a background check completed in advance may not be accepted. If you are admitted to the PTA Program, you will be advised of the appropriate

NOTICE TO PTA PROGRAM APPLICANTS (STUDENT COPY)

The size of the 2023-2024 class is limited by several factors including: the number of spaces available for clinical training, the predicted number of positions available in the health care industry for graduates, and enrollment limitations imposed by accreditation agencies. Admission to the program is based on several factors including successful completion of the admission requirements and interviews with an admissions committee of professionals in the appropriate field. A minimum GPA of 3.00 of general education and prerequisite courses is currently required for a student to be eligible for an interview.

Clinical assignments are the responsibility of the academic faculty. While the student's concerns may be considered, the final placement decision rests with the academic faculty. All students must complete internships in a variety of settings to meet competencies determined by the academic and clinical faculty. Specialization is not an option in an entry-level program. In order to complete the program, all students must successfully complete a total of 15 weeks of full-time clinical work which takes place in three 5-week periods required throughout the curriculum. Clinical education must be completed where assigned, or the student must withdraw from the program.

Students may be placed up to 80 miles from VSCC, or 80 miles from their home, whichever is farther. Inability to commute, to drive in city traffic, or to arrange for childcare is not an adequate reason to refuse placement. Students should anticipate one or more placements at a considerable distance. Some students may be assigned to facilities that are too distant for commuting (beyond 80 miles from home or campus). Those placements will be voluntary.

Drug screening may be required prior to the beginning of each clinical rotation. Students participating in clinical training in area hospitals and related clinics must provide evidence of having passed a 10-panel urine drug screen prior to participating in clinical or practicum experiences. Find out more information about the screening procedures and locations. The cost of the screening is the responsibility of the student.

All students will be required to complete a criminal background check upon formal acceptance in the PTA program. The results of the background check will be forwarded to the Health Sciences Administrative Staff at Vol State. Please review our Background Check Requirements and steps on how to get your results submitted. More than one background check may be required. **DO NOT COMPLETE THE STUDENT BACKGROUND CHECK PROCESS NOW!** Due to time requirements, a background check completed in advance may not be accepted. If you are admitted to the PTA Program, you will be advised of the appropriate process related to background checks with your admission letter. You should begin the process within 24 hours of receiving the acceptance letter.

I CERTIFY THAT I UNDERSTAND AND HAVE BEEN PROVIDED A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT. I CHOOSE TO APPLY TO THE PTA PROGRAM AND WILL ABIDE BY THE ABOVE.

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

Background Check Review Procedures for Currently Enrolled Students

All students will be required to complete a criminal background check upon formal acceptance in the PTA program. The results of the background check will be forwarded to the Health Sciences Administrative Staff at Vol State. Please review our [Background Check Requirements](#) and steps on how to get your results submitted. More than one background check may be required.

Students seeking enrollment in the Health Sciences Programs requiring participation in clinical training in area hospitals and related clinics must provide evidence of having passed a 10-panel