

. For
courses that you are currently enrolled in, you are responsible for getting proof of the final grade

SCREENING APPLICATION PACKET
Memorandum (Student Copy)

FROM: PTA Program Director
TO: Prospective PTA Students
SUBJECT: Application to the PTA Program

Enclosed please find two copies of this Memorandum, two copies of the Notice to PTA Program Applicants, one program copy and one student copy, Screening Application for the PTA Program, and a policy on Student Background Checks.

The number of students admitted to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program is limited and the admission process is competitive. No applicant is guaranteed admission. The faculty has the right to review any feedback
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be granted at the discretion of the PTA faculty. A minimum GPA of 3.00 for general education and prerequisite courses is currently required for a student to be eligible for an interview.

TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE 2024 - 2025 PTA PROGRAM YOU MUST SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS BY 4:00 PM ON MARCH 20th, 2024:

- a signed copy (including all four pages) of this Memorandum**
- a signed copy of the Notice to PTA Program Applicants**
- a completed Screening Application**
- Proof of Health Insurance**, front and back copy of card or a letter stating health insurance will be obtained by first day of class if admitted. Our clinical facilities require that each student has health insurance.
- Proof of Pre-Acceptance Immunizations and Vaccinations** Students interested in the program must provide documentation of the following **PRIOR** to the first day of class:
 - o One diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (Tdap) vaccination that has been obtained within the last ten years.
 - o Influenza vaccination obtained in October of the interview year.
 - o Documentation of blood test (serology) for Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C.

and locations. More than one drug screen may be required. Specific details regarding the background check and

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.

NOTICE TO PTA PROGRAM APPLICANTS (STUDENT COPY)

The size of the 2024-2025 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 for 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 13-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