

Heartland Community College

Associate in Applied Science Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

For detailed Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program information, please visit the PTA website or attend an Information Meeting (<https://www.heartland.edu/academicDepartments/hhs/pta.html>).

APPLICATION DATES (SPRING 2027 ADMISSION)

- ☐ Application process begins April 1, 2026
- ☐ Application deadline is September 1
- ☐ Supporting documents due September 1
- ☐ Fall mid-term grades due October 29
- ☐ Program decisions made by November 15
- ☐ Program starts January 11, 2027

DOCUMENTS TO SUBMIT

- ☐ Heartland Community College application
- ☐ Physical Therapist Assistant application
- ☐ Official college transcript(s) listing pre-admission courses

The PTA program at Heartland Community College leads to an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant. This degree contains pre-admission (general education) courses, PTA technical courses and practical clinical experiences.

Pre-admission courses must be completed with a "C" or higher or in progress during the fall semester of the application deadline. A GPA of 2.5 is required in these courses.

- ☐ BIOL 181 – Anatomy & Physiology I (*completed within the last five years or waiver*)
- ☐ BIOL 182 – Anatomy & Physiology II (*completed within the last five years or waiver*)
- ☐ COMM 101 – Introduction to Oral Communication
- ☐ ENGL 101 – Critical Reading & Writing
- ☐ HLTH 225 – Clinical Kinesiology (*completed within the last five years or waiver*)
- ☐ PSY 101 – Introduction to Psychology
- ☐ PSY 209 – Human Growth & Development

*AP exam credit will be scored as follows: 5 = letter grade A; 4 = letter grade B; 3 = letter grade C. Scores below 3 will not be considered for PTA admission.

*If a transcript utilized in the application process has a Credit or Pass in lieu of a letter grade for a required program prerequisite course taken during or after January 2020, HCC will verify that the Credit or Pass equated to a letter grade C. If the Credit or Pass does not meet this standard, that course will not be accepted as passed. This provision shall only be allowed when there is documented evidence this grading policy related to Credit or Pass is in effect. HCC reserves all rights in determination of utilization of letter grades versus other grading mechanisms

Application Evaluation – For advising purposes only. Official evaluation will be completed by Admission Coordinator.		
Weighting	Criteria	Your Score
95%	Normalized GPA on pre-admission courses $\left[\left(\frac{\text{Pre-admission GPA}}{4.0} \right) \times 100 \right]$	
5%	Prior Academic Achievement & Course Preparation • Master Degree (100) • Bachelor Degree (75) • Associate Degree (50) • College Certificate in CNA, EMT, Massage Therapy (25) • SPAN 100 (5)	
$[\text{Normalized GPA}] \times 95\% + [\text{Prior Achievement}] \times 5\% = \text{SCORE}$		

In accordance with current policy: In case of a tie, the applicant with the highest GPA in the program's prerequisite courses will be given priority.

Program Accreditation

Physical Therapist Assistant program at Heartland Community College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Avenue, Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia, 22305-3085; telephone 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: <http://www.capteonline.org>. If needing to contact the program/institution directly, please call 309-268-8752 or email stephanie.turner@heartland.edu.

COMPLAINTS to the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)

CAPTE has a mechanism to consider formal complaints about physical therapy education programs (PT or PTA). Please refer to the CAPTE website: <http://www.capteonline.org/Complaints/>.

QUESTIONS ABOUT PROGRAM PLEASE CONTACT:

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Stephanie.Turner@heartland.edu

QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS PLEASE CONTACT:

pta.admissions@heartland.edu