

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE (PTA D346)

The Physical Therapist Assistant AAS focuses on the theory and hands-on applications required to gain entry-level employment opportunities in the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) field of study. The program's mission is to provide students with an exceptional educational experience leading to competent, service-oriented patient-care providers.

Persons interested in applying to the PTA program may contact Student Services at WVC to schedule an appointment with an advisor and begin the application process. Program information may also be accessed at www.iecc.edu/wvc/pta.

Application Requirements

Qualified applicants are ranked for admission to the WVC Physical Therapist Assistant program based on a composite score derived from the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) exam and GPA of specific high school science, social science, and mathematics courses or college level program support courses.

To qualify for ranking, prospective students must:

1. Complete an application to Wabash Valley College by deadline to be ranked for the fall semester. (Contact student services for this date.)
2. Verify residency.
3. Submit Transcripts.
 - Official High School or GED equivalent;
 - Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions.
4. Have achieved a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 for all college level courses, or if no college coursework has been completed, a cumulative high school GPA of 2.5. Students making application for the same year they graduate from high school must have a 2.5 GPA at the end of the first semester of their senior year to be eligible to apply. NOTE: Grades of F in college level courses from institutions outside of Illinois Eastern Community Colleges may be eligible for a grade forgiveness process for ranking purposes for acceptance into the PTA program. The grade forgiveness affects cumulative GPA for ranking purposes only. This grade forgiveness would be done manually and only one time and would not affect the applicant's official cumulative grade point average.
5. Sign up for and take the TEAS exam.
6. Submit results of the TEAS exam; the following guidelines apply.
 - Official copies of TEAS test results must be submitted by the deadline. (Contact student services for this date.)
 - The TEAS exam may be taken up to two (2) times per ranking period.
 - Prior TEAS test scores may be used for ranking for admission consideration if the test was taken

within 36 months of the ranking deadline. If the prior exam was more than 36 months before the ranking deadline, a new test shall be required.

- If the TEAS is taken at another institution, it is the student's responsibility to have test scores submitted to Wabash Valley College.
- Applicants should contact the PTA program director for acceptance updates after taking the TEAS exam.
- The cost of testing will be paid by the student.

All prospective students must review the Program Handbook. Contact the Program Director for additional application requirements. Applications are accepted until all seats are filled.

Required Technical Standards

1. Sufficient eyesight to observe patients, manipulate equipment, and evaluate patient care quality.
2. Sufficient hearing to assess patient needs and communicate verbally with other health care providers.
3. Satisfactory verbal and written skills to communicate promptly and effectively in English.
4. Sufficient gross and fine motor coordination to respond promptly, manipulate equipment, lift a minimum of fifty pounds, and ensure patient safety.
5. Satisfactory intellect, emotional, and mental functions to exercise independent judgment and discretion in the safe technical performance of patient care procedures.

Requirements after the Student is Accepted into the Program

1. Secure his/her position in the class by contacting the Program Director in writing stating his/her intention to begin the program. If letter of intent is not received by the date indicated, an alternate student will be admitted to the program. Failure to start the program results in a loss of acceptance for admission status.
2. Meet with Program Director at scheduled time to review program requirements, receive appropriate forms, and ask questions regarding PTA program requirements/policies. Student will be contacted by mail at the address of record in reference to scheduling an advisement/registration appointment. Failure to meet with Program Director will result in forfeiture of the student's acceptance in the program, and an alternate student will be admitted to the program.
3. Complete physical exam and required immunizations. (Fees paid by student.) Forms are distributed to student by Program Director.
4. Complete a satisfactory criminal background check as designated by the program by May 1*. (Fees paid by student.)

5. Complete drug screening as designated by the program*. (Fees paid by student.)
6. Purchase uniforms, lab jackets, and shoes during the first semester of the program.

***An unsatisfactory background check and/or positive drug screening test will negate program admission.**

Fees

PTA tuition, fees, and program requirements are provided in the application packet as well as the student handbook and are subject to change.

Conduct and Health

In addition to meeting the PTA program requirements for admission, a student's conduct and health status must also meet the standards of the clinical agencies.

CAPTE

Effective August 16, 2022, Wabash Valley College Physical Therapist Assistant Program has been granted Candidate for Accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22305-3085; phone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org. If needing to contact the program/institution directly, please call 618-263-5548 or email hoipkemierl@iecc.edu.

Candidate for Accreditation is an accreditation status of affiliation with the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education that indicates the program may matriculate students in technical/professional courses. Achievement of Candidate for Accreditation status does not assure that the program will be granted Initial Accreditation.

Professional Licensure Information

This program of study prepares students to seek a professional licensure or certification in the state of Illinois and may not meet minimum requirements for other states. See the Professional Licensure Disclosure at www.iecc.edu/licensuredisclosure for more information.

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First Semester			Credit Hours 18
HEA	1202	Community Health First Aid	2
HEA	1225	Introduction to Medical Terminology	3
LSC	2111	Human Anatomy & Physiology I ¹	4
PSY	1101	General Psychology I ^{1*}	3
PTA	1203	PTA Clinical Processes	3
PTA	1221	PTA Pathophysiology	3

Second Semester			Credit Hours 17
ENG	1111	Composition I ¹	3
LSC	2112	Human Anatomy & Physiology II ¹	4
PTA	1205	Patient Care Interventions	4
PTA	1206	Functional Anatomy & Biomech.	3
PTA	1210	Field Experience for the PTA	V3

Third Semester			Credit Hours 14
PTA	1211	Clinical I	4
PTA	2202	Musculoskeletal Therapy	5
PTA	2210	Multiple System Rehabilitation	5

Fourth Semester			Credit Hours 12
PTA	2211	Neuromuscular Rehabilitation	4
PTA	2249	Clinical II	8

Fifth Semester (Summer)			Credit Hours 10
GEN	2297	Employment Skills ¹	V2
PTA	2250	Clinical III	<u>8</u>

Total Credit Hours **71**

¹General Education Hours (16)

*This course satisfies the IECC human diversity requirement.