LITTLETON • PARKER • CASTLE ROCK

ARAPAHOE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

2026 Program Information
Updated August 2026

Spring 2027 Sturm Collaboration Campus – Castle Rock
Application period September 15, 2026, through October 30, 5:00 pm

Please check back in Fall of 2026 for final information on the application process for our Spring 2027 group

Note: An acceptance letter from Arapahoe Community College into the college does not mean that an applicant has been accepted into the PTA Program. Completion and submission of the information in this packet does not automatically guarantee acceptance into the program.

ARAPAHOE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Physical Therapist Assistant Program
Spring 2027

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Program Information
Thank you for your interest in the Physical Therapist Assistant program at Arapahoe Community College in Littleton and Castle Rock, Colorado. This program guide has been designed to provide you with information about the program and the Physical Therapy profession in general. Please read the information and follow the instructions carefully.

Description of the Profession
A physical therapist assistant (PTA) is a health care provider working under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist. Physical therapist assistants are involved in the treatment of individuals with a variety of diagnoses. Patients/clients may range from infants to the elderly. The PTA is able to provide physical therapy services as specified in a care plan developed by a physical therapist. Proper administration of various physical therapy interventions requires the PTA to assist with the moving of patient, clients and equipment resulting in a moderate to heavy physical demand on the practitioner. The PTA will also be involved with the physical therapist in modification of treatment programs, patient/family education, and discharge planning. As the field of physical therapy grows, so do the roles and responsibilities of the PTA. This growth and new knowledge is obtained through continuing education throughout the career of the PTA.

Generally, education, training and practice as a PT Assistant are not seen as a steppingstone to becoming a physical therapist. Because of the differences in depth and breadth of information and knowledge between the PTA associate degree and the Doctorate PT degree, transfer credit for PTA core courses is generally not awarded. Currently, there are four programs in the nation (University of Findlay, Ohio; Concordia University, Wisconsin; University of Texas, Galveston), William Carey University, Mississippi) that are designed to transition PTAs through PT degrees. Please visit the website of the American Physical Therapy Association (www.apta.org) for more information for prospective students.

Mission Statement
The Physical Therapist Assistant program provides physical therapist assistant education to a widely diverse student clientele. Since the educational needs of the program's constituency vary significantly, the program is committed to maintaining instructional flexibility to provide for these diverse needs; it encourages lifelong learning.

The Physical Therapist Assistant program fosters a sense of personal and professional integrity, ethics and responsibility, and understanding of the critical thinking and problem-solving processes; it develops communication skills and promotes an awareness and acceptance of individuals and groups from various backgrounds. The physical therapist assistant program's commitment to this educational process will prepare students with the medical knowledge, clinical skills, and professional behaviors necessary to meet the challenges inherent within our complex, evolving systems of physical therapy and health care delivery. Our graduates will be knowledgeable, competent, self-assured, adaptable, compassionate, and service-oriented

physical therapist assistants capable of competently performing the duties of a PTA in a variety of PT settings.

The Physical Therapist Assistant program responds to our physical therapy community including efforts to advance the recognition of the field of physical therapy and the role of PTAs within the field. We partner with area clinicians and facilities to determine and meet their needs for physical therapist assistants.

PTA Program Goals
The goal of the PTA program is to prepare our graduates to assume a responsible position in the Physical Therapy community, delivering consistently high-quality services to patients/clients under the direction of and seeking consultation from the physical therapist. Additionally, the PTA program seeks to:

- Produce graduate PTAs prepared to competently perform the duties of a PTA in a variety of PT settings,
- Produce graduate PTAs prepared to successfully complete the national licensure examination and obtain licensure/certification in the state of their choice,
- Produce graduate PTAs prepared with technological proficiency to effectively participate in the ever-evolving practice of Physical Therapy, and
- Advance the recognition of the field of physical therapy and the role of PTAs within the field.

Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the national licensure examination and obtain licensure/certification in the state of their choice. Graduation from an accredited program is one of the eligibility requirements for licensure or certification in all states. Information on certification of PTAs in Colorado can be found on the Department of Regulatory Agencies website (https://dpo.colorado.gov/PhysicalTherapy).

The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy publishes ultimate pass rates for PTA program graduates. **ACC's first time and ultimate pass rates for national boards are**

Parent Program

Graduate Years	First Time Pass Rate	Ultimate Pass Rate
2020	94.4%	100%
2021	93.3%	93.3%
2022	75%	100%
2023	92.9%	92.9%
2024	88.9%	88.9%
2025	87.5%	100%
2026	100%	100%

Expansion Program

Graduation Year	First Time Pass Rate	Ultimate Pass Rate
2022	100%	100%
2024	84.6%	92.3%

Program Format

ACC's PTA program is an associate of applied science degree program. It is two academic years in length including a summer term. Students in the PTA program enroll in approximately 14 credit hours per semester of PTA courses. Students should anticipate being on campus at least 4 days a week for class sessions and open lab practice. Students must be available for full-time clinical internships (40 hours/week, day shifts) during semesters with an internship course (PTA 2080, PTA 2081, PTA 2082). During clinical affiliations students work the same schedule as their clinical instructor which may include weekend and/or early morning/early evening hours.

Commitment to Learning:

The PTA program is rigorous and requires a significant commitment of time, preparation, and active participation. Students are expected to attend class, complete assigned readings and content review before class, practice skills, meet deadlines, and take responsibility for finding and applying information.

Current students spend an average of 52 hours per week on PTA program activities, including approximately 23 hours on campus. Because core PTA courses are generally more demanding than Anatomy and Physiology I and II, students should plan for about three hours of study and preparation outside of class for every hour spent in class. This may equal approximately 60 hours per week devoted to class, studying, assignments, and skill practice.

Students should also plan for additional on-campus open-lab time to practice hands-on skills. If you need to work while enrolled in the program, we recommend limiting employment to no more than 20 hours per week in most cases.

Job opportunities
According to the US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics 2024 edition, Nationally, the 2025 mean income was $68,730. Similarly, the job market in the Denver Metro area and throughout Colorado continues to be positive. The continued influence of wellness, prevention and the aging of the baby boomers provides for a growing role of Physical Therapy and the PTA in today's healthcare arena.

Formal job placement assistance to PTA program graduates has not been necessary as our graduates who wish to work as PTAs have been able to obtain those positions with most graduates achieving employment within 1 week to 3 months of successful completion of the National PTA exam. The PTA program does provide informal job placement assistance by acting as a liaison between employers and graduates.

Essential Functions of a Physical Therapist Assistant Student
There are several important factors for you to consider when you are determining your future career directions. To be successful in the PTA classroom, at a PTA clinical education site and in your job following graduation, you should be able to meet all of the essential functions of a PTA.

The Advisory Board of the PTA program has determined the following abilities to be essential for the performance of the job duties of a PTA. These are meant to reflect the overall practice of a PTA, not the requirements of any one type of clinical setting.

The PTA Student must be able to demonstrate

1. **Motor Abilities** including the ability to
   a. complete an 8–10-hour shift.

b. sustain activity up to 4 hours at a time.
c. walk, bend, stand, and reach consistently throughout an 8–10-hour shift.
d. lift frequently with the proper body mechanics throughout an 8-10 hour day and dead lift 25-50 pounds alone and ASSIST with the management of 150-350 pounds.
e. transfer clients (patients) safely.
f. guard and assist with ambulation (gait).

2. **Observation Skills** including the ability to
   a. assess, through functional use of vision, olfactory, hearing, and somatic abilities, the patient,
   b. comprehend and interpret the information and report the results to the supervising physical therapist.

3. **Interpersonal and Communication Abilities** including the ability to
   a. utilize appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication skills.
   b. utilize correct grammar, expression, accurate spelling, and legible handwriting as applicable in oral, written and electronic formats.
   c. provide effective, concise, and organized oral and written information and education to all pertinent individuals.
   d. interact effectively with patients, families, colleagues, other health professionals, and the community in a culturally aware manner.

4. **Hearing Ability** including the ability to
   a. hears patient concerns and emergency signals.
   b. hears and interprets verbal instructions from others.

5. **Visual Ability** including the ability to
   a. assess a patient/client from 10 feet away.
   b. observe patient conditions and observes patient/responses.
   c. read charts, computer screen, dials, labels, and gauges.
   d. observe laboratory and clinical demonstrations.
   e. display visual/spatial skills sufficient for patient safety and comfort.

6. **Tactile Ability** including the ability to
   a. discriminate muscle tone, tissue temperature, soft tissue changes
   b. perform appropriate hands-on interventions such as soft tissue mobilization, facilitation, or passive range of motion.
   c. demonstrate fine motor skills for effective and efficient patient management such as handling of therapeutic equipment and accurate documentation.

7. **Environmental Safety** including the ability to
   a. follow universal precautions, safety/security procedures and protocols;
   b. work safely with potentially hazardous body fluids;
   c. utilize disinfectants and cleaning agents;
   d. tolerate frequent handwashing and tolerate wearing gloves, masks and safety eyewear.

8. **Critical Thinking** including the ability to solve problems by assessing and utilizing scientific evidence for safe and effective physical therapy practice.

Program Costs, Tuition and Fees
As part of the Colorado Community College System, ACC offers courses at a very reasonable tuition rate. At today's tuition rates, the tuition and fees for the 75 credit hours of the PTA degree would only cost a COF eligible student approximately $15,000.00. Students who are Colorado residents may be eligible for participation in the College Opportunity Fund (COF). COF is not a need based financial aid but a subsidy from the State of Colorado for the education of its residents. Apply for your stipend at https://cof.college-assist.org/

Nonresidents will find tuition information available online at www.arapahoe.edu/tuition

Students in the PTA program are also financially responsible for nominal costs associated with clinical affiliations potentially including uniforms and travel to and from the clinical facility. Additionally, students are responsible for the cost of Hep B vaccinations (approx. $180.00), MMR vaccinations (approx. $120.00), Tdap vaccinations (approx. $50.00) annual PPD tests (approx. $20.00), CPR and First Aid Certification (variable depending on certifying agency), a background check (approx. $75), and a flu shot (approx. $35.00) and/or drug screen (approx. $50.00).

Students in the PTA program complete a Professional Development Portfolio, which encompasses all of these areas: Professional Involvement, Community Involvement and Continuing Education. Students have options of the activities they use to complete each category. Membership in the APTA, which currently costs $103 annually, is an option toward portfolio completion many current students take advantage of. Regardless of choices, completion of the portfolio will require additional out of class time and expenses vary depending on choice. Students are responsible for the financial aspects of portfolio completion.

Accreditation
The PTA program at Arapahoe Community College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Ave, Suite 1000, Alexandria, VA 22305-3085; 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: www.capteonline.org.

CAPTE considers complaints about programs that are accredited or are seeking accreditation by CAPTE, and complaints about CAPTE itself. https://www.capteonline.org/faculty-and-program-resources/complaints

Non-Discrimination Statement
Arapahoe Community College prohibits all forms of discrimination and harassment including those that violate federal and state law or the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education Board Policies 3-120 and 19-60. The College does not discriminate on the basis of sex/gender, race, color, age, creed, national or ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, pregnancy status, religion, genetic information, gender identity, or sexual orientation in its employment practices or educational programs and activities. The College will take appropriate steps to ensure that the lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in vocational education programs. Additionally, CTE opportunities at the College will be offered without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, and disability.

Curriculum Plan A.A.S. Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant Program
Depending on a student's other responsibilities and for all-around success in the program, it is to your advantage to complete as many of the general education courses before applying to the

PTA program. These credits are transferable if previously taken at **MOST** other colleges. **Before beginning the PTA program courses, students must complete Anatomy and Physiology (BIO 2101 or BIO 1004), HPR 1038 or HPR 1040, and ENG 1021: English Composition I.** For assistance with questions regarding transfer credit contact Records and Enrollment at 303.797.5621 or records@arapahoe.edu .

ACC offers the PTA program at both the Main Campus in Littleton and Sturm Collaboration Campus in Castle Rock. New groups begin at the Main Campus in Littleton each Fall. New groups of students begin at the Sturm Collaboration Campus during Spring Semester of odd years (Spring 2027). The curriculum plan is the same at both campuses.

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES		**17 Credits**
BIO 2101* **OR** BIO 1004*	Human Anatomy & Physiology I **OR** Biology: A Human Approach Note: If you choose to take BIO 1004, you are not required to take BIO 1111	4
PSY 1001	General Psychology	3
PSY 2440	Human Growth and Development	3
ENG 1021*	English Composition I	3
COM 1150 **OR** COM 1250	Principles of Speech Communication Interpersonal Communications	3
HPR 1038*	Introduction to Medical Terminology OR HPR 1040 Comprehensive Medical Terminology (Formerly HPR 178)	1

*** Indicates courses that must be completed prior to the start of the PTA program**

Note: Students wishing to transfer their Speech credit to another institution should complete COM 1150

PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM COURSES		**58 CREDITS**
HPR 1017	Anatomical Kinesiology	3
PTA 1017	Basic Patient Care in Physical Therapy	5
PTA 1015	Principles and Practices in Physical Therapy	2
PTA 1017	Anatomical Kinesiology Lab	2
PTA 1020	Modalities in Physical Therapy	5
PTA 1024	Rehab Principles of Medical Management I	2
PTA 1031	Professional Communications I	1
PTA 1034	Rehab Principles of Medical Management II	2
PTA 1035	Principles of Electrical Stimulation	2
PTA 1040	Clinical Kinesiology	5
PTA 1041	Professional Communications II	1
PTA 2005	Psychosocial Issues in Health Care	2

PTA 2030	Orthopedic Assessment and Management	5
PTA 2040	Neurological Assessment and Management	5
PTA 2078	PTA Seminar	2
PTA 2080	Internship I	4
PTA 2081	Internship II	5
PTA 2082	Internship III	5

See the PTA Program Academic Plan for the recommended curriculum sequence

The PTA program utilizes a variety of methods of curriculum delivery based on the type of information included in each course. Courses with appropriate content are delivered in an online format via the internet. This delivery method allows students flexibility to adjust the time they spend with the coursework to their schedules within the assignment due dates and deadlines for each course. Hybrid courses combine online instruction with traditional classroom instruction for courses where the face-to-face contact is necessary to assure student learning of key competencies in the course. Classroom time generally focuses on practical application of the theoretical information presented online and the instruction and practice of hands-on skills. For those courses containing a high percentage of hands-on skills, traditional classroom instruction continues to be utilized as the most appropriate method of teaching such skills. Despite the use of traditional instruction, non-traditional schedules allow those individuals with other responsibilities to participate in the PTA program.

Frequently Asked Questions:
How many students do you accept a year?
For the groups starting at the Sturm Collaboration Campus in Castle Rock in January of odd years, a class of 16 students will be selected. Groups starting each fall at our Main Campus in Littleton will continue to be classes of 20 students. A list of alternates is maintained until the first semester PTA courses begin.

How long is your wait list?
ACC's PTA Program selects a new group of students each application period. We do not keep a wait list from year to year.

Do I have to take the Accuplacer if I already have a college degree?
Yes, because of accreditation standards all of our applicants must complete the same process. Consequently, we are not able to substitute grades for courses completed or other standardized testing for this requirement.

How do I know if courses I took at another college will transfer?
If the courses in question were completed at a public college or university in Colorado, check the listing of guaranteed transfer courses in the college catalog. If the courses in questions were completed at a college or university outside of Colorado, work with the ACC records office or the advising center to determine which courses will transfer.

If I transfer in my general education courses, can I finish my degree in less than 2 years?
No, the PTA program courses are sequenced over all 5 semesters. Your overall time doesn't change, but how many classes you have each semester may.

Will my application be considered if I'm currently enrolled in Anatomy and Physiology?
YES!! If you are currently enrolled in A&P or any other general education courses you are encouraged to submit your application according to the scheduled deadlines.

What kind of technology do I need for PTA courses?
All of the PTA courses utilize online course shells. Consequently, a computer, a printer, a modem, an internet provider, e-mail and Microsoft Word are required. Students may use the instructional computer center on campus if they do not have personal access to these items.

Spring 2027 - Application Information -

The application cycle will be from September 15 through October 30, 2026 at 5:00 pm is the application deadline for Spring 2026 admission. An electronic application will be used. Once the application period has closed, completed applications are screened according to the point system explained below. Those candidates with the highest point totals are the students given priority admission for each class. All applicants will be notified by December 11, 2026, by the email address provided on the admission application as to the outcome of the selection process. Interim communication will also occur via the email address provided in the application. Applicants will only be considered for the PTA class specified on their application. Those not selected must reapply if they wish to be considered for the following year. All application materials become the property of the PTA program and will not be returned to the student.

Applicants reapplying to the program must meet all current criteria of the admission process. A waitlist of students is not held from one year to the next. Neither are applications from previous years.

Spring 2027 - Application Information
Information regarding coursework and other application requirements provided in this document can be used to guide your preparation to apply for Spring 2027 for our Castle Rock campus group. Requirements to be considered for admission:

	Item	Information
☐	Complete ACC application for acceptance to college	Complete the Admission Application online at www.arapahoe.edu Scroll down and select "Apply". It is in your best interest to apply to ACC and declare your major as **AAS – Allied Health** prior to submitting your PTA application. Doing this will allow you to receive a student number (S#), pay less for testing, and receive a transcript evaluation for transfer credit
☐	Take the Accuplacer exam in the Testing Center	Upload a copy of required Accuplacer scores to your application. Minimum scores are: **Accuplacer (taken within past 3 years)** 246 or higher in Next Generation Writing 230 or higher on Next Generation QAS There are **NO** exemptions to the Accuplacer exam. **All** students regardless of prior degree status, ACT test scores or any other consideration must complete the Accuplacer. If you live outside of the Denver Metro/Front Range area, call the testing center (303-797-5993) to make arrangements to take the Accuplacer test from a remote location. Completed coursework does not replace Accuplacer scores in the application process.

☐	GPA	Obtain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 to be eligible to apply.
☐	Complete the following General Education courses prior to PTA classes ENG 1021 English Composition BIO 2101-Anatomy and Physiology **OR** BIO 1004-Biology: A Human Approach HPR 1038 – Introduction to Medical Terminology	***You may still submit an application if you haven't completed your English, Anatomy and Physiology, or Medical Terminology.*** Any acceptance offered would be conditional based on successful completion of these courses ***prior to*** the beginning of PTA courses. The remaining general education courses may be completed along with PTA courses to fulfil degree requirements. **Please note:** BIO 1004 does not have a pre-requisite, BIO 2101 does. BIO 1111 is pre-req for BIO 2101. If you choose to take BIO 1004, you are not required to take BIO 1111.
☐	Obtain three professional references	Professional references may be from instructors, employers, PTs/PTAs you have worked or volunteered with. Please note that the reference prefers the individual has known you for **at least one year.** References from friends and family members will not be accepted. **References will complete an online reference form.** When you complete your PTA application, you will be asked to reference form link to these three references. References will have until 5:00 pm on October 30, 2026, to complete the form online.
☐	Obtain documentation of related work or visitation hours in Physical Therapy	Applicants receive credit for up to 30 hours of observation/volunteer or work-related time with a PT or PTA in at least 2 different physical therapy settings (hospitals, skilled nursing facility, acute rehab, outpatient ortho, home health, etc.) *(The PTA program does not maintain a list of preferred clinics for such observation. Students are encouraged to determine the areas of practice they need exposure to and contact clinics for visitation opportunities.)* The *Physical Therapy Setting Visitation Report* form is available on the PTA webpage at www.arapahoe.edu/pta

☐	Answer the essay question in the PTA program application.	Upload to your application packet.

☐	Complete and sign the Informed Consent Page and the Essential Functions for the PTA page from the PTA application.	Upload to your application packet.
☐	Complete the PTA application and submit by 5:00 pm on the deadline: October 30, 2026 for Spring 2027. Anticipate uploading the following documentation to your application a. Accuplacer scores b. Transcripts c. *Physical Therapy Setting Visitation Report* forms. d. Completed and signed Informed Consent Page from the PTA application. e. Signed Essential Functions of the PTA form	PTA applications are submitted electronically. Visit www.arapahoe.edu/PTA for a link to the application. An application packet is complete when all necessary application items are filled out and required documents are uploaded. The application and required forms will be accessed on the ACC website.
☐	Students with complete submitted applications may be asked to complete the Health Sciences Reasoning Test - Associate Degree (HSRT- AD) part of the admission requirements and admission criteria. The HSRT- AD is included any year that more than 20 applications are received. The approximately 40 applicants who earn the highest number of points on their applications are invited back for completion of the HSRT-AD. HSRT-AD points are combined with previously established academic points to determine an overall total application score. This point system is used to determine which applicants are offered admission. If invited, students must complete the Health Sciences Reasoning Test – AD in the ACC testing center of one of the two campuses	The program uses email for interim communication with applicants. Please make sure your email address is active and checked regularly between submission of your application and final notification dates. The Health Sciences Reasoning Test - AD - must be completed in the ACC Testing Center during regular testing center hours. Testing Center information is available on the ACC website at www.arapahoe.edu/advising-support/testing-center There is a $40.00 proctor fee for the HSRT which is the student's responsibility. Testing is by appointment only. Please call 303.797.5993 opt 6 to schedule. The test is timed and takes 50 minutes to complete. Students requesting accommodations will need to contact the Disability Access Office at disability.access@arapahoe.edu or 303.797.5860 *prior to* taking the HSRT- AD. HSRT- AD scores are valid for three years from the date of the initial attempt. Applicants are allowed one HSRT-AD attempt per application cycle.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Admission to this program is competitive and based on a point system of the following criteria after meeting the minimum admission requirements. Applicants will be ranked starting with the highest point value first. Random selection is used when applicants have been awarded the same number of points.

There is no benefit to submitting your application before the deadline especially if you are submitting it without the documentation you need to earn points as described below. The online application will allow you to save your application and return to it at a later date. It is recommended that you begin your application early to ensure submission of a complete application.

Selection will be based on the following:

A. Accuplacer scores. Required scores must be achieved to be eligible for consideration.
B. Completion of general education and other required courses.
C. Overall college GPA and GPA of general education courses. (NOTE: a minimum college GPA of 2.50 is required to be eligible for admission.)
D. Work related or observation time in two Physical Therapy settings.
E. Point value based on the average score from the three professional references

Students with complete submitted applications may be asked to complete the Health Sciences Reasoning Test – Associate Degree (HSRT-AD) part of the admission requirements and admission criteria.

The HSRT-AD is included any year that more than 20 applications are received. The approximately 40 applicants who earn the highest number of points on their applications are invited back for completion of the HSRT- AD.

Ranking Criteria Point System

Criteria Points	Awarded
GPA Minimum required GPA is 2.5 Points assigned to the cumulative GPA are as follows 3.6. 4.0 = 15 points 3.3 - 3.5 = 12 points 3.0 – 3.2 = 10 points 2.5 – 2.9 = 5 points Below 2.5 = not eligible	Total points awarded for GPA _____
General Education Courses Point possibilities: 17 points possible One point per credit will be awarded for each of the required general education course credits completed with a grade of "B" or better as listed on one's Arapahoe Community College transcript. No points are awarded for any completed with a grade of "C" or lower. General Education Courses include: BIO 2101 OR BIO 1004 4 credits COM 1150 OR COM 1250 3 credits ENG 1021 3 credits	Total points awarded for general education courses _____

PSY 1001 PSY 2440 HPR 1038 ***Please note that ENG 1021, Bio 21010 or 1004, and HPR 1038 must be completed *prior to* starting the program	3 credits 3 credits 1 credit	

Application Essay Responses Points Possible: 10 Points Possible Points are awarded according to an established grading rubric. Essays are evaluated for 1) Relevance of answer to the question, 2) Thoroughness of answer, 3) Organization and logic of answer and 4) mechanics of writing (spelling, punctuation, grammar, clarity). Each category is equally weighted.	
Healthcare Employment (Work related or observation time in two Physical Therapy settings) 0-6 hours = 2 points 7-14 hours = 4 points 15-21 hours = 6 points 22–29 hours = 8 points 30+ hours = 12 points **Note: If only one practice setting is documented maximum points awarded will be 6 points.**	Total points awarded for Physical Therapy Visitations _____
References Applicants can earn a maximum of 15 possible points. The scores from the three references are averaged with the total earning points as follows: 0-9 = 0 points, 10-19 = 2 points, 20-24 = 4 points, 25-29 = 6 points, 30-34 = 8 points, 35 - 39 =12 points, 40 = 15 points	Total points awarded for recommendation letters _____
Reasoning skills demonstrated on the HRST-AD If the program receives more than 20 applications, the applicants with the highest number of academic points earned on these selection criteria will be invited back to take the Health Sciences Reasoning Test (HSRT). The highest possible score is 100 points.	Total points awarded for HSRT _____

Notes:

- A Criminal Background check is required upon the acceptance into the program. For additional information on the procedure for background checks as well as disqualifying events, please see the PTA website under “Important PTA Program Information” for link to Castle Branch. Please note: Criminal background checks require a fee and the applicant’s social security number.

- Prior to clinical participation, PTA students must meet PTA program Health and Safety Requirements including:
  1. COVID – 19 Vaccinations
  2. Professional Level CPR and First Aid Certification
  3. MMR, Hepatitis B and tDap vaccinations

4. OSHA Training
5. Annual PPD (TB) test
6. Annual Flu shots (for clinicals occurring October – April)
7. Varicella immunity (either vaccination or report of occurrence)
8. Negative Drug Screening

- If required by assigned clinical affiliation, students must also provide documentation of
  1. COVID 19 Boosters
  2. Health Insurance
  3. An annual physical within the past year

- Students in the PTA program complete a Professional Development Portfolio, which encompasses all of these areas: Professional Involvement, Community Involvement and Continuing Education. Students have options of the activities they use to complete each category. Membership in the APTA, which currently costs $103 annually, is an option toward portfolio completion many current students take advantage of. Regardless of choices, completion of the portfolio will require additional out of class time and expenses vary depending on choice. Students are responsible for the financial aspects of portfolio completion.

Admission statistics:
Each year all applications received are evaluated based on the criteria above and compared to the others in that year's applicant pool. Although there is some variation between years, the successful applicant averages:

- Completion of 3-4 general education courses with a "B" or better;
- A cumulative GPA of at least a 3.0
- Completion of 30 hours of Physical Therapy Visitation in two different areas of practice
- 3 references with outstanding ranking in all of them.