

**NHS Application Submission Dates**

January 29, 2024 – May 9, 2024 for Fall 2024

**Communication By**

June 14, 2024

Admission of applicants is competitive. Applicants seeking admission to the PTA program must meet admission requirements as outlined in this handout. **Applicants who are permanent residents of Orangeburg or Calhoun counties are given additional points on the rating sheet. Please refer to the rating sheet for details on how points are calculated. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident.** Admission of international students must comply with federal and state regulations pertaining to international student enrollment in U.S. colleges.

The admission process involves several important details. All students interested in competing for a seat in one of our competitive Health Science/Nursing programs must first apply and be accepted into the College. Please select Healthcare Preparation and Clinical Studies as your program of study. All documents that are submitted with the application packet – including, but not limited to, official transcripts and test scores – become the exclusive property of the college and will not be returned to the applicant. **Submitting incomplete application packets or failing to meet all of the application requirements will result in the application being rejected. If an application is rejected, applicants will not be allowed to resubmit for the same application period and will need to wait until the next application period to apply.**

**Applicants should be aware that all PTA students must be able to meet the following technical standards required for this occupation before starting the program.**

**Technical Standards**

To be able to successfully perform as a student in the Physical Therapist Assistant program, you must be able to accomplish items 1-15 as listed below with or without reasonable accommodations:

1. Put on and remove clothing and equipment correctly without assistance (i.e. surgery suit, shoe covers, etc.).
2. Lift 50 pounds from the floor, carry and place on a surface 36 inches in height.
3. Stand from a seated position and walk 300 feet without any impairment.
4. Lift or transfer a patient from a bed, stretcher or wheelchair safely.
5. Go from a standing position to a squatting or tall kneeling position and vice versa.
6. Extend legs forward and backward while maintaining good balance to provide safe patient support as needed.
7. Demonstrate proper body mechanics during lifting and patient care tasks.
8. Safely manage invasive lines during patient care interventions.
9. Transport or push a patient in a wheelchair, bed or stretcher without assistance.
10. Walk up and down several flights of stairs.
11. Perform a pivoting movement.
12. Follow oral and written instructions.
13. Detect both visual and audible alarms.
14. Correctly read aloud written instructions.
15. Demonstrate fine motor skills in manipulating small objects.

Applicants who need to be evaluated for reasonable accommodations should make an appointment with the Coordinator for Services for Students with Disabilities, Tracy Dibble, by calling 803-535-1225 between 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Admitted students who are not able to perform all Technical Standards will have the admission offer rescinded.

Non-Discrimination Policy: Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or veteran status in its admissions policies, programs, activities or employment practices. Employee and applicant inquiries concerning the federal laws and their application to the College may be directed to the College's Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Officer, the Director of Human Resources, Marie Howell, 3250 St. Matthews Road, Orangeburg, SC 29118, 803-535-1207, who serves as the College's Section 504, Title II and Title IX Coordinator.

**A national background check and drug test will be required upon acceptance to the program and before starting class. Positive results on a background check and/or drug test may prohibit participation in clinical experiences and may necessitate removal from the program. Clinical sites may require additional background and drug testing during the course of a student's enrollment.**

**It is the responsibility of the student to notify the Program Coordinator or Dean of any criminal charges, convictions, orders, and/or sanctions that occur during the course of his/her enrollment. Failure to notify the Program Coordinator or Dean may necessitate removal from the program and revocation of eligibility by the State to take the National Board Examination for Physical Therapist Assistants to become licensed to practice. Concerns regarding prior convictions should be directed to SC LLR, PT Board.**

## **PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Before you can apply to the Physical Therapist Assistant program you must meet all general college admission requirements and become an OCtech student. Please select Healthcare Preparation and Clinical Studies as your program of study. Once notified of your acceptance to the college, login to EAB Navigate Student to schedule your appointment. Meet with your Academic Advisor or Student Success Coach to discuss program admission requirements, plan your course of study, select and register for classes, and get assistance with the competitive Health Science/Nursing application process. The Health Science/Nursing Application must be submitted by the published submission date. Applications are reviewed on a competitive basis, and applicants are encouraged to apply when most competitive. The Health Science/Nursing Application can be found in the D2L Virtual Advising Center.

1. OCtech students or those transferring from other colleges must possess a **2.50 cumulative GPA** from the last college where 12 or more credit hours (does not include developmental/remedial courses) were attempted.
  - ✓ All applicants must have or be eligible to take college-level courses.
  - ✓ Applicants must complete all 10 prerequisite courses with a "C" or better OR be enrolled with a finish date PRIOR to the start of the PTA program to apply.
2. If necessary, take required admission and/or placement tests as outlined in the OCtech application.
3. Meet one of the following minimum test criteria:
  - a. Math Score: ACT Math score of 17, SAT Math score of 480, or ATI TEAS®, TEAS V or VII Math score of 65\*\*.
  - b. Reading Score: ACT Reading score of 19, SAT Reading score of 26, or ATI TEAS®, TEAS V or VII Reading score of 65\*\*.  
\*\*Students are allowed to take the TEAS test a maximum of two times within 12 months. There is a minimum waiting time requirement of 2 weeks between each TEAS test attempt. We will only accept ATI TEAS®, TEAS V or VII. All scores must be within five (5) years from the date of application.
  - c. Completion of a higher education degree from a regionally or nationally accredited institution with a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher. A Bachelor's Degree with the minimum required cumulative GPA may be used in lieu of the TEAS V, VII or ATI TEAS or SAT/ACT test requirements.
4. Submit **official** transcripts from ALL colleges attended. Transcripts must be sent from the college to OCtech via mail, electronically, or emailed to [studentrecords@octech.edu](mailto:studentrecords@octech.edu). Transcripts should be received by OCtech 10 days prior to application submission but no later than the application submission deadline. **All college transcripts must be complete and current with proof of completion of the 10 prerequisite courses.** If students are enrolled in any prerequisite course(s) when they apply, applicants must show proof of the courses "in progress". Then, an official transcript must be submitted to Records PRIOR to the start of the PTA program showing course completion with a "C" or better.
5. Submit the PTA Confirmation of Observation Hours Form with proof of a minimum of 40 observation hours of a PT or PTA offering physical therapy services in at least one inpatient setting AND in at least one outpatient setting. It is required to complete hours in both settings for a combined total of 40 observation hours.
6. **Applicants who have had two or more Nursing or Health Science program attempts (withdrawal and/or failure) within three years of the program start date are ineligible to apply.**
7. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident. Admission of international students must comply with federal and state regulations pertaining to international student enrollment in U.S. colleges.

Qualified applicants who attended college outside of the United States and who meet citizenship requirements must provide an official translation transcript(s) from World Education Service. Fees for English translation of international transcripts must be paid by the applicant (contact our Registrar at [studentrecords@octech.edu](mailto:studentrecords@octech.edu) or 803-535-1222 for details). **Misrepresentation of information on any required forms or a willful attempt to misrepresent residency will make an applicant ineligible for admission to the PTA curriculum.**

**Physical Therapist Assistant - Projected Expenses 2024-2025**

**Physical Therapist Assistant – Projected Expense Sheet 2024-2025**

*\*All costs are approximate and subject to change.*

<b>FIRST SEMESTER - FALL</b>	<b>Approximate Cost \$1386.00</b>
Health Science Deposit	\$50.00
Lab Fee	\$25.00
Books	\$800.00
Computer	\$300.00
Malpractice Insurance	\$6.00
APTA and SCAPTA Membership	\$85.00
Scrubs	\$120.00
<b>SECOND SEMESTER - SPRING</b>	<b>Approximate Cost \$1177.10</b>
Lab Fee	\$25.00
Books	\$400.00
Viewpoint	\$110.00
Hepatitis Vaccine	\$125.00
PPD/TB Test	\$25.00
CPR	\$150.00
Physical	\$150.00
HPSO Liability Insurance	\$42.10
Board Review Course	\$150.00
<b>THIRD SEMESTER - SUMMER</b>	<b>Approximate Cost \$400.00</b>
Books	\$400.00
<b>FOURTH SEMESTER - FALL</b>	<b>Approximate Cost \$1323.60</b>
Travel	\$400.00
Mock Board Practice Exams	\$140.00
Graduation Cap/Gown	\$50.00
License Application Fee	\$110.00
Board Exam Fee	\$485.00
Prometric Testing Center	\$82.60
Criminal Background Check	\$50.00
Malpractice Insurance	\$6.00
<b>In addition to tuition and ~\$90.00 of anticipated registration, enrollment, and health science fees: TOTAL ESTIMATE of OTHER PTA PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$4286.70</b>

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program (PTA) at Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College (OCtech) is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22305-3085; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: [accreditation@apta.org](mailto:accreditation@apta.org); website: <http://www.capteonline.org>.

If needing to contact the PTA Program at OCtech directly, please call Program Coordinator, Lynn Fralix, at 803-535-1305 or email [fralixlw@octech.edu](mailto:fralixlw@octech.edu).

## PTA Confirmation of Observation Hours Form

To the PT or PTA Allowing the Applicant to Complete Observation Hours:

On behalf of the PTA Program at Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College, we thank you for allowing this applicant to observe the practice of physical therapy at your facility. Applicants are required to observe a PT or PTA as part of the application process to gain knowledge of the physical therapy profession and better prepare them for success as a Student Physical Therapist Assistant. All applicants must have a minimum of 40 hours in at least one inpatient facility AND in at least one outpatient facility. It is required to complete hours in both settings for a combined total of 40 observation hours prior to applying to the PTA Program. If an applicant works as a Rehab Aide, he or she must provide proof of the number of hours worked. Please fill out the information below to confirm the number of observation hours completed by this prospective PTA student.

Sincerely,  
PTA Program Faculty

**Students must complete a total of 40 observation hours in at least 1 inpatient and at least 1 outpatient setting.**

Applicant Name: _____	Inpatient Setting	Outpatient Setting
Name of Facility Where Observation or Work as a Rehab Aide Occurred		
Type of Practice Setting Where Observation Took Place - Acute, Inpatient Rehab, Adult Outpatient, Pediatric Outpatient, Private Practice, Sports Medicine, Skilled Nursing, etc.		
Date(s) of Observation or Work as a Rehab Aide		
Total Number of Hours Observed or Worked as a Rehab Aide		
Printed Name of PT/PTA Observed		
Signature of PT/PTA That Student Observed		
<p>I certify that the information given is complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that submission of false information is grounds for denial of admission.</p> <p>Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____</p>		

- ❖ *Practice settings should include those where physical therapy services are offered and a full-time PT or PTA is on staff.*
- ❖ *Observation or work hours will NOT be accepted for observing occupational therapists, speech therapists, recreational therapists, athletic trainers, chiropractors, or massage therapists.*
- ❖ *Acceptable inpatient facilities include acute hospitals, inpatient rehab units at a hospital, skilled nursing facilities, assisted living, or independent inpatient rehab units*
- ❖ *Acceptable outpatient facilities include adult or pediatric outpatient, sports medicine, private practice, or hospital-based outpatient facilities.*
- ❖ *Applicants must complete observation hours in inpatient and outpatient facilities. Students can also gain additional hours by observing at facilities that include both inpatient and outpatient services.*
- ❖ *There is no requirement for the number of hours expected in each setting. All hours together must be at least 40 hours to apply.*
- ❖ *Students applying for the PTA program after 2023 will be required to observation hours in an in-patient setting AND an outpatient setting.*
- ❖ *If you have questions about this requirement, please contact the Program Coordinator, Lynn Fralix, at 803-535-1305 or via email at [fralixlw@octech.edu](mailto:fralixlw@octech.edu).*

# Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Rating Sheet

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\*Please circle and complete the appropriate point value on the following 6 sections.*

## Section 1: Math Score, Reading Score, or Bachelor Degree with 2.75 minimum GPA (maximum 30 points)

MATH SCORE				OR	READING SCORE				OR	BACHELOR DEGREE GPA	
ACT Math Score	SAT Math Score	ATI TEAS® TEAS V or VII Math Score	Points		ACT Reading Score	SAT Reading Score	ATI TEAS® TEAS V or VII Reading Score	Points		GPA	Points
35-36	760-800	95-100%	30		35-36	39-40	95-100%	30		4.0	30
31-34	700-750	90-94.9%	25		31-34	37-38	90-94.9%	25		3.75 – 3.99	25
29-30	650-690	85-89.9%	20		29-30	35-36	85-89.9%	20		3.5 – 3.74	20
25-28	590-640	80-84.9%	15		25-28	32-34	80-84.9%	15		3.25 – 3.49	15
21-24	530-580	70-79.9%	10		21-24	29-31	70-79.9%	10		3.0 – 3.24	10
17-20	480-520	65-69.9%	5		19-20	26-28	65-69.9%	5		2.75 – 2.99	5
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>				<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>				<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>			

## Section 2: Cumulative GPA \_\_\_\_\_

The cumulative GPA is your overall grade point average from the last college you attended with 12 or more credit hours.

College: \_\_\_\_\_

GPA	Points
4.00	25
3.75 - 3.99	20
3.50 – 3.74	15
3.00 – 3.49	10
2.75 – 2.99	7
2.50 – 2.74	5
<b>TOTAL POINTS: _____ (max of 25)</b>	

## Section 3: Coursework Bonus

Course	Grade
BIO 210 Points: _____	A – 7 Points B – 4 Points C – 1 Point
BIO 211 Points: _____	Exempt Test Score – 3 Points
ENG 101 Points: _____	A – 3 Points B – 2 Points C – 1 Point
MAT 102 Points: _____	Exempt Test Score – 2 Points
<b>TOTAL POINTS: _____ (max of 20)</b>	

## Section 4: Residency

Special consideration is given to students that have resided permanently for at least one year in one of OCtech's two-county service areas.

County	Points
Orangeburg or Calhoun	5
<b>TOTAL POINTS: _____ (max of 5)</b>	

## Section 5: Observation Hours

MUST submit Confirmation of Observation Hours Form <i>*Minimum of 40 hours in 2 different settings (inpatient and outpatient) at 2 separate locations.</i>	Points
161 or more hours of observation	10
121 – 160 hours of observation	8
81 – 120 hours of observation	6
40 – 80 hours of observation	4
<b>TOTAL POINTS: _____ (max of 10 points)</b>	

## Section 6: Academic Achievement Bonus

Highest Degree Earned	Points
Points will only be allowed for one bonus area below.	
Bachelor degree or higher in any field with minimum GPA of 3.0	10
Degree in Respiratory, Radiology, Licensed Practical Nursing, Registered Nursing, Occupational Therapist Assistant, Dental Hygienist, MLT	5
Certificate or Diploma in CNA, PCT, EMT, Paramedic, Surg Tech, Pharmacy Tech, Dental Assistant, ECG, Dialysis Tech, Phlebotomy, and Medical Assistant	3
<b>TOTAL POINTS: _____ (max of 10)</b>	

## \*General Education Courses Required

(no points for this section)

Please check courses completed and write "IP" beside courses that are in progress.

Course	Grade or IP	Course	Grade or IP
BIO 210		AHS 104	
BIO 211		MAT 102	
PSY 201		CPT 170/101	
PSY 203		HUM ELECT	
ENG 101		SPC 205	

**TOTAL POINTS: \_\_\_\_\_ (max of 100)**      **Verification: Applicant's Initials: \_\_\_\_\_**      **Reviewer's Initials: \_\_\_\_\_**