



## **PTA Program Admission Requirements**

Admission to the PTA program is an additional process that is required due to limitations of clinical placement. The process is competitive and based on selective criteria that will initiate student success. Although success is not guaranteed, the admission criteria are the first step in the overall educational process. Success in the program is also based on student ability, dedication and commitment.

The PTA program admits one cohort of up to 20 students each fall. Applications for admission are available beginning in January of each year with a deadline for submission in May. Interviews will take place on campus during the month of June and students are notified of their admission decision by mid-June.

Applicants must be accepted to MCC prior to submitting an application to the PTA program. Students not admitted to MCC will be ineligible for admission to the PTA program.

Applicants will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- 1) Prerequisite GPA
- 2) Cumulative GPA
- 3) ATI TEAS Test Scores
- 4) Prior Education
- 5) General Education Completed
- 6) Letters of Recommendation
- 7) Observation/Experience
- 8) Interview Score

### **A. Admission Requirements**

#### **Application for Admission to MCC**

An application for admission to the college must be completed and applicants must be accepted for admission to MCC prior to applying to the PTA Program. Application for admission to the college can be completed online at [www.MorganCC.edu](http://www.MorganCC.edu).

#### **Application for Admission to the MCC Physical Therapist Assistant Program.**

Applicants must complete an Application for Admission to the Morgan Community College Physical Therapist Assistant Program. The application deadline will be published

annually and will typically be in May of each year. While applications may be submitted early, they will not be evaluated until after the published deadline.

This application will be available in January and can be downloaded and printed from the PTA Program web page at <http://www.morgancc.edu/programs/all-programs/pta/>

The PTA program application can be submitted in person, by mail or electronically following the instructions on the application.

### **1. Prerequisite Courses GPA**

The following Prerequisite Courses must be completed with a minimum grade of “C” within 5 years of the application deadline and by the end of spring term prior to fall enrollment. A minimum combined GPA of 2.50 for these courses is required for admission. In the event of any repeat courses, one repeat will be allowed and the higher of the two grades will be accepted:

<b>Course</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
BIO 2101	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
HPR 1038	Intro to Medical Terminology	1
PHY 1105	Conceptual Physics	4

### **2. Cumulative College GPA**

Official college transcripts must be sent directly from all institutions attended since high school to the Morgan Community College Registrar Office. The cumulative GPA requirement is based on all college level work. Failure to submit transcripts from all institutions attended is grounds for denial of admission to the program. A minimum combined GPA of 2.50 for all college level coursework is required for admission.

### **3. ATI TEAS Test**

Applicants must take the ATI TEAS Test for Allied Health Programs and scores are sent to the Morgan Community College Physical Therapist Assistant Program. A minimum cumulative score of 56 is required to qualify for admission.

The test may be taken on the specified testing dates, by appointment at the MCC testing center or at a testing center of the applicant’s choice. The test may be taken more than once and the highest score will be accepted. Further information on the ATI TEAS Test can be found on the PTA Program web page at <http://www.morgancc.edu/programs/all-programs/pta/>

### **4. Prior Education**

Admission scoring points are awarded based on prior college achievement. Applicants that have earned a higher number of credit hours and/or degrees will receive additional points toward their overall admission score.

## **5. General Education Completed**

The Associate of Applied Science in Physical Therapist Assistant degree includes three general education requirements in addition to the prerequisite and technical courses. Applicants that have completed one or more of these general education requirements will receive additional points toward their overall admission score.

## **6. Letters of Recommendation**

Two letters of recommendation, one from a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant, are required and are submitted with the application for admission. Only two letters will be accepted and each must be on the letter of recommendation form provided in the application packet.

## **7. Volunteer/Observation or Internship/Work Experience**

Documentation of a minimum of 24 Work-Related, Internship or Volunteer/Observation Hours completed in the field of physical therapy within the past 2 years is required. A minimum of 12 hours in each of at least two different settings.

Those applicants completing additional hours above the minimum requirement and/or possessing work related experience will earn additional points toward their overall admission score.

To be considered “work-related” the experience must involve direct client care in the field of physical therapy or rehabilitation. Final decision on the designation of “work-related” is at the discretion of the PTA Program Director. Hours must be documented on the workplace experience form provided in the application packet.

## **8. Interview**

Those meeting the minimum requirements and possess a minimum admission score of 8/29 will be invited to campus to interview with the PTA Program Director, the Health Occupations Advisor and one PTA faculty member. Applicants must pass the interview to qualify for admission, regardless of overall admission score.

## **B. Admission Scoring**

A minimum total score of 9/33 after the interview process is complete is required for admission to the program. A score of zero (0) on any component of the admission scoring system shall disqualify a candidate for admission to the PTA program.

The program will admit up to 20 qualified applicants each year based on the admission scoring system. Those students that meet the minimum score of 9/33 for the admission process after the interview, but are not selected for admission, will be placed on a wait list and may potentially be admitted to the program should one or more of the original accepted applicants give up their place in the class. The wait list will only be maintained until the first day of the fall semester for which the applicant has applied.

In the event of equal admission scores for one or more applicants, cumulative college GPA will be used as the tie breaking method to determine which student is placed higher on the admissions or wait list.

Applicants will be placed on the wait list in order of their total score in the admission process, will be notified of their position on the list, and will be contacted via email of any change in their status on the list. Should a position in the class become available to a student on the wait list, they will be notified in writing, via email or phone at the discretion of the Program Director.

Those applicants not admitted from the wait list are not guaranteed admission in subsequent years and will be required to complete the admissions process as a new applicant. Such applicants are encouraged to schedule a meeting with the Program Director to develop a plan for improving their chances of admission.

### 1. Admission Scoring System

The following admission scoring system will be utilized:

<b>1. PREREQUISITE COURSES GPA</b>	Below 2.50	0
	2.50 – 2.75	1*
	2.76-2.99	2
	3.0 – 3.49	3
	3.5 – 4.0	4

<b>2. CUMULATIVE COLLEGE GPA</b>	Below 2.50	0
	2.50 – 2.75	1*
	2.76-2.99	2
	3.0 – 3.49	3
	3.5 – 4.0	4

<b>3. ATI TEAS SCORING*</b>	Below 56	0
	56-61	1
	61-65	2
	66-70	3
	71 or above	4

<b>4. PRIOR EDUCATION</b>	College credits <12 hours	1*
	College credits $\geq$ 12 hours	2
	Associates Degree	3
	BA/BS Degree or Higher	4

<b>5.GENERAL EDUCATION COLLEGE COURSES COMPLETED</b>		
Grade of "C" or higher required	ENG 1021	1
(1 point each)	PSY 1001 or PSY 2440	1
	COM 1150 or COM 1250	1
<b>Total</b>		

<b>7.LETTERS OF REC</b>	PT or PTA	1*
1 points each	Personal	1*

<b>6.OBSERVATION/EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>Setting 1</b>	<b>Setting 2</b>
0-11	0	0
12+ Hours Observation Only	1*	1*
25+ Hours Observation Only	2	2
12+ Hours Paid/Internship	3	3
25+ Hours Paid/Internship	4	4
<b>Total (Maximum 4 pts. Each)</b>		

**Total Score Before The Interview: \_\_\_\_\_ (29 max.)**

<b>8.INTERVIEW SCORE</b>	Excellent	4
	Very Good	3
	Good	2
	Fair	1*
	Poor	0

*\*Minimum category score required*

**Total Score Including Interview: \_\_\_\_\_ (33 max.)**

### **C. Additional Program Admission Requirements**

If offered admission to the PTA program, continued enrollment is contingent on the following:

1. Students will be required to complete and pay for the background check prior to enrolling in the program and every two years thereafter, if applicable.
2. Pass a 10-panel drug screen upon enrolling in the program and during each fall semester in which they are enrolled.
3. Provide proof of current immunizations and influenza vaccine prior to enrolling in the program and prior to the start date of each fall semester in which they are enrolled.
4. Purchase required liability insurance at the MCC College Store and provide proof of coverage to the PTA Program Director. Must be purchased prior to enrolling in the program and prior to the start date of each fall semester in which they are enrolled.

5. Purchase a student clinical badge at the bookstore prior to enrolling in the program.
6. Provide proof of current American Heart Association CPR certification (must remain valid for the duration of the curriculum).

**Health Programs Disqualifying Offenses**

<https://mcc-aepkkf4bzuxc6g11.netdna-ssl.com/download/disqualifying-offenses-health-programs-updated-June-2015.pdf>