

COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS

Physical Therapist Assistant Associate of Science Degree 2025-2026 Information

For detailed information, visit the PTA Program website at <https://www.canyons.edu/academics/pta>

A. PREREQUISITE COURSES THAT MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO APPLICATION TO PTA PROGRAM

Prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of C or better *before* applying to the PTA Program. English Composition, Anatomy, Physiology, Medical Terminology, and PTA 100 courses must meet an average 2.5 GPA to be eligible to apply to the program. There is a 5-year Recency Requirement for Anatomy and Physiology courses only.* Completing program prerequisites does not assure admission to the program. Admission is based on space availability, clinical clearance requirements, and background checks.

COURSE TITLE	COURSE NUMBER	Units	Done/Need
English Composition	ENG C1000 or ENG C1000H (Formerly ENGL 101/H) (Must be at least 3 semester units or 4.5 quarter units. If short with quarter units, take English C1001 or equivalent English Critical Thinking course.)	4	
Anatomy & Physiology	BIOSCI 201-Anatomy & BIOSCI 202-Physiology OR BIOSCI 204-A&P1 & BIOSCI 205-A&P2. Each course must be at least 4 semester units or 6 quarter units <u>with a live lab component</u> . At COC, A&P have a prerequisite 4-unit course BIOSCI 100 – Introductory Biology or BIOSCI 101-Introductory Biology for Health Professions. *There is a 5 year from course completion recency requirement for Anatomy and Physiology courses. For candidates who already have an Associate or Bachelor degree, the recency requirement is 5 years from graduation with that degree.	8	
Health Science	HLHSCI 249-Medical Terminology	3	
Physical Therapy	PTA 100-Preparing for Careers in Physical Therapy* *Candidates with employer documentation of 1800 or more hours of work experience as a physical therapy aide may receive a Major Course Substitution in lieu of taking PTA 100. Then, if accepted into the PTA program, the PTA student can meet with a COC Counselor to have a Major Course Substitution form completed so as to officially waive the PTA 100 requirement	3	

B. ADDITIONAL COURSES RECOMMENDED FOR THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN PTA[‡]

The following General Education[†] courses are not mandatory for PTA but are recommended and meet graduation requirements. These GE do not have to be completed prior to application. If they have been completed prior to application, the grades will be calculated with English Composition, Anatomy, Physiology, Medical Terminology, and Preparing for Careers in Physical Therapy toward the minimum 2.5 GPA requirement.

[‡] Candidates with employer documentation of 1800 or more hours of work experience as a physical therapy aide may provide documentation at the time of the application in lieu of taking PTA 100. Then, if accepted into the PTA program, the PTA student can meet with a COC Counselor to have a Major Course Substitution form completed so as to officially waive the PTA 100 requirement.

COURSE TITLE	COURSE NUMBER	Semester Units	Completed/ IP/Need
Communication	COMM C1000 or COMM C1000H (formerly COMS 105) OR COMS 120	3	
Psychology	PSYC C1000 or PSYC C1000H (Formerly PSYCH 101 or 101H)	3	

C. MATH COMPETENCY GRADUATION REQUIREMENT (Example of what is needed to meet this graduation requirement for the AS Degree:)

Complete one of the following with a grade of C or better: STAT C1000 or STAT C1000E (formerly Math 140 or 140X) is recommended. Also acceptable: Economics 291, Mathematics 100, 102, 102X, 103, 103X, 104, 130, 211, 211X, 212, 213, 214, 215 or 240, Psychology 104, STAT C1000, C1000H, C1000E, Sociology 137	Semester Units	Completed/ IP/Need
	3-5	

D. REFER TO LOCAL COC 2025-2026 ASSOCIATE DEGREE GENERAL EDUCATION[†] SHEET FOR REMAINING GE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PTA DEGREE:

<https://www.canyons.edu/studentservices/counseling/degrees-certificates/generaled.php>

[†] Students with Bachelor's Degrees from a regionally accredited institution are considered to have met all other GE requirements.

REQUIREMENTS FOR AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE INCLUDE: COMPLETION OF A MINIMUM 60 DEGREE APPLICABLE SEMESTER UNITS, REQUIRED COURSES FOR THE MAJOR, A CUMULATIVE GPA OF 2.0 OR BETTER IN ASSOCIATE DEGREE APPLICABLE UNITS, GOOD STANDING AT COC AND A MINIMUM OF 12 UNITS COMPLETED AT COC.

Effective April 29, 2025, College of the Canyons has been granted Candidate for Accreditation Status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, VA 22305-3085; phone 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org). If needing to contact the program/institution directly, please call 661-362-3557 or email ptainfo@canyons.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.

THE APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

It is important to refer to the PTA website for all deadlines and application instructions! **A criminal background check will be completed after an invitation for admission into the PTA program is received.**

SCHOLASTIC ELIGIBILITY	1) Completion of all prerequisites with a grade of C (2.5 GPA or better) 2) Overall GPA – For all courses from <u>every</u> college attended as it appears on college transcripts, with a 2.5 GPA or better 3) ATI Test of Academic Skills (TEAS) v.7 Adjusted Individual Total Score of 62% or better (invitation to attend at COC after application)
SELECTION & ADMISSION	A multicriteria process will be performed to determine those accepted for Fall 2025 and those on an alternate list. Communication regarding acceptance will begin via email by June 30, 2025. Emails will be sent to the email address included in the online application. Confirmation of Acceptance must be returned via email within 2 weeks of receipt of dated email.
1. ATTEND A PROGRAM INFORMATION SESSION	Learn about what it takes to apply and succeed as a student in the Physical Therapist Assistant program. See the PTA Program website for details.
2. APPLY TO COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS	Not a current College of the Canyons student? Before you submit an application to any of the School of Health Professions programs, you will need to apply for admission to the College. Becoming a student is free and easy.
3. SUBMIT OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS TO ADMISSIONS	If <u>any or all</u> of the following apply, please submit documents to Admissions and Records: 1) Current official transcripts from <u>all</u> colleges attended, except COC (must include <u>all</u> college coursework whether PTA prerequisites or not). <i>If coursework is from the LACCD, please make sure your official transcripts are not electronic copies, but are printed official transcripts from LACCD –must have overall GPA on transcripts submitted</i> 2) For transcripts from other countries, an official sealed foreign transcript evaluation from a NACES approved agency 3) Official military transcripts 4) Official College Board report of <u>ALL</u> AP scores (passed with scores of 3 or above)—not accepted from High School transcript 5) Official College Board CLEP Math score (if applicable and counting for Math credit) Make sure all submitted transcripts are current and include overall college GPA. Please note (this may require ordering updated copy of official transcript to be submitted prior to the deadline)
4. APPLICATION SUBMISSION	Submit an online application for the Physical Therapist Assistant program within the application time period from March 1, 2026, at 12pm – March 31, 2026, at 12pm . Applicants who submit incomplete applications or who are missing any required documents will automatically be ineligible. Your application should include specified contact information, prerequisite verification, uploaded unofficial transcripts, and program specific information. All uploaded documents must be in PDF format. If you are enrolled in a prerequisite course when you submit your application, you must show proof of current enrollment with your submission. Admission into the Physical Therapist Assistant program will be pending until each prerequisite submitted in the application is completed. If you are taking prerequisite courses at another institution, please verify with Counseling that they will transfer to College of the Canyons and meet program requirements before applying. Eligible applicants will be invited to take the TEAS on campus and assigned a date after the application period is closed. Test prep information can be found at https://www.atitesting.com/teas
5. UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION	You are responsible for maintaining a current email address with the Health Professions office and responding to requests for confirmation of your continued interest in admission into the program sent during the year. Be sure to return each such notice by the stipulated date to maintain the admission status. .

E. PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT CORE (MAJOR) COURSES

Once accepted into the PTA Program, all courses for the major must be completed with a grade of 78% or better. Please refer to the grading policy in the PTA Student Handbook (available online).

SEMESTER	COURSE TITLE	COURSE NO.	Semester Units
1st (Fall)	Patient Management for the PTA	PTA 105	2
	Patient Management for the PTA Lab	PTA 105L	1.5
	Pathophysiology for the PTA	PTA 110	3
	Clinical Kinesiology	PTA 120	3
	Clinical Kinesiology Lab	PTA 120L	2
	Evidence Based Physical Therapy	PTA 130	1
2nd (Spring)	Biophysical Agents	PTA 201	2
	Biophysical Agents Lab	PTA 201L	1.5
	Growth, Development, and Aging	PTA 205	2
	Orthopedic Rehabilitation	PTA 220	2
	Orthopedic Rehabilitation Lab	PTA 220L	1.5
	Professional Practice for the PTA	PTA 225	3
3rd (Summer)	Clinical Experience I (35 hours/week x 4 weeks)	PTA 250	2.5
4th (Fall)	Neurologic Rehabilitation	PTA 240	2
	Neurologic Rehabilitation Lab	PTA 240L	1.5
	Cardiopulmonary and Integumentary Rehabilitation	PTA 242	2
	Cardiopulmonary and Integumentary Rehabilitation Lab	PTA 242L	1.5
	Physical Therapy for Special Populations	PTA 244	2
	Physical Therapy for Special Populations Lab	PTA 244L	1.5
5th (Spring)	Clinical Experience II (35 hours x 6 weeks)	PTA 252	3.5
	Clinical Experience III (35 hours x 6 weeks)	PTA 254	3.5
	PTA Seminar (3.5 hours x 5 days)	PTA 260	1
	PTA Case Study (3.5 hours x 5 days)	PTA 262	1