



**SCHOOL OF NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCES AND ADMISSIONS OFFICE
Associate of Applied Science in Physical Therapist Assistant
Admission Ranking System**

Students desiring entrance into the Physical Therapist Assistant major must first gain admission to Penn College. Applicants who are accepted into the College will initially be placed in the pre-major status. While in the pre-major status, students complete one semester of general education course work that will prepare them for courses specific to their major. Pre-major students are then evaluated for acceptance in December. Acceptance is based upon additional requirements beyond College admission and is explained below.

Pre-major Requirements

To be considered for selection into the Physical Therapist Assistant major, students must:

- Complete developmental course work requirements in math, reading, and/or English.
- Complete all pre-major course work with a grade of "C" or higher
- Earn an overall GPA of 2.75 or higher in their pre-major coursework
- Complete a total of 20 hours of documented clinical observation time in at least two different settings by December 1 of the selection year.

Timeline

Selection will occur upon receipt of grades for the fall semester. Transfer students must have an official copy of all transcripts submitted to the College's Admissions Office by the third week in November, to be considered for acceptance into the program.

Ranking Overview

When there are more qualified applicants than seats available, students will be ranked according to their performance in the pre-major course work. Students must fall within the top 20 of all applicants after calculation of their performance in required course work. A point system utilizing a calculation of math and science grade points at 75% of the value of the total, other courses in the pre-semester as 20% of the total, and 5% of the total from other majors and course work will be utilized as outlined below. In the event of a tie in the selection of the top 20 candidates, overall GPA and date of application will be considered.

Changes to These Requirements

Typically, any changes to these admission requirements are made prior to the student's enrollment at Penn College; however, in special circumstances, such as an observed change in program outcomes, the College President may approve more immediate changes to ensure student success. In such cases, students will receive timely written notice of the change.

1. DEGREES/CREDITS (Approximately 5% of the total) –

DEGREES/CREDITS	POINTS
Bachelor or higher	4 student points
10 or more Penn College credits	3 student points
Associate's degree or 59 credits or more	2 student points
10-58 credits from another institution	1 student point

2. MATH AND SCIENCE GRADE POINT CALCULATION (Approximately 75% of the total) –

BIO 115 – Human Anatomy & Physiology I	MTH 153 – Topics in Mathematics (or higher)**
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3. OTHER COURSE GRADE POINT CALCULATION (Approximately 20% of the total) –

ENL 111 – English Composition I	PSY 111 – General Psychology
MTR 100 – Medical Terminology Survey	

Credit Limits

Students will be limited to 24 **attempted credits** (taken at Penn College, excluding all developmental courses) in the pre-health major. Following the December selection, students not selected for the professional phase of the major after attempting 24 credits will be required to meet with their respective program director to discuss viable education options.

Appeals

Selection decisions are based on academic grade calculations and objective performance criteria. A student may appeal a selection decision. The student must submit a written summary of circumstances to the dean/assistant dean of the School of Nursing & Health Sciences no later than five business days following the student's receipt of written notification of non-selection into the major. To be considered, appeals must be typed, signed, dated and include a current mailing address. A selection appeal committee consisting of the Dean or Assistant Dean of Nursing & Health Sciences, a representative of Admissions, and appropriate program faculty/staff will be convened to review the appeal. The student will receive a written notification of the decision within five business days following the dean's receipt of the formal appeal. Decisions by the appeal committee are final with no further appeal.

Footnotes:

*External courses with grades below a "C" will not transfer to Penn College for credit; however, if applicable, these grades (D's and F's) will be calculated into the Math/Science and Other calculation areas during the admission ranking process.

** MTH 155 and MTH 156 will not be considered in the admission ranking process.