

PTA Admissions Information

The LBWCC Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program consist of 5 semesters of course work. The completion of two semesters of general education prerequisites is required prior to submitting an application for the three semester technical phase of the program. Graduates of the Program will receive an Associate in Applied Science degree. The Program is seeking accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

The Application packets are available on the PTA website beginning August 18, 2021 and are due on March 3, 2022 at 5:00 pm. Admission to the PTA Program is competitive and classroom space and faculty are limited. A class size of 18 was decided by the PTA faculty and College Administration based upon physical classroom space, clinical site availability, and number of core faculty. All students must be formally admitted to LBWCC before submitting the PTA program application packet.

Students are required to have reliable personal transportation to travel to clinical education experiences.

The PTA Program Application will be made available on the homepage of this website beginning August 18, 2021.

This is not the form for admission to LBWCC. Please visit the College's [Admission](#) webpage for an online application to LBWCC.

If a student is accepted into the PTA program, admission is provisional upon:

- A negative Drug Screen test
 - Random substance abuse screening may be conducted during the semester
- Passage of a criminal background check

After being admitted to the PTA program, the following documentation must be submitted prior to the end of the first program semester:

- Completed physical examination form
- Documentation of immunizations
- Verification of ability to perform essential functions
- Documentation of current health insurance coverage

PTA Program Admissions Policies

LBWCC accepts a maximum of 18 students each year into the PTA Program. Prospective student information materials are available on the college website or in person from the admissions area in Student Services, and from PTA Program faculty.

The PTA Program abides by all LBWCC policies and procedures related to admissions, including but not limited to due process and non-discrimination.

Admission criteria for the PTA program are as follows:

1. Unconditional admission to Lurleen B. Wallace Community College
2. Completion of PTA Program Application
3. Documentation of completed pre-requisite courses with a "C" or higher or Spring registration of pre-requisite courses, if applicable
4. Eight (8) hours of volunteer, observation or work experience in a physical therapy department (Documented on the Clinical Observation Form available in the application packet).
5. ACT composite score of 18 or higher
6. Two Letters of Recommendation
7. Certificate of Attendance of a PTA Informational Session
8. Signed and dated Statement of Understanding
9. Completion of Interview

PTA Program Admissions Procedures

1. Program applications will be accepted from January 10th through the annually established application March deadline. Applications must either be mailed or hand delivered to the Program Director. Emailed and/or faxed applications will not be accepted.
2. Admission into the program is competitive. . An offer to interview will be extended via mail/email to all students who satisfactorily complete and submit the program application packet prior to the deadline. Interviews will be conducted by a panel of core and associated faculty, other LBWCC faculty, Program Advisory Committee members, and/or local clinicians. Interviews will be scored using a standardized rubric with final points rewarded based on the average score from each interview panelist.
3. Admission into the program is determined by a point system detailed in the Program Application Packet. Students with the highest points will be offered entry into the program. In the event of a tie in points, the student with the higher cumulative GPA will be offered entry.
4. Letters and/or emails will be sent to students accepted into the PTA Program within one week from the date of interviews. Another letter and/or email will be sent in May of each year to accepted students with the requirement that students respond to confirm their acceptance/position in the program.
5. If all seats in the class are filled, a wait list will be maintained by the PTA Program Director. Letters and/or emails will also be sent to those on the wait list in May with their alternate number. Alternates must respond to this letter/email to confirm and to maintain their position on the wait list.

CAPTE Accreditation Statement

Graduation from a physical therapist assistant education program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22305-3085; phone; 703-706-3245; accreditation@apta.org is necessary for eligibility to sit for the licensure examination, which is required in all states.

Effective April 27, 2021, Lurleen B. Wallace Community College has been granted Candidate for Accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22305-3085; phone: 703-706- 3245; email: accreditation@apta.org.

If needing to contact the program/institution directly, please call (334) 382-2133 Ext. 3212 or email tdougherty@lbwcc.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.