

Summer 2023 Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Admission Requirements

Important Dates

2023 PTA Application Dates.....**October 1, 2022 – April 1, 2023**

January 15, 2023 is the “Early Admission” deadline for those who qualify.
Check the program web site for updated information on the application status.
Questions can be directed to le@harpercollege.edu

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Harper College 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; website: <http://www.capteonline.org>. If needing to contact the program directly please call 847.925.6861 or email rgura@harpercollege.edu.

To be eligible to submit an application to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program, you must have successfully taken the NLN exam. See details below.

Attend a Mandatory Information Meeting

- Learn more about the physical therapist assistant career and the Harper College program curricula, admission standards and program participation requirements.
- Check the Harper web site for the information meeting information at: <https://harper.secure.force.com/events/#/search?type=Health%20Career%20Info%20Session>
- Or attend online and complete a quiz <https://screencast-o-matic.com/watch/c3jbDmVTQA9>
- Link to Quiz (required if online info session attended)
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf7ANGj7FCXLTBQ6GG1AQvvQ3ILUQuVQVUEZQ2ot-WzfznHZw/viewform>

Submit College Application and Fee

- If you have not previously applied to the College, this is your first step.
- This application and fee can be submitted online at https://student-self-service.harpercollege.edu/prod/bwskalog.P_DispLoginNon or in person.

Submit the Program Application with a Valid National League for Nursing (NLN) Pre-Admission RN Exam Score Report

- Submit your program application by going to the PTA web page at <https://www.harpercollege.edu/academics/health/physical-therapist-assistant/admission.php> within the time frame indicated above.
- Your Harper College Application must already be on file and you must have participated in a program information meeting within the past year.
- You may also attach a valid copy of your **NLN Pre Admission RN Exam** results showing that all minimums have been satisfied.

Valid NLN Pre-Admission RN Exam Report – You must satisfy **each** of the minimum percentile scores:

| <i>Minimum Score</i> | <i>NLN Score Reports prior to April 1, 2016</i> | <i>NLN Score Reports after April 1, 2016</i> |
|---|--|---|
| Composite: 60 th percentile or higher | The Composite Percentile can be identified by converting the 'overall score' listed on your score report using the ' Composite Score to Composite Percentile Conversion Table'. | Your percentile scores are in the section titled "RN Program Applicants". Look for the "RN Percentile Rank" column |
| Verbal: 40 th percentile or higher | Verbal, Math and Science Percentiles will be used from the ' Relative Performance ' column listed on your score report. | |
| Science: 40 th percentile or higher | | |
| Math: 40 th percentile or higher | | |

- You will find information on how to register for the NLN Pre-Entrance Exam on Harper's Testing webpage: <https://www.harpercollege.edu/testing/limitedenrollment.php>
- There is a link to register under the NLN Exam Registration and Payment: www.nlnest.org
- Scores from an NLN Pre-Admission RN Test are valid for three years. (Refer to the chart later in this document for detailed information regarding expiration dates.)
- For details on how to interpret your NLN score report, please refer to the program web site.
- Resources for test preparation include the Review Guide for NLN-RN Pre-Entrance Exam, Third Edition available at the Harper Store, online and through retail bookstores; a course offered through Harper's Continuing Education division titled: NLN Pre-Entrance Exam Preparation; McGraw-Hill's NLN PAX-RN Prep app, Magoosh.com, PrepSTEP, formally the Learning Express Library (check the Harper College library for information), study guides for the ACT or SAT, youtube for vocabulary, and the Tutoring Center at Harper for math.
- Make sure you list Harper College as the receiving school for your NLN results.
- **NLN Scores must be from testing completed after January 1, 2020.**

Submit Additional Documentation

Note: Official documents are those sent directly from the institution to Harper College.

Official High School Transcript OR GED Results

- Submit the final high school transcript with the graduation date posted, or the GED report which must show passing scores to adm@harpercollege.edu.
- Applicants who have completed high school in another country need to submit a document-to-document evaluation of their high school transcript completed by Educational Credential Evaluators, INC (ECE) www.ece.org or World Education Services (WES) www.wes.org stating **U.S. Equivalence: High school diploma.**
- This high school transcript requirement can be waived if official documentation is provided demonstrating completion of the equivalent of a U.S. associate or higher degree.

Official College Transcripts - You will need to submit transcripts from other colleges attended if the document(s) show completion of course work you think may fulfill course admission requirements or

support course work applicable to the Harper College Physical Therapist Assistant Program. Results can be sent to processing@harpercollege.edu.

- Requests can be made at the institution website or <https://www.studentclearinghouse.org/students/>.
- Foreign college transcripts must first be evaluated by World Education Services (wes.org) or Educational Credential Evaluators, INC (ece.org).
- To learn if/how credits from other colleges will transfer to Harper, applicants must have an official transcript sent from each college or university attended. Official transcripts will be evaluated after they have been received and students will be sent an email to their **Harper email account** with transfer credit information.

Program Prerequisites

Must be completed by the end of the semester in which the deadline falls

Harper Grade Point Average

- Current or previously enrolled Harper students must have a minimum 2.0 grade point average.

English Composition - ENG 101- *Composition* at Harper College, or the equivalent from another college (as determined by the Harper College transcript evaluation).

- Must be completed with a grade of C or better.
- There is no expiration date on the English Composition course requirement.

Human Anatomy - BIO 260 (previously 160) – *Human Anatomy* at Harper College, or the equivalent from another college (as determined by the Harper College transcript evaluation).

- Must be completed with a grade of C or better.
- There is a five-year time limit on the Human Anatomy course requirement. Refer to the chart following this section for details on expiration dates.

Medical Terminology – HSC 112 - *Medical Terminology* at Harper College, or the equivalent from another college (as determined by the Harper College transcript evaluation).

- Must be completed with a grade of C or better.
- There is no expiration date on the Medical Terminology course requirement.

Mathematics – MTH 101 or MTH 103 (recommended) or higher level math, or the equivalent from another college (as determined by the Harper College transcript evaluation).

- Any course used to satisfy the mathematics course requirement must be completed with a grade of C or better.
- There is no expiration date on the mathematics course requirement.

Speech – SPE 101 – *Fundamentals of Speech Communication* at Harper College, or the equivalent from another college (as determined by the Harper College transcript evaluation).

- Must be completed with a grade of C or better
- There is no expiration date on the Speech course requirement.

Re-entry Permission

- If you were previously enrolled in the program to which you are planning to apply, departmental permission is required for re-entry. Without department approval, your file remains incomplete.

The following table lists the time limits in place for 2023:

| | |
|--|--|
| BIO 260 – HUMAN ANATOMY (was 160) | Must be completed after January 1, 2018 |
| BIO 261 – HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY* (was 161) | Must be completed after January 1, 2018 |
| NLN TEST SCORES** | Must be completed after January 1, 2020 |

* Although BIO 261 (previously 161) – Human Physiology - is not an admission requirement, if taken, it must follow the timeline for expiration.

** National League for Nursing Entrance Exam Results

Admission Decisions

PLEASE NOTE: Although satisfaction of admission requirements will result in an admission decision, it does not guarantee acceptance.

- Ranking scores will be calculated based on a point system with a maximum of 100 points; **no points will be added to an admission score for coursework completed after the application deadline.** You can calculate your ranking score based on the following chart:

| Factor | 0 points | 5 points | 10 points | 15 points | 20 points |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| NLN Composite Percentile | 60 – 69 | | 70 – 79 | 80 – 89 | 90 – 99 |
| NLN Verbal Percentile | 40 – 49 | | 50 – 69 | 70 – 89 | 90 – 99 |
| BIO 260 (was 160) | C | | | B | A |
| HSC 112 | C | | | B | A |
| BIO 261* (was 161) | | C | A or B | | |
| Bachelor's Degree | | | Bachelors | | |

*BIO 261 (previously 161) is not required for admission; however, applicants who have completed this course with a grade of C or better within the five-year time limit and before admission decisions are made will earn additional points as indicated above.

** A Bachelor's Degree is not required; however, 10 points will be given with proof of an official transcript from the degree-awarding institution

Early Admission Option:

Applicants whose files are complete upon application may qualify for Early Admission. If qualified, we will send notification of acceptance by the email address provided on the application and to your Harper College email. To be eligible for this option, applicants must meet specific conditions as follows:

- Applicant must be a resident of Harper's district **or** a community college district which does not offer a Physical Therapist Assistant degree program **and** whose college district is a member of the CAREER consortium; and
- The file must be complete—**all academic and document requirements must be satisfied**; and
- The ranking score must be 80 or higher, and
- The applicant must submit the application and meet all admission requirements by **January 15, 2023.**

There are 10 seats available for Early Admission. Once the 10 seats are filled, and/or any applications received after January 15, 2023, as well as any applications that do not meet all four of the above conditions, will be considered under the Standard Admission Option. There will be no exceptions to the above criteria.

- **Standard Admission Option:** (For seats remaining following Early Admission)

The files of all applicants who have submitted their applications by the program deadline (and who were not already accepted through Early Admission) will be reviewed by the Admission Selection Committee.

- This file review meeting will be held as soon as possible following the program deadline.
- A “final” minimum admission score will be determined, and those applicants whose ranking scores are at or above that minimum will be considered for admission or the alternate list.
- Admission cannot be guaranteed, and will depend upon ranking score, residency, and number of seats available.
- If there are more qualified applicants than space available, residency may be a factor in the Standard Admission process.
 - Permanent residents and residents of community college districts which do not offer a Physical Therapist Assistant program **and** whose college districts are members of the CAREER consortium, who have satisfied the minimum admission score and applied by the application deadline will receive priority consideration in the Standard Admission process.
 - Residency is determined by the Registrar’s Office; the address on record with the College as of the program deadline will be used by the admission selection committee when they determine admission decisions. Working in district does not constitute residency for limited enrollment selection purposes.
- Provided a program is open past the published deadline, a qualified applicant who submits an application after that date will be considered after all qualified applicants who applied by deadline. Applications will continue to be accepted until the program is closed. Check the web site for information on the application status.
- It is not possible to predict what ranking score an applicant will need in order to be accepted into a limited enrollment program. However, NLN scores in the 80’s and 90’s and A’s and B’s in BIO 260 (previously 160) and HSC 112 make applicants more competitive in the selection process. **Although satisfaction of minimum admission requirements will result in an admission decision, it does not guarantee acceptance.**

Important Admission Notes

- It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that requirements are met and all documentation is on file.
- Academic admission requirements must be met by the **end of the semester in which the deadline falls.**
- Accepted applicants must be 18 years of age before the program starts.
- All correspondence regarding your limited enrollment application will be emailed to the address given on your application, or according to your email address on record with the College. Additional correspondence from the program coordinator will be sent to the email address you have provided. It is your responsibility to see that your address information is current. To update your addresses (and/or phone number), you will need to contact the One Stop Center, Building A, Room A250. (The address on record with the College as of the program deadline will be used by the admission selection committee when they determine admission decisions.)
- Applicants should be aware that it may take up to three weeks for the College to receive transcript(s) from the sending institution(s). Official transcripts will be evaluated as they are received and students will receive an email to their Harper email account when they have been evaluated. Results can be viewed online through the student portal. Transcript evaluations may take 2–3 weeks to process. Questions about transcript evaluations can be sent to evaluation@harpercollege.edu.
- Applicants not accepted into a program who wish to be considered in the selection process for a future term **must submit a new program application.**

- **Once your program application has been processed, you will be able to monitor your limited enrollment file online.** Go to harpercollege.edu and log into your **MyHarper Student Portal**; limited enrollment information can be found under the **Registration and Records** section.
- Qualified applicants not selected will be placed on a **temporary** wait list and identified as alternates. **Alternate lists do not carry over from one application cycle to the next**; therefore, alternates who are not admitted to a program will need to submit a new program application for a future program start.
- It is very important that you make financial aid preparations well in advance of any deadlines so that you know exactly what resources are available to you.
- Depending on the number of qualified applicants eligible for admission when admission decisions are made, it is possible that contingency offers may be extended to applicants who are in the process of completing an admission requirement (except for the NLN percentile minimums, which must be satisfied in order to submit a program application). **When/If contingency offers are extended, the contingent requirement(s) must be satisfied within the semester in which the deadline falls.** If the contingency is not met by the given date, the offer will be rescinded.

HARPER COLLEGE RESOURCES

| Office | Location | Phone Number |
|--|--|--------------|
| Admissions Processing for Limited Enrollment Programs | Building X, Room X250 | 847.925.6533 |
| Admissions Outreach | Building C, Room C103 | 847.925.6700 |
| Academic Advising and Counseling Services | New Students: Building C, Room C104 | 847.925.6208 |
| | Previous or currently enrolled Harper students: Building I, Room I117 | 847.925.6393 |
| Access and Disability Services | Building I, Room I103 | 847.925.6266 |
| Assessment and Testing | Building A, Room A148 | 847.925.6541 |
| Business Office | Building A, Room A214 | 847.925.6880 |
| Harper Store | Building L, Room L260 | 847.925.6275 |
| One Stop Center | Building A, Room A250 | 847.925.6710 |

Harper College is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation. Link to full official statement: https://www.harpercollege.edu/catalog/handbook/a_handbook/eos.php

8/2022