2016-2017 CATALOG
SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS
PROGRAM INFORMATION GUIDE
FOR
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT
ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE (AAS-PTHA)

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Coordinator: Debra Tomacelli-Brock
Office Location: RG Campus, Health Science Bldg. RM H-149

Program Clinical Coordinator: Michelle Biernacki
Office Location: RG Campus, Health Science Bldg. RM H-148

Dean: Dr. Paula Mitchell, Health Career & Technical Education, Math and Science
Office Location: RG Campus, RM A-240

Program Counselor: Argelia Duarte
Office Location: RG Counseling Dept., 103 Montana Ave., 3rd. floor

COUNSELORS’S NOTE: Please contact the following numbers to make sure I’m in my office before stopping by: (915) 831-4636, 831-4036, and 831-4155.

Applicants for Specialized Admissions must satisfy minimum criteria in order to be eligible for ranking. The following is required of all applicants:

- Submit all previous college/university official transcripts (transliteration of all foreign coursework required) prior to ranking.
- Must have a High School Diploma or GED. Submit official transcripts to:
  El Paso Community College Admissions Office
  P.O. Box 20500, El Paso, Texas 79998
- Applicants must be fully accepted by EPCC as an academic credit student.
- Must have successfully completed the TSI Assessment Test.
- Attend a Health Careers Orientation Session or complete it online at http://www.epcc.edu/HCO/Pages/default.aspx.
- Submit Specialized Admissions Application form and pay $10.00 fee.
- All academic and specialized courses listed on the degree plan must be completed with a “C” or better.
- EPCC Cumulative GPA of 2.7 is required.
- Effective Fall 2011, and based on new federal regulations, students are not allowed to repeat previously passed courses more than once." Students should meet with a counselor to determine how a repeat course (s) may impact his/her academic, prerequisite, specialized admissions or transferability of courses. It is the student’s responsibility to check with the Office of Student Financial Services to inquire how a repeat course (s) may impact their financial aid or veteran’s assistance.

TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI) ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Texas State Legislature mandates that institutions assess all entering undergraduate students for readiness to enroll into college-level course work in the academic areas of Essay, Reading, Math, and Writing Assessment, and to provide individualized developmental education programs to
those students not demonstrating this readiness. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) requires the reporting of developmental progression and outcome of all students engaged in developmental education. Refer to EPCC Catalog or see your counselor for more information.

**TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI) COURSE PLACEMENT**

Minimum required TSI Assessment scores for Physical Therapist Assistant Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math (PTSM)</td>
<td>355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading (PTSR)</td>
<td>356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing (PTSW)</td>
<td>363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay (PTSE)</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Official TSI Assessment scores are valid for five (5) years and only the most recent test score will be the one used for qualifying and ranking.
- Official TSI Assessment scores must contain all four (4) subject areas (Essay, Reading, Math, and Writing).
- Posting of TSI Assessment scores will take between 24 to 48 hours. TSI Assessment Test must be completed at least 48 hours prior to ranking date.

**NOTE:** Minimum required testing scores for TSI Assessment and/or Program Specific Criteria may be adjusted if a secondary ranking is necessary to fulfill enrollment requirements

**MANDATORY COURSES: (3) COURSES**

Mandatory courses are those courses that a student must have successfully completed prior to ranking. Applicants who do not satisfactorily complete mandatory course work will not qualify for eligibility to be ranked for a program.

***NOTE: BIOL 1306 and BIOL 1106 is a pre-requisite for BIOL 2401; prerequisites can be met through course completion or Biology placement exam.***

▲ BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology I Minimum Grade B
▲ BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II Minimum Grade B
▲ PTHA 1309 Introduction to Physical Therapy Minimum Grade B

***For qualification: ▲ BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402 and PTHA 1309 must have been successfully completed.***

***Note: Students wishing to enroll in PTHA 1309 are reminded to successfully complete the pre-requisite Math 1314 prior to enrolling in PTHA 1309. Math 1314 requires a minimum of a “C”, to qualify for ranking.***

**NOTE: BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402 and PTHA 1309 must have been successfully completed within 5 years of placement into the program. Mandatory courses cannot be substituted. Mandatory courses must be successfully completed with a minimum grade of “B” or better.**

**RANKING COURSES: (3) COURSES**

Ranking courses are courses within the degree plan in which performance most reliably predicts future ability to perform successfully in the program. It is highly recommended that all ranking courses be completed prior to ranking to be competitive. Ranking Courses cannot be substituted.

***NOTE: BIOL 1306 and BIOL 1106 is a pre-requisite for BIOL 2401; prerequisites can be met through course completion or Biology placement exam***

▲ BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology I
▲ BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II
▲ PTHA 1309 Introduction to Physical Therapy

▲ Ranking Courses should be completed no later than Spring Semester to be eligible for June 7, 2016 ranking.
It is highly recommended that the applicant complete the Pre-Program Specific Requirements at least three (3) weeks prior to the ranking date. The applicant must complete “Specialized Admissions” requirements for qualifying and ranking. There is a scheduled ranking date for this program. Normal processing may take a few days or a few weeks depending on document type and individual circumstances. If documents have been received, but not processed, then the student will be coded as ineligible for that ranking, because sufficient time was not given for validating and processing the information.

PRE-PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for Specialized Programs must also meet Pre-Program Specific Criteria prior to qualifying for ranking. The following is required of all applicants:

- **Background Check** will be completed by each student prior to enrollment in clinical courses. The student will not be able to go to the clinical areas/health care facilities until cleared. For further information, please ask a Health Counselor or call the Program Coordinator. Web site: [http://www.elpasoex.com](http://www.elpasoex.com). You will receive a letter from the Dean, Health Career & Technical Education, Math and Science division after the background check is reviewed. ***NOTE: A background check must be repeated at student's expense if the student is not enrolled in a health-related program for one or more semesters.***

- **Current CPR Certification at the Professional Level** (Must be from American Heart Association-Healthcare Provider ONLY). Must include AED.

- **HIPAA TRAINING** (Renewable every year) (online at [http://www.epcc.edu/hipaa/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.epcc.edu/hipaa/Pages/default.aspx)).

- **Hospital Observation** (Mandatory Observation: 40 Hours).

- **Immunizations and Titers** – The following must be completed:
  - **POSITIVE TITER** required for Hepatitis B vaccination series of 3 and Titer (can take 4-6 months to complete) if a student has started the Hepatitis B series by ranking deadline (June 7), he/she may be cleared for ranking or registration with the understanding that the series must be completed in a timely manner prior to starting clinical courses. Documentation of starting the series must be on file.
  - **Tuberculosis Screening and/or testing** (completed) (done annually), or chest x-rays and questionnaire (annual).
  - **POSITIVE TITER** required for each 2 doses - Measles, Mumps and Rubella Vaccinations MMR) (completed) and Titer.
  - **POSITIVE TITER** required for each 2 doses - Varicella Vaccination (completed) and Titer.
  - **Tetanus/Diphtheria and Pertussis** (Tdap) (completed).
  - **Influenza is required** (or completed declination form) (NOTE: If declined, will have to wear a mask in clinical) (done annually).
  - **Meningitis or booster** (Effective January 1, 2012, a Bacterial Meningitis is required for all entering students under the age of 22. The term “entering students” includes new students to EPCC, transfer students, and returning students. Students must provide proof of an initial meningitis immunization or booster to Admissions and Registration Department at any campus. The meningitis immunization must be administered at least 10 days before the start of the semester and must have been administered within the last five years). Visit Admission and Registration EPCC web page for additional information: ([http://www.epcc.edu/Registration/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.epcc.edu/Registration/Pages/default.aspx)).

**NOTE:** After vaccination is administered, you must wait 4-6 weeks for immunity to show up on the TITER.

- **Physical Exam** (current) completed by a Physician, Nurse Practitioner or Physician’s Assistant licensed in the United States. ([http://www.epcc.edu/InstructionalPrograms/Documents/Report%20of%20Health%20Evaluation.pdf](http://www.epcc.edu/InstructionalPrograms/Documents/Report%20of%20Health%20Evaluation.pdf))

- **Physical Technical Standards** form (completed).

- **Program Orientation**.

PROGRAM SPECIFIC MATERIAL SHOULD BE TURNED IN AS SOON AS COMPLETED TO: Debra Tomacelli-Brock/PTAP Program Coordinator, RG Campus, room H-148 - Telephone # (915) 831-4172. OR Frances Maldonado RG Campus, room A-226A - Telephone # (915) 831-4225.
Check 2016-2017 El Paso Community College Catalog for Prerequisites

PTHA DEGREE PROGRAM COURSES

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<tr>
<th>Prerequisite Semester</th>
<th>SECOND YEAR</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 2401</td>
<td>ENGL 1301 Expository English Composition</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 2402</td>
<td>PTHA 2266 Practicum (or Field Experience)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH 1314</td>
<td>PTHA 1309 Introduction to Physical Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 2314</td>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant II</td>
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FIRST YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>PTHA 1225 Communication in Health Care</th>
<th>PTHA 1321 Pathophysiology for the PTA</th>
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<tr>
<td>First Semester</td>
<td>PTHA 1309 Introduction to Physical Therapy</td>
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<td>Second Semester</td>
<td>PTHA 2301 Essentials of Data Collection</td>
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<td>PTHA 1166 Practicum (or Field Experience)-Physical Therapist Assistant I</td>
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<td>PTHA 1413 Functional Anatomy</td>
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<td>PTHA 1431 Physical Agents</td>
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<td>PTHA 2409 Therapeutic Exercise</td>
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<td>PHIL 2306 Ethics</td>
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<td>PTHA 1491 Special Topics in Clinical Practice for the Physical Therapist Assistant</td>
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<td>PTHA 2305 Neurology</td>
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<td>PTHA 2431 Management of Neurological Disorders</td>
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<td>PTHA 2339 Professional Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PTHA 2267 Practicum (or Field Experience)-Physical Therapist Assistant III</td>
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<td>PTHA 2435 Rehabilitation Techniques</td>
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SECOND YEAR

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<th>Semester</th>
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<td></td>
<td>PTHA 2435 Rehabilitation Techniques</td>
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Official Ranking Date: June 7, 2016
- Program Begins - Fall Semester
- Students Admitted: 12 Students
- Community Wide Orientation online at http://www.epcc.edu/cwo/
- HIPAA online at http://www.epcc.edu/hipaa/Pages/default.aspx
- Health Careers Orientation online at http://www.epcc.edu/HCO/pages/default.aspx
- Online additional program-specific and career information http://www.epcc.edu/healthprogram
- Students who completed articulated or dual credit courses in health in high school should bring this to the attention of the counselor. College credit may still be available.
- Website: (Type “PTAP” in the search engine of EPCC Home page).

POST-SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS

Students are responsible for the following requirements AFTER accepting a seat in the program.

- Must file a degree plan with designated Health Counselor
- Community Wide Orientation (Renewable every year) (online at http://www.epcc.edu/cwo/).
- Liability Insurance (Professional Practice Insurance) is required for all clinical and selected laboratory courses. This is paid upon enrollment. Proof of payment (your registration receipt) must be provided to the instructor.
- Specialized Equipment and/or Lab Supplies must be purchased at student’s expense in accordance with course syllabi. Detailed information will be provided by the Program Coordinator.
- Substance Abuse Screening will be required for each student enrolling in health career programs with clinical components effective August 2007. For further information, please ask a Health Counselor or call the Program Coordinator. ***NOTE: Substance abuse screening may not be completed for more than three (3) months prior to the first clinical education course. *** Web site: http://www.elpasoex.com.
➢ **Uniforms** must be purchased at student’s expense in accordance with course syllabi. Detailed information will be provided by the Program Coordinator.

➢ Transportation: Students are responsible for their own transportation to off-campus clinical/learning sites.

➢ Textbooks and other course materials must be purchased at student’s expense in accordance with course syllabi.

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**OTHER INFORMATION**

➢ CPR and First Aid Courses are available through the EPCC Continuing Education Division. Please see the current Continuing Education Course Schedule or call 915-831-4116 for more information.

➢ Immunizations, physical examinations, and other health care services are available through the El Paso Community College *Rio Grande Border Health Clinic* located at the Rio Grande Campus.

➢ Call 915- 831-4016 for appointments for the nursing clinic (immunizations and physical examinations).

➢ Call 915-831-4017 for appointments for the dental, medical Sonography, or physical therapy clinics.

This document is for informational purposes only and is not to be construed as a binding offer or contract between the College and the student. This document was revised September 2015, and is subject to change without prior notice. This document is intended to be used with the College Catalog, which provides complete information on courses as well as College regulations and procedures.

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