

Summer 2026 Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Admission Requirements

Important Dates

2026 Summer PTA Application Dates.....**October 1, 2025 – March 1, 2026**

January 15, 2026, 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

THIS PROGRAM BEGINS IN THE SUMMER SEMESTER

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, VA 22305; 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.

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Attending a Mandatory Information Meeting is required to submit an application.

- Learn more about the physical therapist assistant career and the Harper College program curricula, admission standards and program participation requirements.
- To RSVP to an information meeting click: [Health Careers Information Session](#)

Submit College Application and Fee

- Your first step to apply to Harper if you have not previously applied.
- Visit [Harper General Application](#) to submit an online application (application fee applicable).

Submit the Program Application

- Submit your program application by visiting the PTA web page at [PTA Program Admission Process and Criteria](#) 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.

Submit Additional Documentation

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

- Official High School Transcript OR High School Equivalency (HSE) Results**
 - Submit the final high school transcript with the graduation date posted, or the HSE report which must show passing scores to processing@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 official transcripts from other colleges attended if the document(s) shows 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.
 - 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 ENG 101.
- 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.
 - Five-year time limit on BIO 260. Refer to the chart on the following page for 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 HSC 112.

- Mathematics** – MTH 101, 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 MTH 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 SPE 101.
- 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 2026:

BIO 260 – HUMAN ANATOMY (was 160)	Must be completed after January 1, 2021
BIO 261 – HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY* (was 161)	Must be completed after January 1, 2021

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

Admission Decisions

PLEASE NOTE: Satisfaction of admission requirements does not guarantee acceptance.

- Ranking scores will be calculated based on a point system with a maximum of 50 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:

Coursework	0 points	5 points	10 points	15 points	20 points
Human Anatomy: BIO 260 (was 160)	C			B	A
Medical Terminology: HSC 112	C		A or B		
Following are not required BONUS POINTS given if completed					
Human Physiology: 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 to 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 35 or higher, and
- The applicant must meet all admission requirements by **January 15, 2026, and seats must be available**.

There are 10 seats available for Early Admission. Once the 10 seats are filled, and/or any applications received after January 15, 2026, 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, A's and B's in BIO 260 (previously 160) and HSC 112 make applicants more competitive in the selection process. **Satisfaction of minimum admission requirements does not guarantee acceptance.**

Example of how to calculate your admission points

Determine your score

Course	Grade	Points	Course	Grade	Points	Bonus Options	Grade	Bonus Points	Bonus Options	Bonus Points		Total Points
Anatomy			Medical Terminology			Physiology			Bachelors			

Important Admission Notes

- It is the applicant's responsibility to meet all requirements, and that 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 and your Harper email. 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. When using personal emails be sure to check your spam folder for correspondence.
- 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 up to 6 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 may be 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. **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 #
Admissions Processing for Limited Enrollment Programs	Building X, Room X250	847.925.6533
Admissions Outreach	Building C, Room C103	847.925.6700
Academic Advising	New Students: Building C, Room C104	847.925.6208
	Previous or currently enrolled Harper students: Building A, Room A364	847.925.6220
Hawks Care Resource Center and Counseling Services	Building D, Room D204	847.925.6393
Access and Disability Services	Building I, Room I103	847.925.6266
Testing and Assessment Center	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
Transfer credit evaluation	evaluation@harpercollege.edu	847.925.6500
Registrar's Office	Building A, Room A213	847.925.6500