PTA Admission Requirements

Acceptance into the PTA program is competitive with enrollment limited to 24 students. Applicants must meet the College’s general admission requirements. Complete application must be submitted by March 10th for enrollment in the following semester. Admission to the program is based on a points system. Students are encouraged to take non-PTHA courses in order to enhance their application.

Points System: Applications will earn points based on the following criteria:

- Acceptance to San Jacinto College
- Previous Education
  - Grade of C or better in non-PTHA courses of the PTA curriculum
  - Grade of B or better in other college courses of benefit to PTA students
  - Completion of a Bachelor Degree
  - Completion of an Associate Degree
- Related Experience
  - Hours of Observation
  - PT technician/aide experience
  - Other related experience
- Letters of Recommendation
- Attendance at San Jacinto PTA information session

The top 60 or so students will be invited for the interview process which will include a meeting with the faculty and a written essay. Students with the greatest number of points will be offered acceptance.

Applicants must be complete a total of at least 40 hours of observation in physical therapy from at least two settings and have three recommendation forms.

Meeting the criteria does not guarantee admission to the PTA program. Applications for students not accepted into the program will be held as in-active for 2 years. If a student wishes to re-apply during those 2 years, the student will need to fill out a new application and check the “Reapply” box. He or she should include any updated grades or additions to his or her application. His or her documents including transcripts, recommendation forms, and observation hours will, however, remain in the students file in the PTA office for a total of two years.

Accepted applicants will be notified by the second week of June and will have 2 weeks to make a decision to accept or decline the position in the class. If positions in the program are not filled after 2 weeks, the alternate list will be contacted for acceptance in appropriate order.

Accepted students are required to have a criminal background and urine drug screen prior to admission into the program. Any student who has been convicted of misdemeanors (other than minor traffic violations), felonies, or has a positive drug screen will be contacted immediately for further instructions.
Steps to complete admission:

1. Apply for admission into San Jacinto College. Send official transcripts from colleges/universities other than San Jacinto to the registrars’ office at San Jacinto South. Ask for a transcript evaluation. Send all non-official transcripts to the PTA department.
2. Obtain necessary application forms on-line.
3. Complete PTA Program application form and submit any time after January 15th. A file for the applicant will then be initiated. Documents associated with steps 4-6 may then be submitted. All documents must be submitted by March 10th.
4. Submit documentation of observation hours. A total of 40 hours is required from at least two of the following settings: out-patient, in-patient rehabilitation, acute care hospital, pediatrics or home health. An in-patient or acute hospital setting is strongly recommended as one of the options.
5. Submit 3 recommendation forms. It is strongly suggested that one of the letters be from a PT or PTA.
6. If eligible, complete the interview process.
7. If eligible, complete criminal background and drug screen.

Recent Acceptance and Matriculation Rates:

2011: 106 applicants; 27 accepted; 25 matriculated
2011: 187 applicants; 26 accepted; 24 matriculated
2012: 188 applicants; 24 accepted; 24 likely to be matriculated in Fall 2012