

Physical Therapist Assistant

Admissions Handbook — 2027

Available on the Gloucester Campus only



RCSJ.edu



1400 Tanyard Road, Sewell, NJ 08080

Physical Therapist Assistant 2027 FACT SHEET

Portfolios Accepted: January 4, 2027 – February 26, 2027

Portfolio Deadline: February 26, 2027, at 5:00 p.m.

All Admissions Decisions Sent: *Monday, April 5, 2027*

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is for students who wish to work in a healthcare profession as a licensed Physical Therapist Assistant.

- This packet is exclusive for applicants seeking admission into the Summer 2027 PTA Program Cohort
- Anatomy I and Anatomy II **must** be taken from 2023 to present
- Observation Hours must be within 18 months of application period (*no earlier than August 27, 2025*)
- HSRT-AD Exam Required for all applicants
- Mandatory PTA Orientation for accepted Summer 2027 PTA students: August 25, 2027, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. *Students must attend orientation to maintain their seat in the program.*
- Applicants must be 18 years of age as of September 1, 2027

Information presented in this packet supersedes ALL other information obtained by the applicant and is accurate at the time of publication.



Physical Therapist Assistant

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Rowan College of South Jersey. Upon completion of all the requirements in this CAPTE accredited program, you will have earned a Physical Therapist Assistant Associate of Applied Science degree along with the skills required to perform the duties of a physical therapist assistant.

Graduates from this program are eligible to take the National Physical Therapy Examination for Physical Therapist Assistants, which is recognized by the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners. This agency governs the practice of physical therapy in the state of N.J. and issues the appropriate licenses to physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.

Carefully read the material contained in the Physical Therapist Assistant Admissions Packet as it provides the requirements for submitting a complete portfolio which will be used to rank students during the program's selective admissions process.

Since it is imperative that you understand the duties and responsibilities of a physical therapist assistant, or PTA, applicants are required to complete a minimum number of observation hours as designated in the packet. These are opportunities for you to become exposed to and familiar with the physical therapy profession.

Attendance at one of the information sessions listed in the packet is another admissions requirement. Faculty will be available to you during these sessions to answer additional questions regarding the profession or program requirements.

Best wishes as you begin your journey toward a successful future as a physical therapist assistant.

Sincerely,

Eileen E. Doyle, PTA, MS
Program Director, PTA Program

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Rowan College of South Jersey is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Avenue, Suite 100, Alexandria, VA 22305-3085; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: capteonline.org. If needing to contact the program directly, please call 856-415-2179 or email edoyle@rcsj.edu.

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Disclaimer – The content and requirements of this admission packet may be altered at any time at the discretion of the College. This packet was checked for accuracy at the time of printing but should not be considered a contract between the College and the student.



Section I:

A.A.S. PTA Program Information

- Important Information
- Program Accreditation Status
- State Requirements for PTA Licensure
- PTA Program Standards and Health Requirements
- A.A.S. PTA Programs of Study
- A.A.S. PTA Course Descriptions
- General Education Courses, GPA Requirement and Letter Grades

Important Information

The information in this packet is effective for applicants planning to enter the Physical Therapist Assistant Program beginning in May 2027

Portfolios Accepted: *January 4, 2027 – February 26, 2027*

Portfolio Deadline *Friday, February 26, 2027 at 5:00 p.m.*

All Admissions Decisions Sent on or about: *Monday, April 5, 2027*

All admissions decisions will be sent to the applicant's RCSJ email address.

– IMPORTANT –

The College is not responsible for any applicant who does not follow the instructions printed in this packet. Responsibility for correctly completing the PTA application process, both general and selective admissions, lies with the applicant. Failure to do so will result in an incomplete portfolio.

Applicants to the program must fulfill all listed admission criteria for both general and selective admissions. While admission is competitive, acceptance depends on the size and qualifications of the applicant pool. Please note: meeting or exceeding all admission criteria does not guarantee acceptance to the program. All admissions decisions are final.

Admission requirements for the program are subject to change each year. All applicants to the program must meet the requirements of the year in which they apply, including those who have previously applied to or who currently are enrolled at Rowan College of South Jersey.

Applicants may contact RCSJ at SelectiveAdmissions@rcsj.edu for answers to general questions about the process described in this packet. Information in this packet reflects policies and procedures which must be followed to be considered for admission into the 2027 Physical Therapist Assistant program.

The information presented in this packet supersedes all other information obtained by the applicant and is accurate at the time of publication.

The Rowan College of South Jersey Physical Therapist Assistant Program

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Rowan College of South Jersey is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Avenue, Suite 100, Alexandria, VA 22305-3085; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: capteonline.org.

To contact the program, please call
856-415-2179.

The field of physical therapy is regulated by the
State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners
124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, P.O. Box 45014
Newark, NJ 07101
njconsumeraffairs.gov/pt/
973-504-6455

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education's (MSCHE) Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation consist of seven standards and fifteen requirements of affiliation. Accreditation is a formal expression of confidence in an institution's performance in meeting both the Standards for Accreditation and the Requirements of Affiliation. Rowan College of South Jersey is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 3624 Market Street, 2nd Floor West, Philadelphia, PA 19104. Telephone: 267-284-5000; email: info@msche.org.

State Board of PT Examiners Requirements for Licensure

Applicants to the Physical Therapist Assistant program are advised that the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners regulates the practice of physical therapy in New Jersey and licenses physical therapists and assistants in the state. Applicants wishing to practice in a state other than New Jersey must meet the requirements set forth by the state board in the state where the person is seeking licensure or certification. All physical therapist assistant graduates must take and pass the National Physical Therapy Examination for Physical Therapist Assistants (NPTE for PTAs) to be considered for licensure or certification.

The New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (the Board) Statute N.J.S.A. 45:9-37.34b states, **"To be eligible for licensure as a physical therapist assistant, an applicant shall:**

- a. Possess at least an Associate in Arts degree from an accredited college or university;
- b. Have completed a two-year Physical Therapist Assistant program at an accredited college or university which has been approved by the board;
- c. Have experience satisfactory to the board in accordance with regulations of the board;
- d. Have successfully completed a written examination approved by the board;
- e. Be at least 18 years of age;
- f. Be of good moral character; and
- g. Meet such other requirements as may be established by the board by regulation. L.2003,c.18,s.21."

(Source: State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners Law, retrieved July 22, 2015 from njconsumeraffairs.gov/Statutes/physicaltherapylaw.pdf)

The State Board of PT Examiners requires information for licensure as a Licensed Physical Therapist Assistant in New Jersey:

1. Graduation from an CAPTE accredited two-year Physical Therapist Assistant Program
2. Criminal History Background Check clearance
3. Status of child support
4. Status of student loans
5. Citizenship/Immigration status
6. Passing the NPTE for PTA
7. Status of all professional licensures or certifications in any state or jurisdiction
8. Completed application and fees including medical conditions section
9. Pass the Jurisprudence Assessment Module for New Jersey administered by the Federation of State Boards of PT from fsbpt.org

(Source: State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, retrieved July 23, 2015 from njconsumeraffairs.gov/pt/Applications/Application-for-Licensure-as-a-Physical-Therapist-Assistant.pdf)

The State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners is located at 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ.
The mailing address is P.O. Box 45014, Newark, NJ 07101.

For complete information, contact: The Board: njconsumeraffairs.gov/pt/

NJ Application for Licensure: njconsumeraffairs.gov/pt/Pages/applications.aspx

Additional information on all State Boards of Physical Therapy is available through the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy website: fsbpt.org on the Free Resources tab, under Licensing Authorities Contact Information.

Each state Board of PT has the right to deny or defer licensure if the applicant does not fulfill all requirements for licensure.

Complaints may be addressed to the State Board of PT Examiners and FSBPT at their respective address.

PTA Program Standards

A minimum grade of "C+" is required in all courses in the PTA program of study including General Education and Science courses and students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or higher [as per the current institutional grading scale.]

PTA students must meet all pre-requisite, co-requisite and grade requirements for each college course listed in the PTA program of study in order to advance through the program. General education course pre-requisites and co-requisites are specified in the RCSJ College Catalog. Students who register for college courses must complete pre-requisite course requirements before entering the PTA program. Students who do not meet the pre-requisite and co-requisite course requirements, the required course sequence and/or grade requirements will not be able to progress in the PTA program. Pre-requisite and co-requisite requirements for program coursework can be viewed within the RCSJ College Catalog.

Competency skill testing will be conducted throughout the program. Students must demonstrate the ability to competently complete, in the time allotted, all steps of a task in order to progress to take any practical exam. Further, students must pass all required practical examinations in order to achieve a passing score in that course, thus allowing them to progress within the program and/or onto a clinical experience.

- One outcome of the PTA program is that graduates will use technology and information systems appropriately and effectively. To fulfill this outcome, students will demonstrate computer literacy and apply technology to meet course requirements. It is recommended that students have access to a computer with an optical drive and USB controller and Internet access (Note: AOL is **not** compatible with many of the applications). Computers are available to students on the RCSJ campus.
- PTA students are required to meet specific health standards. PTA applicants are notified of comprehensive health requirements upon acceptance to the program. The completed health packet will be due during the Summer 2028 semester. Health requirements are based on the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) requirements for healthcare providers. Failure to submit a completed health packet will result in forfeiting the acceptance offer. Clinical agencies reserve the right to require additional health screenings. Students are responsible for health screening costs.
- PTA students must maintain current CPR certification while in the PTA program. The level of CPR is Basic Life Support (BLS) for the Healthcare Professional and is **ONLY** acceptable through the American Heart Association. RCSJ offers a one-credit course, EXSI 105: Healthcare Provider Emergency Response with BLS Certification, that meets this requirement.
- Clinical agencies require criminal history background checks (CHBC) for all individuals engaged in patient care. A component of the CHBC includes a urine drug screen (UDS). **Upon acceptance into the PTA program, students must complete the CHBC and the urine drug screen. A completed CHBC/UDS is due no later than April 19, 2027. Students are responsible to pay all fees associated with the CHBC.**
- CHBC and UDS results are sent to the clinical agencies which have sole discretion to determine whether the student may engage in patient care at the agency.
- If a student is denied the opportunity to participate in the clinical agency as a result of CHBC and UDS findings, the student will be dismissed from the PTA program and referred to Student Services to explore other career options.

Health Requirements

Students who are accepted into the Physical Therapist Assistant program will be required to complete a health packet. The packet consists of medical clearance from a licensed health care provider. The clearance will attest that the provider is stating that the student may participate in all clinical activities without restriction. Activities include but are not limited to:

- Satisfactory cognitive and emotional functioning to ensure patient safety and exercise independent judgment and discretion in performing assigned responsibilities.
- Ability to stand for long periods of time and safely move patients with mobility issues.
- Ability to bend, stoop and lift to deliver safe patient care.
- Sufficient bilateral finger movement to manipulate medical equipment.
- Ability to communicate effectively and in a timely manner related to speaking, writing and reading.
- Sufficient hearing to communicate with patients, the healthcare team and to monitor medical equipment pertaining to patient care.
- Sufficient eyesight to observe patients in low lighting, read medical records, perform computer tasks and manipulate medical equipment.

Essential Functions for a PTA Student

Students are expected to be able to perform the following list of essential functions while in the PTA program, with or without reasonable accommodations. The PTA program fully supports the provision of reasonable accommodations to students with special needs in order to achieve program goals. These accommodations will be coordinated through a cooperative effort with the Department of Special Services which may be contacted at 845-415-2265.

The physical demands placed on the PTA student during program learning require that a participant has the ability to:

- Sit or stand for long periods of time, up to 7 hours per day, and safely move patients with mobility issues.
- Bend, stoop and lift to deliver safe patient care which includes being able to lift, carry, pull, twist and guide weights up to and including 100 pounds.
- Move with adequate agility and speed, and possess the coordination, balance and strength for guarding to ensure patient safety.
- Use visual, auditory and tactile senses to observe patients and collect and interpret data as demonstrated by,
 - Sufficient hearing to communicate with patients, the healthcare team and to monitor medical equipment pertaining to patient care.
 - Sufficient eyesight to observe patients in low lighting, read medical records, perform computer tasks and manipulate medical equipment.
- Read and interpret equipment dials, patient charts, professional literature and notes from patients, physicians and other health professionals.
- Perform sufficient bilateral finger movement to manipulate, operate and monitor various types of electrical and mechanical therapeutic equipment and apply these safely and effectively to the patient/client.
- Communicate effectively in English, in a timely manner, in verbal and written (including electronic) formats with faculty, peers, patients, families and other health professionals.
- Legibly record/document patient care notes and communications in standard medical charts in hospital/clinical settings in a timely manner and consistent with the acceptable norms of clinical settings.
- Recognize and respond appropriately to individuals of all ages, genders and races, and from all socio-economic, religious and cultural backgrounds.
- Demonstrate the physical and emotional capacity to work a 40-hour week while in the clinical setting.
- Behave in an ethically sound, competent, compassionate and professional manner in the classroom and in the clinic.
- Demonstrate satisfactory cognitive and emotional functioning to ensure patient safety, and exercise independent judgment and discretion in performing assigned responsibilities.

Curriculum

Rowan College of South Jersey Division of Nursing and Health Professions Graduation Control Sheet

Physical Therapist Assistant Program Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) – Career

This is a selective admission, day time professional program designed to prepare the Physical Therapist Assistant, or PTA, to provide interventions and components of therapeutic measurement under the direction and supervision of a licensed physical therapist. Upon graduation from the PTA program, students will be eligible to take the National Physical Therapy Examination for Physical Therapist Assistants to determine competence for licensure application and thus will be able to work in a variety of patient care settings.

FIRST YEAR –

Summer Semester

_____ ENGL 101	English Composition I	3
_____ MATH 108	College Geometry	3
_____ BIOL 105*	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
_____ PSYC 101	General Psychology	3

Semester Total **13**

Fall Semester

_____ ENGL 102	English Composition II	3
_____ BIOL 106*	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
_____ PTAS 103	Intro to Physical Therapist Assisting	3
_____ PTAS 108	Therapeutic Exercise	2
_____ PTAS 110	Kinesiology and Measurement I	3
_____ PTAS 115	Patient Care for the PTA I	2

Semester Total **17**

Spring Semester

_____ PTAS 105	Pathophysiology for the PTA	2
_____ PTAS 120	Kinesiology and Measurement II	3
_____ PTAS 125	Patient Care for the PTA II	3
_____ PTAS 203	Biophysical Agents	3

Semester Total **11**

SECOND YEAR –

Fall Semester

_____ PTAS 205	Orthopedics for the PTA	2
_____ PTAS 211	Clinical Experience I	3
_____ PTAS 213	Geriatrics and Special Populations	2
_____ PTAS 217	Cardiovascular and Pulmonary PT	3
_____ PTAS 202	Lifespan Neurorehabilitation	5

Semester Total **15**

Spring Semester

_____ PTAS 221	Clinical Experience II	5
_____ PTAS 231	Clinical Experience III	5
_____ PTAS 245	Seminar in PTA Professionalism	2

Semester Total **12**

Total Minimum Credits: 68

Physical Therapist Assistant is a selective admission program. Students must be accepted to the program prior to registering for any PTA courses.

Clinical agencies require criminal history background checks (CHBC) and urine drug screening (UDS) for all individuals engaged in patient care. All students must undergo a CHBC and UDS upon acceptance into the PTA Program. CHBC and UDS results may be sent to the clinical agencies which have the sole discretion to decide if the student may engage in patient care at the agency. If a student is denied the opportunity to participate in the clinical agency as a result of the findings of the CHBC and UDS, the student will be dismissed from the PTA Program. A minimum grade of "C+" is required in all courses in the PTA program of study including General Education and Science courses and students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or higher [as per the current institutional grading scale.] Physical Therapist Assistant students must meet all pre-requisite, co-requisite and grade requirements for each college course listed in the Physical Therapist Assistant program of study to advance through the Physical Therapist Assistant program. Course pre-requisites and co-requisites are specified in the RCSJ college catalog. Students who do not meet pre-requisite and co-requisite course requirements and/or grade requirements will not be able to progress in the Physical Therapist Assistant program.

Physical Therapist Assistant students must meet all pre-requisite, co-requisite and grade requirements for each college course listed in the Physical Therapist Assistant program of study to advance through the Physical Therapist Assistant program. Course pre-requisites and co-requisites are specified in the RCSJ college catalog. Students who do not meet pre-requisite and co-requisite course requirements and/or grade requirements will not be able to progress in the Physical Therapist Assistant program.

* Refer to the course description section of the college catalog for prerequisite and co-requisite course requirements.

Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Course Descriptions

These courses are open only to students who have been accepted into the PTA program.
All technical courses must be passed with a grade of "C+" or higher (percentage grade of 77% or higher.)

PTAS 103 Introduction to PT Assisting: 3 credits (3 Lecture)

This course will provide an introduction to the physical therapy profession, including a history of the American Physical Therapy Association; the role of the PTA as a member of the health care team; the PT/PTA relationship; physical therapy practice settings and specialties; as well as an introduction to physical therapy regulations, ethics, patient communication, patient health care records and documentation.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in ENGL 101

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 115

PTAS 108 Therapeutic Exercise: 2 credits (2 Lecture)

This course will examine the fundamentals and physiological effects of therapeutic exercise and techniques. Students will be introduced to the principles of range of motion, stretching, resistance, aerobic, and balance exercise. This course will also identify methods for physical therapy professionals to be effective change agents in the promotion of public health, prevention, and wellness initiatives.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in BIOL 105

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 110 & PTAS 115

PTAS 110 Kinesiology and Measurement I: 3 credits (1 Lecture/ 2 Lab)

Building upon Anatomy & Physiology I, this course will provide an in-depth study of the biomechanical principles and anatomical structures responsible for human movement with a focus on the upper extremities and spine. Students will be expected to demonstrate in lab competency with palpation of anatomical landmarks, assessing anthropometric measurements, muscle strength, joint range of motion, and application of therapeutic exercise. Documentation regarding data collection and treatment interventions will also be included.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in BIOL 105 & MATH 108

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in BIOL 106, PTAS 108, & PTAS 115

PTAS 115 Patient Care for the PTA I: 2 credits (1 Lecture/ 1 Lab)

This course will introduce students to fundamental patient care skills and assessment techniques, including patient interviewing, vital signs, body mechanics, positioning, bed mobility, aseptic techniques, and basic wound care. During laboratory time, students will practice skills utilizing simulated patient care scenarios prior to being assessed through skill competency testing and practical examinations.

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 103, PTAS 110, & PTAS 108

PTAS 105 Pathophysiology for the PTA: 2 credits (2 Lecture)

The student is introduced to the medical and surgical conditions most frequently encountered in PT departments, with emphasis on the role of the PTA in the treatment of each. The basic inflammatory and healing processes, and the principles of treatments to promote healing are covered. Students will become familiarized with the essential nature of diseases, and abnormalities of structure, and function that are characteristic of diseases. Students will receive an introduction to pharmacology and to the systematic review of professional literature to research PT-related diagnoses.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in BIOL 106 & ENGL 102

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 125

PTAS 120 Kinesiology and Measurement II: 3 credits (1 Lecture/ 2 Lab)

This course will provide an in-depth study of the biomechanical principles and anatomical structures responsible for human movement with a focus on the pelvis and lower extremities, posture, and gait. Students will be expected to demonstrate in lab competency with palpation of anatomical landmarks, assessing muscle strength, joint range of motion and application of therapeutic exercise. Documentation regarding data collection and treatment interventions will also be included.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 110, PTAS 108

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 125 & PTAS 203

PTAS 125 Patient Care for the PTA II: 3 credits (1 Lecture/ 2 Lab)

This course is designed to provide students with fundamental patient care skills and assessment techniques including transfer techniques, gait training, therapeutic exercise, and wheelchair management. During laboratory time, students will practice skills utilizing simulated patient care scenarios prior to being assessed through skill competency testing and practical examinations.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 103 & PTAS 115

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 105 & PTAS 120

Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Course Descriptions – continued

PTAS 203 Biophysical Agents: 3 credits (2 Lecture/ 1 Lab)

This course is designed to prepare students for the safe and effective application of therapeutic modalities in physical therapy practice. Mechanisms of action, indications, contraindications, precautions, and parameters will be covered for the use of superficial and deep heat; cryotherapy, mechanical compression; electrotherapy; spinal traction; therapeutic massage; hydrotherapy; and light therapy. Lecture and laboratory activities will develop problem solving and critical thinking skills regarding the use of therapeutic modalities and skills will be assessed to competence level.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 110

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 120

PTAS 205 Orthopedics for the PTA: 2 credits (2 Lecture)

This course builds upon the concepts introduced in *Kinesiology and Measurement I & II*, with a focus on common orthopedic injuries, disorders, and surgeries. PTA students will receive instruction on the phases of musculoskeletal tissue healing, treatment interventions, patient education, and therapeutic exercise progression within the plan of care developed by the supervising physical therapist.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 125 & PTAS 105

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 213, PTAS 202, PTAS 211, & PTAS 217

PTAS 211 Clinical Experience I: 3 credits (135 clinical hours)

This is an integrated clinical affiliation used to introduce the Student Physical Therapist Assistant (SPTA) to the operational procedures of a clinical setting. The student will be immersed in patient-client interactions as well as the PT-PTA relationship, and will be expected to perform at the advanced beginner level for skills in data collection techniques and mobility training. The SPTA must maintain proficiency in all areas of patient safety.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 120, PTAS 125, & PTAS 203

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 213, PTAS 202, PTAS 205, & PTAS 217

PTAS 213 Geriatrics and Special Populations: 2 credits (2 Lecture)

This course is designed to prepare students with the knowledge to care for older adults and other special populations. Students will learn evidence-based approaches based on the unique needs, challenges, and considerations when working with geriatric, sports medicine, complex medical, and other individuals with diverse health conditions. Students will also build upon previously learned knowledge to address healthcare disparities in physical therapy practice.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 120 & PTAS 105

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 202, PTAS 211, PTAS 205, & PTAS 217

PTAS 217 Cardiovascular and Pulmonary PT: 3 credits (1 Lecture/ 2 Lab)

This course will focus on assessment techniques and treatment interventions for cardiovascular and pulmonary pathologies, as well as assessment and treatment for patients with amputations. Knowledge and skills learned in lecture and laboratory will be assessed through skill-competency testing, written examinations, and practical examinations.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 125 & PTAS 105

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 213, PTAS 202, PTAS 211, & PTAS 205

PTAS 202 Lifespan Neurorehabilitation: 5 credits (3 Lecture/ 2 Lab)

This course will focus on the characteristics and treatment of pediatric and adult neurological disorders, as well as their impact on human motor development. Students will be taught the concepts of motor control and motor learning development, as well as the theory and practical application of treatment interventions utilized for the treatment of patients with neurological disorders. The focus will be on patient function including assessment instruments used to identify and document architectural barriers and the level of assistance needed for performance of activities of daily living. Skills learned in lab will be tested to a level of competence throughout the semester.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in PSYC 101, PTAS 125, & PTAS 105

Pre/Co-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 213, PTAS 211, PTAS 205, & PTAS 217

PTAS 221 Clinical Experience II: 5 credits (225 clinical hours)

Knowledge and skills learned in all PTA Program coursework will be integrated and applied to direct patient care during this 6-week full-time clinical education experience. By the conclusion of the experience, students will be expected to safely perform quality physical therapy care for routine patients with minimal supervision and guidance from the supervising physical therapist.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 213, PTAS 202, PTAS 211, PTAS 205, & PTAS 217

Co-req.: PTAS 245

Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Course Descriptions – continued

PTAS 231 Clinical Experience III: 5 credits (225 clinical hours)

Knowledge and skills learned in all PTA Program coursework will be integrated and applied to direct patient care during this 6-week full-time clinical education experience. By the conclusion of the experience, students will be expected to safely perform quality physical therapy care at the level of an entry level physical therapist assistant.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 221

Co-req.: PTAS 245

PTAS 245 Seminar in PTA Professionalism: 2 credits (2 Lecture)

This capstone course is designed to further develop the professional behaviors and expectations of an entry-level physical therapist assistant including exploration of topics related to ethics and jurisprudence. Assignments will include completing the steps necessary to apply for the National Physical Therapy Exam and for state licensure. Students will be expected to participate in the implementation of a community-based or volunteer service learning project.

Pre-req.: "C+" or better in PTAS 211

Co-req.: PTAS 221, PTAS 231

General Education Courses, Letter Grades and GPA Requirement

General Education Courses

An applicant may enroll in general education courses at the College prior to acceptance into the PTA program. Applicants may use the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) to meet the general education course work requirement as long as the total score is equal to or greater than the ACE Recommended Credit-Grading Score. For more information and arrangements to take a CLEP subject exam please contact the RCSJ Testing Center at 856-415-2268.

Students are encouraged to take any of the General Education courses included in the PTA Curriculum prior to applying, if possible. Applicants are encouraged to work with their academic advisor for proper course sequencing.

A student who has no previous experience with health care terminology may consider taking one of the courses offered at the College to increase their competency in this area. Gloucester campus students can take HPRF 102, Medical Terminology (3 credits). This course provides students with a working vocabulary of medical terms.

A student who has limited or no computer experience should consider taking one of the computer courses offered at the College which will provide you with knowledge of Microsoft Office Professional for Windows and experience with the internet. Gloucester campus students can take CISM 101, Introduction to Computers (4 credits).

Math skills, including geometric functions, are essential to succeed in the PTA program. Students interested in taking additional math courses to improve their skills should consult with their academic advisor for course suggestions.

GPA Verification

A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.50 is required for consideration for admission into the program. Verification of the student's cumulative GPA must be documented by submitting an official transcript from the current or most recent school of attendance. RCSJ students will submit an unofficial transcript in their portfolio.

Attention RCSJ Students: *Please be aware that the RCSJ student's cumulative GPA must be a 2.50 or higher to start the PTA program.* Applicants who have previous coursework that prevents their RCSJ GPA from meeting the minimum requirement should work with their Academic Advisor for possible options.

Letter Grades

Some colleges do not operate on the plus or minus grading scale. Students transferring coursework from a college that does not use a plus or minus grading scale will need to earn a letter grade of B or better for coursework in the Physical Therapist Assistant program that requires a minimum grade of "C+."

For more clarification on this policy, students can contact SelectiveAdmissions@rcsj.edu.



Section II:

Admissions

- Frequently Asked Questions
- General Admissions, Gloucester Campus
- Portfolio Requirements
- Prerequisite Course Requirements
- Selective Admissions Ranking Criteria
- 2027 Information Session Dates and Registration Information
- HSRT-AD Exam Information and Registration Information
- Transcript Policies
- Transfer Students
- Science Course Transfer Policies

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How many students do we accept per year?

A: The Physical Therapist Assistant program can accept a maximum of 18 students per year.

Q: Do you have a rolling deadline?

A: The portfolio deadline is firm — no portfolios are accepted after the posted deadline. All admissions decisions are made after the deadline.

Q: If I score below the minimum requirements/don't meet the requirements outlined, can I still apply & be accepted?

A: **No.** All applicants must meet all general and selective admissions criteria at time of portfolio submission. Students who do not meet the minimum qualifications will be marked as incomplete and not eligible for the program.

Q: Admissions has all of my transcripts on file, is it necessary to include them in my portfolio?

A: **Yes,** all official college transcripts must be resubmitted in the portfolio. Students must resubmit a high school transcript only if they are using a high school lab science to apply and/or the Admissions office does not have a copy on file.

Q: I finished all of the general education courses in the A.A.S. Physical Therapist Assistant curriculum. Does this mean I can finish the program sooner?

A: **No.** The program takes a full four semesters of coursework and cannot be accelerated or decelerated in any way. All PTA technical phase courses must be completed in the order in which they appear on the program of study.

Q: Do I need to take the HSRT-AD exam if I have an advanced degree or have taken the HESI, SAT/ACT or GRE?

A: The HSRT exam is required for all applicants and is non-negotiable. Previous HSRT scores do not carry an expiration date for the 2027 Physical Therapist Assistant program.

Frequently Asked Questions (*cont'd*)

Q: I have a higher/different math than College Geometry. Can I use that instead?

A: **No.** College Geometry is the required math course for the PTA program and is non-negotiable. Different math courses (Statistics, PreCalculus, Intermediate Algebra, Calculus, etc.) cannot be used in place of College Geometry.

Q: Where can I set up my observation hours?

A: RCSJ does not provide potential sites for students to complete their observation hours requirement. Students are encouraged to reach out to a PT/PTA they are interested in shadowing directly to establish observation hours. Students can also use the **APTA.org** "Find a PT" database for available, local PTs near their location.

Q: I am transferring from another school. Will you accept my credits?

A: General education courses may be eligible to transfer to the PTA program. Students transferring from another PTA programs should be advised that PTA courses cannot transfer from school to school. Transfer students should have their transfer credits evaluated prior to submitting a PTA portfolio. Please find more information on pages 26–28 of this packet.

Q: Is the time limit just on the lab science or does that also apply to general education classes?

A: Anatomy & Physiology I and Anatomy & Physiology II courses must be no older than **four years** from point of entry to the PTA program. All other general education classes do not carry an expiration date.

Q: What if my Anatomy & Physiology courses are expired?

A: Students with expired Anatomy & Physiology courses will need to retake the course to update the content. There is no longer a test-out option.

Q: How is the cumulative GPA calculated?

A: The cumulative GPA is taken from the institution the applicant either currently attends or most recently attended. This is verified from inclusion of the student's official transcript in the portfolio. If the student attended more than one institution, the GPAs are not combined and only the most recent cumulative GPA is used. Cumulative GPA does not affect overall admissions ranking to the PTA program.

Q: I met or exceeded all minimum requirements, so that means I am accepted, right?

A: **No.** Admission to the PTA program is not guaranteed. All applicants are ranked objectively based on the published criteria (see page 16). Meeting or exceeding minimum requirements does not guarantee acceptance. All applicants should put their best foot forward when submitting their portfolio.

Application Process

All selective admission programs at Rowan College of South Jersey have a unique, two-step application process that is necessary due to the College's open general admission policy.

Both application processes must be completed correctly at the Gloucester campus in order for your PTA application to be considered for acceptance. Failure to do so will result in an incomplete portfolio.

Note: *Personal letters of recommendation and character references are **not** considered toward admission.*

STEP 1 General Admission

General Admission is the first step of application to the PTA program. This process will provide students with acceptance to the College, but not to the PTA program. If there are questions regarding application status or an application is needed, contact the Admissions Office at 856-415-2209.

1. Complete and submit a general admission application online at ***RCSJ.edu/Apply***
2. Students must submit an official copy of their high school transcript documenting high school graduation (or earned GED) to the Admissions Office. This is required for **all** applicants, regardless of additional degrees earned.
3. Satisfy the RCSJ Placement Test requirement based on one of the following:
 - meet one of the exemption criteria
 - test above the remedial level in all areas
 - complete all required remediation

Please see the next page for detailed information about completing the general admissions process for the Gloucester Campus.

STEP 2 Selective Admission

Once the general admission process is complete, students are ready to begin the second step in the application process: submission of the PTA portfolio. Each PTA applicant is required to gather all documentation listed on the checklist and present it to the Admissions Office as a completed portfolio. Once submitted, the portfolio is a final document and property of the College. Students cannot add, remove or edit any documents in their portfolio.

The 2027 PTA portfolio can be found at ***RCSJ.edu/SelectiveAdmissions***

A complete portfolio consists of the following documents:

1. **Portfolio Checklist**
2. **2027 PTA Application**
3. **General Admissions Completion Form**
(Signed by applicant and RCSJ Admissions)
4. **Portfolio Submission Agreement**
5. **PTA Admissions Ranking Scoresheet**
6. **HRST-AD Admission Assessment Exam Test Scores**
7. **2027 Information Session Proof of Attendance Email**
8. **Official physical transcripts from ALL colleges attended*** *(must obtain from each college and be in a sealed envelope)*
9. **Verification of GPA of at least 2.50 from last school of attendance**
10. **PTA Observation Documentation Form**

Note: *If accepted into the program, applicable college credits will automatically be transferred*

**RCSJ transcript can be unofficial*

General Admissions – Gloucester Campus

Step 1: Apply and Submit Official Documents

A. Complete the free online application at [RCSJ.edu/Apply](https://rcsj.edu/Apply)

- **New** students are recommended to declare **A.A.S. Health Science** as their course of study.
- **Current** students do not need to reapply to the College, but should verify application status with Admissions Office and verify their personal information (including mailing address, telephone number and email) are current with the Student Records Office.
- **Returning** students who have either not attended the College in over a year or recently earned another degree from RCSJ must complete a new application to the College.
- **Graduating HSOP Students** (class of 2027) and Visiting (Non-matriculated) Students will need to complete an application to the College as a new, degree-seeking student.
- Designation as a potential PTA applicant does not guarantee nor imply special consideration for acceptance to the PTA program.

B. Send official high school transcript or high school equivalency documents and any official college transcripts to the Gloucester Admissions Office via the office email address: admissions@rcsj.edu. Transcripts must be issued directly from the institution.

Mailed documents may be sent to the following address:

Rowan College South Jersey
ATTN: Admissions Office
1400 Tanyard Rd
Sewell, NJ 08080

Step 2: Satisfy Placement Test Requirements

Students interested in applying to Selective Admissions programs (including the Physical Therapist Assistant program) must satisfy the College's traditional placement testing requirements. All applicants to the PTA program must demonstrate college-level placement in reading, writing and math **prior** to submission of a portfolio.

Applicants may be exempt from the College's placement exam if they meet certain exemption criteria. Information about placement test exemption criteria can be found on the Testing Center website: [RCSJ.edu/student-services/campus-services/testing-services/](https://rcsj.edu/student-services/campus-services/testing-services/)

Unless the applicant meets one of the exemption criteria or tests above the remedial level in all areas, they must complete all required remediation before applying to the PTA program. Per Administrative Procedure 8017, course work used for test exemption must be equivalent to a grade of "C" or better at RCSJ.

General admission application status and placement test exemption status is verified through the General Admissions Completion Form. This form must be completed and signed by an RCSJ admissions representative on the Gloucester campus **prior** to submitting the portfolio.

Contact Information

General Admissions Office: [RCSJ.edu/gc/Enroll](https://rcsj.edu/gc/Enroll)

Phone: 856-415-2209

Email: admissions@rcsj.edu

Testing Center: [RCSJ.edu/gc/Testing](https://rcsj.edu/gc/Testing)

Phone: 856-415-2268

Email: ssc@rcsj.edu

Selective Admissions, Gloucester:

[RCSJ.edu/SelectiveAdmissions](https://rcsj.edu/SelectiveAdmissions)

General Email: SelectiveAdmissions@rcsj.edu

Contact information is accurate at time of publication

PTA Portfolio Requirements

Once the general admissions process is complete, students are ready to begin the second step in the application process: submission of the PTA portfolio.

Each PTA applicant is required to gather all documentation listed on the checklist (page 27) and present it to the Gloucester Admissions Office as a completed portfolio. Once submitted, the portfolio is a final document and property of the College. **Applicants may not add, remove or edit their portfolio once submitted to the College.**

All documentation must be submitted in a large manila envelope to the Gloucester campus no later than February 26, 2027 at 5 p.m. Late submissions are not considered for admission.

Electronic submissions are not accepted.

The following items are REQUIRED for all applicants to the Physical Therapist Assistant program at time of portfolio submission:

1. Completed General Application to Gloucester campus

- General Application
- Submission of High School Transcript
- Satisfied Placement Test Requirements

2. Attended one Information Session for the 2027 PTA program

- Proof of attendance email must be printed and included in portfolio

3. Submission of official HSRT-AD Exam Score Report

- Must be in a sealed envelope from the Testing Center
- Scores from only *one* attempt at the exam can be used for admissions

4. Completion of a 2027 PTA Portfolio. The Portfolio is available online at RCSJ.edu/SelectiveAdmissions:

- Portfolio Checklist
- 2027 PTA Application
- General Admissions Completion Form
- Portfolio Submission Agreement
- PTA Admissions Ranking Scoresheet
- PTA Observation Hours Documentation Form

5. Submission or Resubmission of ALL official college transcripts, if applicable

(in sealed envelopes obtained from institution)

- RCSJ Transcript can be unofficial.
- Printed copies of electronic transcripts are not considered official

6. Submission or Resubmission of official high school transcript, if applicable *(in sealed envelope obtained from high school) Not required if official copy is on file with general admissions office.*

7. Verification of GPA of at least 2.50 from last school of attendance *(verified from submission of official transcript)*

Note: All Selective Admission Requirements and General Admissions requirements **must** be satisfied at the time of portfolio submission in order to be considered eligible for the PTA program.

PTA Admissions Ranking Criteria

Value of Points Toward Admission Ranking	— IMPORTANT — All applicants are ranked objectively based on the criteria below. Applicants are required to submit minimum qualifying scores in all areas to be considered eligible. Meeting or exceeding minimum requirements does <i>not</i> guarantee acceptance.
33.34%	Health Science Reasoning Test—Associate Degree (HSRT-AD) Exam Previous HESI and TEAS scores not accepted. <i>No Rounding of Scores Accepted.</i> Scores from only one attempt may be submitted for admission. Minimum Composite Score: 72
33.33%	Science Course Requirement Must be taken from 2023–present Final grade received must be equivalent to a “C+” or better <i>The highest completed science grade of “C+” or better submitted will be used for admission ranking</i> Applicants will choose one of the following options for admissions ranking purposes: A. Lab Biology High School: 1 year each or College Level: 1 semester each Acceptable BIO class options: <i>BIOL 107, BIOL 101, BIOL 102, high school Biology</i> OR B. Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab College level only/equivalent to RCSJ’s BIOL 105 OR C. Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab College level only/equivalent to RCSJ’s BIOL 106 • Applicants transferring Anatomy I and/or Anatomy II from another college should verify transferability well before submission of their portfolio
33.33%	Cumulative GPA Requirement Minimum Cumulative GPA: 2.50 Verified from official transcript from school the applicant currently attends or most recently attended at time of portfolio submission. <i>No Rounding of GPA Accepted.</i> GPA will be calculated to the hundredth digit. High school seniors will use their weighted GPA, if available.

2027 PTA Information Sessions

All PTA Information Sessions are presented through Zoom webinar.

- Attendance at one information session is mandatory in order to apply to the 2027 PTA program and must be completed prior to submission of the portfolio.
- Portfolios submitted without proof of attendance are marked as incomplete and not considered for admission.
- Information sessions expire annually. Applicants must attend a new information session for the year in which they apply.
- **Registration is required** for each information session. Links to register will open 2 weeks prior to the session date and close a half-hour prior to the session start time. Please use an email address you check regularly to register for the session to ensure you receive the correct Zoom link.

To register for an information session, please visit the website:
RCSJ.edu/admissions-aid/steps-to-enroll/selective-admissions/physical-therapist-assistant-selective-admissions/

2027 PTA Program Information Sessions		
Wednesday	September 16, 2026	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	October 22, 2026	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday	November 17, 2026	10:00 a.m.
Monday	December 7, 2026	3:00 p.m.
Wednesday	January 27, 2027	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	February 18, 2027	10:00 a.m.

****This is the FINAL information session for the 2027 PTA program.***

No additional information sessions will be offered after this date.

*Information session dates and times are accurate at time of publication.
Any and all updates will be posted on the Selective Admissions website for both campuses.*

2027 PTA Information Session (cont'd)

What to Expect at Your Information Session

Webinar Logistics

- Attendees are encouraged to review the Zoom website for the basics of joining a Zoom webinar before their information session: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115004954946-Joining-and-participating-in-a-Zoom-Webinar>
- Each session will start promptly at the advertised time and will last about 1.5 to 2 hours.
- The Webinar will lock 10 minutes after the start of the session. Late entries are strictly prohibited.
Please plan accordingly!
- Attendees are strongly recommended to join the webinar from a laptop or desktop computer for optimal viewing experience. Attendees who join the webinar from their cell phone or tablet do so at their own risk.

3 Informational Segments

- **Admissions:** Representatives from the Admissions office will review the two-step application process for the PTA program.
- **Program:** Representatives from the PTA program will review program information and other requirements.
- **Q&A:** Attendees will have an opportunity to ask and have questions answered by panelists in attendance. Questions can be typed in the chat box and will be answered either "live on-air" at the end of the information session or privately by one of the panelists in attendance.
 - Questions may also be submitted ahead of the session to SelectiveAdmissions@rcsj.edu.

Proof of Attendance

- Applicants are required to stay the entire length of the webinar to receive credit.
- Attendance is determined by registration and log-in data. Applicants who leave the session early will not receive credit for attending and will need to attend another session. **Plan ahead!**
- A receipt of attendance* will be emailed directly to the student using the email address provided in the registration form. Applicants must print the receipt and include in their 2027 PTA portfolio.

**This email may arrive 1–3 business days after the session and may go to your junk/spam folder.*

Please Note!

All applicants must attend one information session date for the 2027 PTA Program.

New Student Orientation, individual appointments with Admissions staff or Advisement staff and the College's Open House do not count as valid information sessions.

Health Science Reasoning Test (Associate Degree) – HSRT-AD

About the Exam

The Health Science Reasoning Test – Associates Degree (HSRT-AD) is a multiple-choice test specifically designed for two-year and certificate programs. The HSRT-AD is an online test administered in a timed setting and measures critical thinking as well as quantitative reasoning skills. The HSRT-AD presents a variety of scenarios in clinical and professional practice contexts with information provided in text-based and diagrammatic formats.

HSRT-AD questions ask test takers to apply their skills in order to:

- Make interpretations
- Analyze information
- Draw inferences and warranted inferences
- Identify claims and reasons
- Evaluate the quality of arguments

All applicants are required to earn a minimum score of 72 to apply to the 2027 Physical Therapist Assistant Program

Note: *HSRT-AD scores submitted below the minimum required score will result in an incomplete portfolio. Incomplete portfolios are not considered for acceptance.*

Sample questions are available at: ***[Insightassessment.com/article/sample-thinking-skills-questions](https://insightassessment.com/article/sample-thinking-skills-questions)***

HSRT-AD Testing Logistics

- Students are not permitted to test more than three times per application cycle. The 2027 application cycle runs from March 1, 2026 to February 26, 2027.
- HSRT Scores do not expire.
- The HSRT-AD is computerized and timed (*will not exceed an hour*).
- The cost of the HSRT-AD is \$50 (*fee subject to change*).
- A fee of \$15 will be charged for late registration or rescheduling of test date.
- Proof of payment is required for registration.
- Seating is limited, plan accordingly.
- Pay particular attention to the registration deadlines!
- Test dates often fill up before the late deadline.
- All applicants will need to provide an official score report in a sealed envelope issued by the Testing Center where they took the exam in their PTA portfolio.

HSRT-AD Testing Locations

Applicants must take the HSRT-AD at either the Gloucester or Cumberland campus. Exams taken at another institution will not be acceptable for admission.

Testing dates may vary at each campus. It is the applicant's responsibility to confirm their registration and payment at the Testing Center offering their selected test date.

RCSJ's Testing Centers

Cumberland Campus
3322 College Drive
Vineland, NJ 08360
testing@cc.rcsj.edu

Gloucester Campus
1400 Tanyard Road
Sewell, NJ 08080
ssc@rcsj.edu

Testing Information: HSRT-AD Exam (Gloucester)

- Registration must be completed in-person at the Testing Center where you plan to take the exam.
- Gloucester Campus Testing Center is in the Student Services Building, Room 1162.
- Applicants will need to provide payment at time of registration.
- Official score report is available for next-day pickup, with proof of ID. Testers will receive instructions for score pickup after test completion.
- Only qualifying score reports will be issued.

Gloucester Campus HSRT-AD Test Dates 2026-2027			
Date of Test		Regular Deadline \$50	Late Deadline \$65
Monday	5/18/2026	Monday, May 4, 2026	Thursday May 14, 2026
Thursday	6/11/2026	Thursday, May 28, 2026	Wednesday, June 10, 2026
Tuesday	6/16/2026	Tuesday, June 2, 2026	Monday, June 15, 2026
Tuesday	7/7/2026	Tuesday, June 23, 2026	Monday, July 6, 2026
Thursday	7/23/2026	Thursday, July 9th, 2026	Wednesday, July 22, 2026
Wednesday	8/12/2026	Wednesday, July 29th, 2026	Tuesday, August 11, 2026
Wednesday	9/9/2026	Wednesday, August 26th, 2026	Tuesday, September 8th, 2026
Thursday	9/10/2026	Thursday, August 27th, 2026	Wednesday, September 9th, 2026
Friday	10/2/2026	Friday, September 18th, 2026	Thursday, October 1st, 2026
Tuesday	10/20/2026	Tuesday, October 6th, 2026	Monday, October 19th, 2026
Monday	11/9/2026	Monday, October 26th, 2026	Friday, November 6th, 2026
Thursday	11/19/2026	Thursday, November 5th, 2026	Wednesday, November 18th, 2026
Wednesday	12/2/2026	Wednesday, November 18th, 2026	Tuesday, December 1st, 2026
Tuesday	12/15/2026	Tuesday, December 1st, 2026	Monday, December 14th, 2026
Friday	1/15/2027	Wednesday, December 23, 2026	Thursday, January 14th, 2027
Monday	1/25/2027	Monday, January 11th, 2027	Friday, January 22, 2027
Tuesday	2/9/2027	Tuesday, January 26th, 2027	Monday, February 8th, 2027
Wednesday	2/17/2027	Wednesday, February 3rd, 2027	Tuesday, February 16th, 2027
Friday	2/19/2027	Friday, February 5th, 2027	Thursday, February 18th, 2027
Monday	2/22/2027	Monday, February 8th, 2027	Friday, February 19th, 2027
Wednesday	2/24/2027	Wednesday, February 10th, 2027	Tuesday, February 23rd, 2027

Testing Information: HSRT-AD Exam (Cumberland)

- Registration for a Cumberland campus date may be completed in-person at the Testing Center or by emailing testing@cc.rcsj.edu.
- Cumberland Campus Testing Center is in Arpino Education and Humanities Building, 1st Floor, Testing Lab (#2 on Campus Map)
- Applicants will need to provide payment at time of registration.
- Official score report is available for next-day pickup, with proof of ID. Testers will receive instructions for score pickup after test completion.
- Only qualifying score reports will be issued.

Cumberland HSRT - Test Dates 2026-2027 @ 9am & 11am		
<i>*Regular deadline is 2 weeks before the exam date. Add \$15 to the exam fee after the deadline.</i>		
<i>*There is a \$15 rescheduling fee.</i>		
Date of Test	Regular Deadline (\$50)	*Add \$15 to exam fee after this date
Thursday 5/7/2026		4/23/2026
Thursday 6/4/2026		5/21/2026
Thursday 7/30/2026		7/16/2026
Wednesday 8/19/2026		8/5/2026
Thursday 8/20/2026		8/6/2026
Wednesday 9/23/2026		9/9/2026
Thursday 9/24/2026		9/10/2026
Wednesday 10/28/2026		10/14/2026
Thursday 10/29/2026		10/15/2026
Wednesday 11/4/2026		10/21/2026
Thursday 11/5/2026		10/22/2026
Wednesday 12/2/2026		11/18/2026
Thursday 12/3/2026		11/19/2026
Wednesday 1/27/2027		1/13/2027
Thursday 1/28/2027		1/14/2027
Wednesday 2/17/2027		2/3/2027
Thursday 2/18/2027		2/4/2027
Wednesday 2/24/2027		2/10/2027
Thursday 2/25/2027		2/11/2027

RCSJ Placement Test

All applicants to the PTA program must demonstrate college level placement in reading, writing and math prior to submission of a PTA portfolio.

Applicants will submit a completed **General Admissions Completion Form** to verify exemption from or fulfillment of placement test requirements. The form must be completed by the applicant and an admissions representative. Once both sections are completed and signed, the student can submit in the portfolio.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure they meet or exceed placement test requirements prior to submission of a PTA portfolio. Unless students meet one of the exemption criteria or tests above the remedial level in all areas, they must complete all required remediation before applying to the program. Per Administrative Procedure 8017, course work used for test exemption must be equivalent to a grade of "C" or better at RCSJ.

questions regarding the RCSJ Placement Test or registering for the test, contact the RCSJ Testing Center at 856-415-2268.

For questions about RCSJ Placement Test exemption or getting the General Admissions Completion Form signed, contact the Admissions Office at 856-415-2209.

PTA Observation Hours

Rowan College of South Jersey requires that applicants complete a minimum of twenty (20) hours of observation in at least two different sites which provide Physical Therapy services. These hours do not contribute to an applicant's overall admissions ranking but are required for application to the program.

Applicants must visit a minimum of two (2) to a maximum of three (3) different sites to complete their observation hours. Applicants may complete their observation hours in an inpatient setting, outpatient setting, or a combination of the two. Applicants can visit two different sites under the same parent company to complete their observation hours.

Observation hours must be within the past eighteen (18 months) to be considered for the 2027 PTA program.

Observation hours completed prior to August 27, 2025 will not be honored.

Observation may be completed with a licensed Physical Therapist or licensed/certified Physical Therapist Assistant, and hours will be accepted only if signed by the supervising PTA or PT. These signatures must be legible. **Applicants must include a business card or a note on company letterhead for each supervising PT/PTA they observe as part of their documentation form.**

Rowan College South Jersey does not provide potential sites for students to complete their observation hours requirement. Students are encouraged to reach out to a PT/PTA they are interested in shadowing directly to establish observation hours. Students can also use the APTA.org "Find a PT" database for available, local PTs near their location.

Observation credit should be given only for actual time spent observing patient care by a supervising clinician. Individuals working as paid employees in a physical therapy department may not use their regular working hours to complete applicable portions of this requirement.

Observation hours completed for a previous educational program of study will not be accepted toward fulfillment of the PTA program portfolio requirement.

All sections of the **PTA Observation Documentation Form** must be filled out completely and legibly. PTA faculty and administration will verify the hours on the documentation form for accuracy and legitimacy. An example of how to complete an entry is provided on the first line of the Observation Sheet for you. Additional copies of the form are acceptable, if needed. Improperly documented observation hours may result in an incomplete portfolio and not considered for acceptance.

Properly documented observation hours will be accepted on forms from other educational institutions as long as there has been pre-approval by the Physical Therapist Assistant Program Director prior to submission of the applicant's portfolio.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Rowan College of South Jersey is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Avenue, Suite 100, Alexandria, VA 22305-3085; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: capteonline.org. If needing to contact the program directly, please call 856-415-2179 or email edoyle@rcsj.edu

Transcripts

Transcripts previously sent to RCSJ for the general admission file will not be added to the portfolio; therefore, students must resubmit their official transcripts in their portfolio. Please follow the guidance below for information about which transcripts must be included in the portfolio.

Applicants are encouraged to contact the Admissions Office for clarification on which transcripts may need to be submitted or resubmitted. Failure to submit or resubmit required transcripts will result in an incomplete portfolio. Incomplete portfolios are not considered for acceptance to the PTA program.

High School Transcripts

For general admission to RCSJ (step 1, page 12), submission of an official copy of the student's high school transcript documenting high school graduation (or earned GED) is **mandatory** for all applicants, including those who may have earned additional college degree(s). This transcript must be issued directly from the high school. RCSJ uses the final letter or number grade listed on the transcript for admissions consideration, regardless of course weight (honors, Advanced Placement, etc.)

Be aware that college level courses taken while in high school through dual credit programs may have generated a college transcript. It is the student's responsibility to confer with their high school counselor about dual credit agreements with other institutions and request official college transcripts for their dual credit courses.

Applicants who have already submitted their official high school transcript to the Admissions Office do not need to resubmit their high school transcript in the portfolio.

International high school transcripts **must** be evaluated and submitted to the Admissions Office prior to submission of the PTA portfolio.

RCSJ Students

Applicants who have taken courses at RCSJ (including High School Option Program and Visiting students) will submit an unofficial RCSJ transcript in their portfolio. The RCSJ transcript is the only transcript allowed to be unofficial. Students may place an official copy of their RCSJ transcript in the portfolio if desired, however, it is not required and any additional fees incurred for transcripts are the sole responsibility of the student.

International Transcripts

Transcripts from other countries must be translated into English and evaluated before they can be included in the portfolio. Students must request a general evaluation of their high school transcript and a course-by-course evaluation of their college transcript(s). International transcripts must be evaluated by any of the following organizations:

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| • NACES
(naces.org) | • IEEEES, Inc.
(edevals.com) | • FCSA
(foreigncredentials.org), | • WES
(wes.org) | • SpanTran
(SpanTran.com) |
|---|--|---|---|--|

More information is available on the Gloucester campus international student website: RCSJ.edu/admissions-aid/future-students/international-students/. Students with questions about international transcripts can contact Ms. Christina Kulisek, Director, at ckulisek@rcsj.edu or 856-681-6273

Transcripts

Transfer Student Responsibilities

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure coursework submitted for PTA admission ranking requirements is acceptable prior to submission of the PTA portfolio.

Applicants should have prior coursework evaluated for transfer credit before submission of the PTA portfolio by submitting an official transcript(s) from their previous institution(s) and completing a Transfer of College Credit Request Form through the Admissions Office website: [RCSJ.edu/admissions-aid/future-students/transferring-to-rcsj/](https://www.rcsj.edu/admissions-aid/future-students/transferring-to-rcsj/)

Courses Eligible for Transfer

Only general education courses from other colleges and universities may be eligible for transfer to the PTA program. Applicants who are currently enrolled or were previously enrolled in another college's PTA program should be advised that those PTA courses cannot transfer to the RCSJ PTA program.

Applicants should take note of their science courses completed at other institutions. Some colleges and universities offer a "Basic" or "Fundamental" version of Anatomy and Physiology that may not be equivalent to the courses required in the RCSJ PTA program. Applicants are highly encouraged to contact Selective Admissions for questions on science course equivalency well ahead of the portfolio deadline.

Transcript Submission and Resubmission

Applicants must include a physical official transcript from any college or university where they created an academic record. This can include students who registered for courses and then withdrew, students who are guests/visiting students at another institution, and students who took only one course at the College.

Transfer students who have already submitted official transcripts from their previous institution for the general admissions file must resubmit an official copy in their PTA portfolio. **The transcripts must be official, physical copies generated directly from the institution.**

Applicants requesting transcripts from colleges or universities who use an electronic transcript delivery service (National Student Clearinghouse, Parchment, etc.) must request a physical copy be mailed to their personal address, not RCSJ, to place in the portfolio. **Copies of electronic transcripts printed by the applicant are not considered official copies.**

In the event a college no longer sends physical copies of transcripts due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students should contact Selective Admissions well ahead of the portfolio deadline for guidance. Do not assume exclusion of a physical transcript is permissible before submission of the portfolio.

It is the applicant's responsibility, not the institution, to ensure transcripts are requested in time to be placed in the portfolio. Once submitted, no additional documents can be included in the portfolio. **Omission of any official college transcript (exception: RCSJ transcripts) is grounds for an incomplete portfolio. Incomplete portfolios are not considered for acceptance.**

Please contact Selective Admissions with any questions about transcripts.

Gloucester: 856-468-5000, ext. 6474

Email: SelectiveAdmissions@rcsj.edu

Science Course Transfer Policy

Nursing and Health Professions programs will only accept, in transfer, Anatomy and Physiology I and II courses that have been completed successfully from a regionally accredited institution. **Acceptable coursework not taken at RCSJ must have equivalent content, lecture, credit hours, face-to-face lab hours** and provide a letter grade.

For more information, or if you have any questions regarding this Science Course Transfer Policy, refer to Administrative Procedure 8207 or call 856-681-6273. NJ Transfer can assist you by providing course equivalencies for courses taken at a New Jersey college. Visit the NJ Transfer website at njtransfer.org
