

PTHA Program FAQs and Their Answers

1. **Q:** *Is there a wait list for Program admission? How long is the wait list to be admitted to the Program?*

A: Please be aware that students are admitted on a competitive, selective admissions basis. Application does not guarantee admission, and there is NO WAIT LIST. (See Program and Application Information (PAI) available at <https://www.zanestate.edu/wp-content/uploads/ProAppPTA.pdf>)

2. **Q:** *I have previous college experience at an institution other than Zane State College. Which courses will transfer?*

A: The PTA Program Director cannot make this determination. If you have questions about which courses will transfer, those questions must be directed to the Registrar's Office. Please submit an official copy of transcripts from all previous institutions to the Registrar's Office for evaluation for transfer credit. (See PAI)

3. **Q:** *Are there alternates named in the admissions process?*

A: Typically one or more applicants are identified as alternates, should an applicant who was accepted into the PTA Program decline their seat. If you are identified as an alternate, you will receive a letter indicating which alternate you have been named. An accepted student may decline their seat up until the end of week 2 of Fall Semester.

4. **Q:** *Why are only approximately 20 students accepted each year when the interest in the Program is so high?*

A: It is important to understand that once accepted all students complete a series of practicum courses. Students are placed into clinical environments to practice application of learned skills for

these courses. To ensure an adequate number of sites and qualified clinical instructors admission is limited to 20 students annually. Additionally, Zane State College is committed to not saturating the market with graduates. It is important to us that graduates are able to find employment in the field upon graduation.

5. **Q:** *How long does the application process take?*

A: It is recommended that you allow 2-3 months to complete all necessary steps to completing your application folder. (See PAI)

6. **Q:** *Do I really need to order 2 copies of my transcripts from institutions that I have previously attended?*

A: Yes. You will submit one copy to the Registrar's Office for evaluation for transfer credit. The other copy is to be placed in the application folder for the Program Director to review in the event that your transfer credit report is not available when the application folder is due. These should be in sealed envelopes from the institution and should include grades through the end of fall semester prior to application. (See PAI)

7. **Q:** *Is it possible to complete the PTA Program more quickly if I have already completed all of the general education courses?*

A: No. Any course with a PTHA prefix is only offered once each academic year in the semester in which it appears on the Course of Study. The PTA Program will take a minimum of 4 semesters (Fall-Spring-Fall-Spring) regardless of previous coursework. The Summer Semester beginning year 1 may be satisfied via transfer credit.

8. **Q:** *When completing observation hours, what constitutes a setting type?*

A: Examples of setting types are: Inpatient/hospital, outpatient, skilled nursing facility, home health, schools, etc. Completion of a minimum of 16 hours of observation of Physical Therapy practice with either a licensed Physical Therapist or PTA is required. The total should include time spent in at least two different types of Physical Therapy settings. (See PAI)

9. **Q:** *Do I need to take the Health Occupations Aptitude Exam if I have taken the ACT? Do I need to take the Health Occupations Aptitude Exam if I have a college degree?*

A: The HOAE can be waived if the applicant provides documentation of an ACT score of 20 or above. Please note that higher scores receive more points in the application process. If an applicant has lower than a 25 on the ACT, it is highly recommended that they take the HOAE. Regardless of completion of a degree, the above applies. Standardized test results are scored in the application process. (See PAI)

- Note that I will also accept an SAT score. It will be converted to an ACT score equivalent. Minimum application requirement remains the same.

10. **Q:** *What other degrees may I pursue while applying to the PTA Program given that there are generally many more applicants than available seats.*

A: There are several options. It is important that each student understands the utility of any program they may choose.

- There are other health related programs at the college that do not follow a selective admissions process. Those include Health Information Management and Medical Assisting.
- If interested in the content area, it is highly recommended to apply to another selective admission health program. Those include the Occupational Therapy Assistant, Medical Laboratory and Radiologic Technology Programs. It is possible that you may be accepted to all or none of these programs.
- The Associate of Science and Associate of Science – Health Concentration degrees are also options. Students need to understand that these are meant to be transfer degrees and should be pursued when you have plans to transfer to a 4 year school to complete a Bachelor’s degree.
- Courses of study for each of the above mentioned options (as well as all other programs and certificates offered at Zane State College) can be obtained from <https://www.zanestate.edu/programs/>

11. Q: May I take PTHA courses on-line?

A: The only PTHA prefix course offered primarily on-line is PTHA 1010. All other didactic PTHA courses are offered between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. in a traditional classroom lecture and laboratory environment. Practicum courses are at assigned clinic sites.

12. Q: *If I graduate from the PTA Program, is there an avenue for me to become a Physical Therapist in the future?*

A: In Ohio, The University of Findlay does have a PTA to DPT option. Additional information should be obtained directly from that institution.