

Application for Admission



Union College

A.A.S. Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

Dear Prospective Physical Therapist Assistant Student:

We are delighted that you have chosen Union College (UC) to begin your journey toward becoming a Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA). The PTA program at Union College is a full-time two-year program that is accredited by the Commission of Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. A PTA is a member of a healthcare team that provides physical therapy services under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist. PTAs implement components of patient care, obtain data related to the treatments provided, and collaborate with the PT to modify care as necessary. Upon completing the program, graduates receive an A.A.S. degree and are eligible to take the state licensure examination.

Union College strives to provide you with the education and clinical experiences that will assist you in becoming an excellent PTA and a valuable healthcare team member.

We look forward to collaborating with you to achieve your educational goals.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or need further information about our program, you may contact:

Dr. Sohal Hallur, PT, ScD
Program Director
908-412-3542
Sohal.hallur@ucc.edu

Union College

A.A.S. Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program transforms our community by preparing highly qualified, entry-level professionals who promote safe and ethical professional practices within the scope of Physical Therapy. The Program is committed to excellence in providing an evidence-based Physical Therapy education, encouraging graduates to continue pursuing lifelong learning and relevant professional contributions.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Effective Spring 2024, the Union College Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program will no longer admit new students in the Spring semester. Beginning in Fall 2024, new students will be admitted in the Fall semester only. The deadline for submission of applications for the Fall 2024 admission cycle is March 15, 2024. Applicants must complete all admission requirements listed below to be considered for admission for the Fall 2024 Semester:

- Successful completion of pre-requisite courses in English Composition I (ENG 101), Anatomy and Physiology I (BIO 105), Algebra (MAT 119), and General Psychology (PSY 101), with a grade of C or better before the application deadline. The date of completion of BIO 105 must be within ten years of the application date.
- Completion of 20 observation hours; the observation form must be completed by a Physical Therapist (PT) or a Physical Therapist Assistant.
- Successful completion of the HESI exam.
- Union County residents who meet the minimum admission criteria will be given priority.

Instructions for Application:

- 1) Students who are interested in applying to the PTA program must first apply to UC and select Health Science as their major
- 2) To apply to UC, go to [Apply](#)
- 3) For assistance in applying to UC, please visit <https://www.ucc.edu/admissions/admissions-process/>
- 4) Please submit your **official transcripts** from all schools attended in sealed envelopes to Admissions Office, Cranford Campus
1033, Springfield Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016
- 5) The admissions office must perform an official evaluation of transfer credits. If there are questions about applying to UC, selecting courses, or transferring credits, please get in touch with a Student Service Specialist in Student Service Center on Plainfield Campus at 908-412-3550, or you can access <https://www.ucc.edu/academics/transfer-assistance/>
- 6) Students must also complete the PTA application and submit the completed application along with **unofficial transcripts** from all schools attended CLEP, and AP scores, if

Union College

A.A.S. Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

applicable, for review by the PTA admissions committee by emailing it to

PhysicalTherapist@ucc.edu or by mailing it to:

Monique Blackmon-Johnson
Division of Allied Sciences
Plainfield Campus, Union College
232 East Second Street
Plainfield, NJ 07060

- 7) All students must complete twenty observation hours in an acute care hospital, acute rehab hospital, skilled nursing facility, or outpatient physical therapy facility before applying to the program. Each facility/PT/PTA must be provided the letter accompanying the admission packet. The student must have the physical therapist/therapist assistant they have followed for twenty hours complete the observation rubric. The PT/PTA is requested to fill out the rubric confidentially, seal it in an envelope, sign along the seal, and provide it to the student. The student must provide a sealed envelope with their admission application. The admission application will be considered complete once the program receives a completed observation rubric. Information regarding the observation hours to the student, the clinician (PT/PTA), and the observation rubric, which is required to be completed by the clinician, is provided in the admission packet.
- 8) All students must complete the HESI exam to be considered for admission into the PTA program. Please refer to the HESI material attached to this application to obtain information on how to apply for the exam. Please refer to www.proctoru.com for additional information on how to complete the HESI exam. Every applicant must pay the \$70 required to complete the HESI exam.

All completed applications received between September 1, 2023, and March 15, 2024 will be reviewed. An admission score will be calculated for each application per the attached rubric. Admission into the program is highly competitive and not guaranteed. **All students must complete all requirements to be considered for admission into the PTA program before the application deadline of March 15, 2024. Only complete applications will be evaluated for admission into the PTA Program. Students needing clarification about the admission process should e-mail the program director at Sohal.Hallur@ucc.edu.**

Union College

A.A.S. Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

Please note:

Students accepted into the PTA program must have medical health insurance, health clearance by a physician, malpractice insurance, first aid certification, CPR certification, drug testing, and a criminal background check. Federal and state laws preclude persons with specific criminal backgrounds from being in contact with children and patients. A felony conviction may affect a student's admission, placement in the clinic, and ability to attain state licensure. Please consult with Student Specialist or the Program Director with any questions.

Retention of Application Materials:

Application materials submitted to the PTA program become the property of Union College and will not be returned to the applicant.

Union College does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

- PTA Program Application Form
- All **unofficial transcripts** from all schools attended
- CLEP and AP scores (if applicable)
- Completion of twenty observation hours with a completed rubric
- Completion of the HESI examination
- All **official transcripts** from all schools attended are to be sent to the Admissions Office on Cranford Campus

CURRICULUM SEQUENCE

Pre-Clinical Phase

ENG 101	English Composition I	3 credits
BIO 105	Anatomy and Physiology, I	4 credits
MAT 119	Algebra	4 credits
PSY 101	General Psychology	3 credits

After all pre-clinical phase course work, a Physical Therapist Assistant Program Application is required for consideration for the clinical phase of the program.

Clinical Phase: Spring Semester I

PTA 115	Functional Anatomy	3 credits
PTA 130	PT Procedures I	6 credits
PTA 251	Independent Living	2 credits
ENG 102	English Composition II	3 credits
PSY 204 OR PSY 212	Lifespan Development or Psychology of Adulthood and Aging	3 credits

Clinical Phase Summer Session I

PTA 140	PT Procedures II	3 credits
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Clinical Phase Summer Session II

BIO 106	Anatomy and Physiology II	4 credits
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Clinical Phase: Fall Semester

PTA 217	Clinical Seminar and Practice I	7 credits
PTA 220	PT Procedures III	6 credits
PTA 221	PT Procedures IV	4 credits

Clinical Phase: Spring Semester II

PTA 223	Clinical Seminar	2 credits
PTA 224	Clinical Practice II	12 credits

Union College
A.A.S. Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

DATE _____

Please print.

APPLICANT NAME	
ADDRESS	
TELEPHONE HOME	
CELL	
EMAIL	
UC STUDENT ID (if applicable)	

ACADEMIC WORK

List the High school you attended and, chronologically, every College, University, or Professional school you attended or are attending. Enclose an unofficial transcript from each school with the completed application and send official transcripts to the Admissions Office on the Cranford Campus. Do not enclose a high school transcript if 12 or more College credits have been completed.

Name of Institution	City & State	From To	Degree Earned

Union College
A.A.S. Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

Please complete the following information.

	Semester Date	Grade	Institution Name
English Comp I			
Anatomy & Physiology I			
General Psychology 101			
College Algebra (4 credits)			

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Physical Therapist Assistant Handbook

I have read the Physical Therapist Assistant Handbook and understand the program's expectations, goals, objectives, policies, and procedures.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

**Performance
Essentials**

I have read the Performance Essentials Document in the PTA Program Handbook and can fulfill these functions with or without reasonable accommodation as outlined in this document. (Please sign below to acknowledge your understanding of these performance essentials.)

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Union College
A.A.S. Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

ASSIGNED STUDENT NUMBER	
TOTAL ADMISSIONS SCORE	

Course	Grade	Weightage	Total points
BIO 105		20%	
MAT 119		20%	
ENG 101		20%	
GEN PSY 101		20%	

Total Grade	Points
A	50
A-	45
B+	40
B	30
B-	25
C+	20
C	10

Observation Hours: Points X 10%

HESI Exam: Score X 10% (Minimum score admission required for admission is 75)

Union College

A.A.S. Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

Dear Physical Therapist Assistant Prospective Applicant

The Union College Physical Therapist Assistant program requires 20 hours of observation hours as an admission requirement. A potential applicant can complete the observation hours at one physical therapy setting under the guidance of a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant. An admission application would not be considered complete until the observation hours are completed.

The objectives for completing observation hours are:

- To assess student's interest in the profession of physical therapy
- To assess student's professional behavior in a clinical setting
- To assess student's commitment to learning
- To expose a potential physical therapist assistant student to different clinical settings

Please fill out the top section of the observation form provided in the application packet and provide the form with the accompanying letter to the observed clinician. The clinician will return the form in a sealed envelope with their signature on the seal. It is your responsibility to provide the completed form to the program to complete your admission application.

All students are responsible for getting the necessary Immunizations and vaccinations to perform observation hours at a clinical site.

Dismissal policy:

The clinical site and the clinician being shadowed has the right to dismiss the observation student from the facility for any unprofessional behavior. It will be at the discretion of the clinician and/or the clinical site to determine if the potential student can return to complete their observation hours.

The evaluation of the student performed by the clinician is confidential and the applicant waives his/her rights to view the evaluation.

Please feel free to contact Sohal Hallur, PTA program director at 908 412 3542 or email at Sohal.Hallur@ucc.edu.

Sincerely,

Sohal Hallur
Program Director- Physical Therapist Assistant
Union College
232 East 2nd street
Plainfield, NJ 07060

Union College

A.A.S. Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

Dear Physical Therapist Assistant/Physical Therapist

The Union College Physical Therapist Assistant program requires 20 observation hours as an admission requirement. A potential applicant must complete the observation hours at one physical therapy setting under the guidance of a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant. An admission application would only be considered complete once the observation hours are completed.

The objectives for completing observation hours are:

- To assess student's interest in the profession of physical therapy
- To evaluate student's professional behavior in a clinical setting
- To assess student's commitment to learning
- To expose a potential physical therapist assistant student to different clinical settings

The program requests your evaluation of the above objectives and the applicant's performance under your supervision. The information provided will be used in the admission process and admission into the Union College PTA Program.

Please use the form provided along with this letter to rate the student on the provided rubric. A clinician can return the completed confidential form to the student in a sealed envelope with the clinician's signature across the seal to ensure authenticity. The student will be responsible for providing it to the program to complete their admission application.

All students are responsible for getting the necessary Immunizations and vaccinations to perform observation hours at a clinical site.

Dismissal policy:

The clinical site and the clinician being shadowed have the right to dismiss the observation student from the facility for any unprofessional behavior. It will be at the discretion of the clinician and the clinical site to determine if the potential student can return to complete their observation hours.

The evaluation of the student performed by the clinician is confidential, and the applicant waives their rights to view the evaluation.

Thanks for your assistance in completing this form and providing observation hours to potential physical therapist applicants at Union College. Please get in touch with Sohal Hallur, PTA program director, at 908 412 3542 or Sohal.Hallur@ucc.edu.

Sincerely,

Sohal Hallur
Program Director- Physical Therapist Assistant
Union College
232 East 2nd Street
Plainfield, NJ 07060

Union College

A.A.S. Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

The student is responsible for filling out the top section of this form

Name: _____

Date: _____

Type of Setting: _____

Observation Dates/Number of hours

Date: ___/___/___ Hours: _____ Date: ___/___/___ Hours: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SUPERVISING CLINICIAN ONLY

Please rate the applicant on the following four items using a scale of 1-3 by placing a checkmark on the appropriate number for each item

1= Not Observed

2= Partially Observed

3: Observed consistently

Items	1	2	3
Appropriate communication with patient and therapist			
Was punctual in arrival and stayed through the schedule time. Did not no call or now show for scheduled observation hours			
Demonstrated appropriate respect and did not use cell phone during observation hours			
Was dressed appropriately and professionally			
Would you recommend this student for the physical therapist assistant program			

Union College
A.A.S. Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant

Comments: