Dear Prospective PTA Student:

Thank you for your interest in the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program at Cecil College. Entrance into the Associate of Applied Science Degree PTA Program is offered once a year. Please thoroughly read the following information pertaining to the program, as it should answer many of your questions.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Cecil College has limited enrollment, competitive admissions and requires specific criteria for admission. We recommend that students maintain a superior GPA in all pre-requisite and general education courses, as GPA is a key consideration for program selection. Receipt and evaluation of official college transcripts indicating a minimum 2.5 G.P.A. in all PTA program pre-requisite and general education requirements is mandatory. Successful completion, with a grade of “C” or better, for the following pre-requisite courses is also required:

- MAT 097–Introductory and Intermediate Algebra or placement beyond MAT 097
- BIO 208/218–Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab
- EGL 101–Freshman Composition

Due to the difficulty of the course content and rigorous nature of the program, we recommend that students complete as many general education requirements as possible before being accepted into the program. Please be aware that the majority of students applying for entrance will have completed all of the pre-requisites, as well as many or all of the general education courses (BIO 209/219, MAT 127, SPH 141, PSY 101, and PSY 201) prior to the start of their first PTA course at Cecil. For more specific general education and PTA course requirement information, refer to the Cecil College Catalog or Cecil College website, cecil.edu. Any general education courses (course numbers without PTA at the beginning) may be taken at any college including Cecil, before being accepted into the program.

Cecil College feels a strong responsibility to serve its county residents, and Cecil County residents are given additional consideration with regards to acceptance.

All students who are applying for the PTA program are strongly encouraged to attend ONE of the PTA Applicant Information Sessions held on the North East Campus, Physical Education Complex, room E 218 on the following dates:

- Wednesday, April 1, 2020 6:00 - 7:00 P.M.
- Tuesday, April 7, 2020 12:00 - 1:00 P.M.
- Wednesday, August 26, 2020 12:00 - 1:00 P.M.
- Tuesday, August 27, 2020 6:00 - 7:00 P.M.

While it is not required, it is strongly recommended that you try to gain exposure to the practice of physical therapy through observation or volunteering prior to applying to the program.

The American Physical Therapy Association is an excellent resource for career and educational information. Visit them on-line at http://apta.org and select “Prospective Students” or http://aptaapps.apta.org/accreditedschoolsdirectory/AllPrograms.aspx?UniqueKey=
Applications are being accepted from **July 13, 2020 to October 13, 2020** for the PTA Class of 2022. Courses will begin in January of 2021. Graduation will be in May of 2022. If you wish to apply for Cecil College’s PTA program, the following steps are suggested:

1. **If you are NOT CURRENTLY A CECIL COLLEGE STUDENT:**
   a. Apply for open admission to Cecil College (www.cecil.edu).
   b. Visit the Admissions Office. They will assist you with scheduling a skills assessment, student orientation, credentialing, financial aid opportunities and familiarize you with college resources.
   c. Once enrolled as a Cecil College student, proceed to step #2.

2. **If you are CURRENTLY A CECIL COLLEGE STUDENT,** schedule an appointment with:
   a. Jo Ellen Brackin, Health Professions Academic Advisor, (443-674-1888, email: brac3989@cecil.edu) or Diena Gischel, Director of Advising, (443-674-1890, email: dgischel@cecil.edu).
   b. Bring a copy of **all transcripts** reflecting prior coursework to the meeting.

3. **Transfer credit** for required courses may be granted according to Cecil College policy. If you have completed courses at another institution and wish to transfer these courses to Cecil College, either hand carry an **official** copy of your transcript to the Records and Registration Office or have an **official** copy mailed directly to the Cecil College Registrar (**Cecil College, Attn: Records and Registration, One Seahawk Drive, North East, MD, 21901**).
   a. The student must have completed the Cecil College open admissions process before transfer credits are officially evaluated. It is the responsibility of the transferring student to:
      i. Request an official transcript(s) from the transferring institution(s).
      ii. Submit the necessary materials, including copies of appropriate catalogs describing the previous coursework and/or course syllabi, if requested.
      iii. Pursue the status of the evaluation process.
   b. All transcripts must be submitted to the Records and Registration Office by **September 13, 2020** for review and evaluation. Please note:
      i. Transfer process takes four weeks.
      ii. Transcripts received after September 13, 2020, are not guaranteed to be considered in the upcoming application period.
      iii. Before any course can be included in your PTA application, it must first appear on your Cecil College transcript.

4. **All PTA students applying for acceptance into the Cecil College PTA program are required to take the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS test) at Cecil College.**
   b. The areas of Reading, Mathematics, Science, and English comprise this computerize, timed test.
   c. TEAS: Individual Performance Profile must be printed and submitted with application.
   d. TEAS must have been taken during the calendar year 2019 or 2020.
   e. Additional information regarding the TEAS may be found at [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com).

5. **Complete** the PTA Admissions Application for the Class of 2022.
   a. Located on My.Cecil.edu under the Academics Tab > Physical Therapist Assistant > Documents for PTA Students > PTA Admissions Application.
   b. The application must be filled out on-line, printed, signed, and then submitted with all required supporting documentation to be considered.

6. **Submit** the completed application, including all supporting documentation:
   a. **By 12:00 p.m.(noon)on October 13th, 2020.**
   b. To Rebecca Kennedy, Physical Education Complex, 2nd floor, room E200.
   c. No candidate will be eligible for admission unless all required documentation is turned in with the PTA Admissions Application.
**Conditional Acceptance** (what happens next):

1. After the application has been submitted, it will be carefully reviewed and evaluated by the PTA program administration team. A decision letter will be mailed/ emailed by **November 1, 2020**.

2. Upon **conditional** acceptance into the PTA program, students will be required:
   a. To provide **proof of immunizations** to include: MMR, Varicella (Chicken Pox), Tuberculosis (TB), Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria & Pertussis) and Polio.
   b. **Clinical sites** will also require students to have the influenza (flu shot) and Hepatitis B vaccines. The Hepatitis B vaccine requires 3 injections over a 6 month period, the student may want to start the process immediately.
   c. All required immunizations must be completed by **January 1, 2021**.
   d. **Please note**: Immunization requirements are subject to updates based on CDC recommendations and clinical requirements.

3. Students **must** have a current BLS Healthcare Provider CPR/AED certification from the **American Heart Association**. American Red Cross CPR training is NOT ACCEPTED.

4. Students are required to complete a background check and drug screening by **January 1, 2021**. Specific information regarding this process will be mailed to the student in their conditional acceptance packet.

5. Complete and submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) on-line at **www.fafsa.gov**:
   a. Deadline for filing is **March 1** of each calendar year.
   b. Complete the Cecil College Foundation Scholarship on-line application at https://www.cecil.edu/foundation-scholarships the deadline is **April 30th each year**.
   c. Contact Cecil College's Financial Aid Office (410-287-1003) for further information.

6. Any questions please contact the PTA Program Office at 443-674-1557 or pta@cecil.edu. The PTA faculty of Cecil College is dedicated to helping students meet their educational and professional goals, we welcome your interest in the program.

**PTA Class of 2022 Admissions Application Time-line:**

- **July 13, 2020**: Begin accepting applications: go to My.Cecil.edu under the Academics tab > Physical Therapist Assistant Section > Documents for PTA Students > PTA Application.

- **September 13, 2020**: Deadline for official transcripts to be received by the Records and Registration Office. If not received, transferred coursework may not appear on the Cecil transcript and cannot be considered in the upcoming application period.

- **July 8, 2020–October 13, 2020**: TEAS test available at Cecil College in the Math Lab.

- **October 13, 2020**: Deadline for accepting PTA Class of 2022 Admissions Application.
## Minimum Pre-Requisite Entrance Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAT 097</td>
<td>Introductory and Intermediate Algebra (or beyond)*</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 208</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 218</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EGL 101</td>
<td>Freshman Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
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## General Education Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIO 209</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 219</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAT 127</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistics**</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPH 141</td>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 201</td>
<td>Human Growth and Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

## Program Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PTA 102</td>
<td>Clinical Kinesiology and Biomechanics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA 103</td>
<td>Clinical Skills for the PTA</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA 104</td>
<td>Fundamentals of PT Practice I</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA 205</td>
<td>Therapeutic Interventions</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA 211</td>
<td>Fundamentals of PT Practice II</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA 213</td>
<td>Fundamentals of PT Practice III</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA 220</td>
<td>Clinical Orthopedics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA 222</td>
<td>Clinical Neurosciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA 224</td>
<td>Clinical Cardiopulmonary and Integumentary</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA 228</td>
<td>Special Topics in Physical Therapy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA 230</td>
<td>PTA Clinical Practice I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>PTA 232</td>
<td>PTA Clinical Practice II</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA 234</td>
<td>PTA Clinical Practice III</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Introductory and Intermediate Algebra or placement beyond MAT 097 as reflected by Cecil College's skills assessment or successful completion of an acceptable college-level math course.

**Any 4-credit General Education Mathematics will be accepted.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Cecil College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: http://www.capteonline.org.
ESTIMATED PROGRAM REQUIREMENT EXPENSES
FOR
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT (PTA) STUDENTS

Approximate Cost for the 2-Year PTA Program:
Tuition and fees are based on 2020-2021 rates. Individual student costs will vary depending on the number of general education courses already completed. The PTA curriculum consists of 70 credit hours over five semesters. Twenty-four of these credits are general education courses. The remaining forty-six credits are the technical and clinical PTA courses taken on the Cecil College campus. Students are responsible for tuition, fees and all other associated expenses.

College Tuition and Fees (Academic Year 2020-2021):

Tuition:
- Resident of Cecil County $125 per credit hour
- Other Maryland Residents $235 per credit hour
- Out-of-State Residents $283 per credit hour
- Credit by Examination Based on residency rates

General Fees:
- Registration Fee $75 per semester ($25 discount if you register early)
- Student Development Fee $ 8 per credit hour (does not apply to Summer Session)
- Course Fees Variable
- Payment Plan Fee $15 per semester (Fall and Spring only)
- Graduation Fee None
- Transcript Request Fee None

Please Note:
- Current tuition and fee information: Cecil.edu under Admissions and Aid > Tuition, Fees and Payment Options. All tuition and fees are subject to change without prior notice.
- Students who audit courses are charged tuition at the same rate as students taking courses for credit.
- Tuition is calculated for a Cecil County resident, based on the 2020-2021 academic year; the rate for other Maryland residents and out-of-state residents are different.
- All expenses are estimated based on current tuition, fees and supply costs and are subject to change.
Technical and Clinical Expenses:
Following is an estimated summary of program costs related to the technical and clinical aspects of the program. Mandatory PTA program expenses include:
- Tuition and Fees
- Course and lab fees (which cover required lab equipment)
- Books
- Uniform
- Travel related expenses (reliable car, fuel, tolls, etc.)
- APTA membership

Course Fees:
Course fees vary per course and can be found in the College semester schedules as well as in the course schedule.

Books:
The faculty recognizes that physical therapy text books are expensive. The program faculty carefully selects books that are of high quality, relevant to current practice, and whenever possible, have use in multiple courses and in the clinical setting. The approximate cost for textbooks for the entire PTA program is $1,400.

Uniform:
Specific uniform guidelines are provided to students upon acceptance. In general, students will be required to purchase the following for program participation.
- 1 PTA program name badge
- 2 PTA program shirts
- 2 pair of navy or khaki pants
- Appropriate shoes (closed toe; not sneakers or running shoes)

Travel Expenses:
Students should consider the cost of travel to both the Cecil College campus, as well as travel to their off-campus clinical education sites. Off-campus clinical assignments occur in the fall semester (for 8 weeks) and in the final spring semester (for 12 weeks). Be aware that Cecil College clinical sites currently cover a multi-state area (MD, DE, PA). The travel costs may vary greatly depending on the students’ residence and their clinical affiliation assignments. Students are required to travel to and from their assigned clinical site on a daily basis, regardless of their home address.

Working While in the Program:
Please note: All PTA courses and clinical requirements are during the day time hours. Some students do work a limited number of part-time hours while enrolled in the program. However, due to the difficulty of the course content and the rigorous nature of the program, working full-time may affect the student’s ability to successfully complete the requirements of the program.
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION

How do I apply for financial aid?

The first step in applying for financial aid is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.gov. To be considered for financial aid each year, you must complete a FAFSA annually. Make sure you are aware of all important deadlines. Cecil College’s school code is 008308. If you would like to meet with a financial aid advisor, please call (410) 287-1003.

What is FAFSA?

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the application that captures information about family finances in a consistent way. The information is used to determine your eligibility for federal and state financial aid. The FAFSA opens Oct. 1, 2020. Applying early increases your chances of receiving a variety of aid. YOU ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION. Often, students are unsuccessful due to financial strain that could have been alleviated by participating in this process.

How can I apply for all kinds of financial aid?

To be sure that you are considered for all types of financial aid you need to know where the money comes from, how to apply, and the deadlines.

In addition to the FAFSA, complete the Cecil College Foundation Scholarship on-line application. The deadline is April 30th each year https://www.cecil.edu/foundation-scholarships Please complete this when you submit your PTA application to be considered for scholarships.

Maryland residents should go to www.mhex.state.md.us to review Maryland state financial aid programs. Some grants require you to print an application and mail it back to the state. The deadline for most Maryland grants is March 1 each year.

If you are a high school student, check out local scholarships through your high school guidance office. In addition, there are several scholarship search engines you might want to explore such as www.finaid.org or www.fastweb.com

What is the FAFSA Lab?

Financial aid labs are designed to provide students with assistance in completing the FAFSA, Foundation scholarship applications, and to answer any basic questions you may have about the application process. The FAFSA Lab at Cecil College is located on the North East Campus, Building A, Room 123B and is open on Tuesdays from 10:00 am to noon, and Thursdays from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

So that we may assist you with your questions and completion of the FAFSA, please be sure to come to the lab with the appropriate federal tax returns, W-2 forms, and any other additional income information you may have. Applicants who are dependents under 24 years of age require the presence of a parent or legal guardian. For more information, please contact us at (410) 287-1003.

Do I have to wait until I am accepted by the college before submitting the FAFSA?

No. You may complete and submit the FAFSA before you get an acceptance letter from Admissions. However, we cannot process aid for you until you have been accepted to the college in an approved program of study. Make sure you put the school code on the form so the school receives the information.

The school will contact you if you have not applied for admissions at the time the college receives the results.

Does the Financial Aid Office have walk-in hours?

Yes. The Financial Aid Office is open to walk-in traffic on a first come, first served basis between the hours of 8:00 am and 7:00 pm, Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 am through 5:00 pm on Fridays. Appointments are also available.