

**Purpose**

To provide direction for undergraduate admission.

**Scope**

This policy pertains to all prospective PA College undergraduate students.

**Policy Detail**

PA College seeks individuals who demonstrate qualities of scholarship, motivation and commitment to academic and personal growth. Equal opportunity for admission is offered without regard to race, color, creed, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin, genetic information, sex, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, religion, marital status, veteran status or disability or physical ability, socioeconomic background, or other legally protected classifications.

Admission is competitive and includes specific academic standards for each program. Developmental courses for remedial studies are not offered by PA College. The Admissions Committee reserves the right to deny admission or readmission to any applicant if, in the opinion of the Admissions Committee members, his/her admission is not in the best interest of the applicant or PA College.

Dual Degree Applicants

Students seeking an associate degree in a clinical program offered at PA College may consider dual degree enrollment in the Bachelor of Science in Health Science (BSHS) program. Students who pursue dual degree enrollment must first apply and be accepted into a PA College associate degree clinical program. Upon acceptance into a PA College associate degree clinical program, students must notify the admission team of the intent to dual degree enroll into the BSHS program. Notification of intent to dual degree enroll into the BSHS program prevents the need for the student to complete multiple applications.

**Admission Requirements**

- A. General Admission Requirements (does not apply to Technical Certificate students)  
All academic program applicants must meet the following minimum general admission requirements. Additional program-specific requirements may apply.
  - 1. Academic success as evidenced by the secondary school record. All applicants must have graduated from an approved secondary school or have met the requirements for the GED. Applicants must have completed work equal to a standard high school course with a minimum of 16 units, including:
    - i. Four (4) units of English
    - ii. Three (3) units of Social Sciences
    - iii. Three (3) units of Mathematics (Two (2) of which are at least the level of Algebra)
    - iv. Two (2) units of Science with a related laboratory or an equivalent (One (1) of which must be biology)Post-secondary college-level equivalents will be considered to fulfill the high school requirements.
  - 2. Preferred applicants will have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or greater on a 4.0-point scale in secondary education.

3. Additional factors considered in the competitive admission process include rank in class, academic performance in secondary or post-secondary Math and Science courses, SAT combined reading and math score of 1000 or better, ACT composite score of 21 or greater, extracurricular activities, professional letters of recommendation, community service and health care related service.
4. Transcripts of students who have earned post-secondary credits will be reviewed to determine which course(s) may be transferred into PA College to meet the requirements of the program.

B. Program-Specific Admission Requirements

Refer to the links below for program-specific admission requirements.

***Associate Programs & Academic Certificates (if applicable)***

1. [Cardiac Sonography \(CAS\)](#)
2. [Cardiovascular Technology \(CVT\)](#)
3. [Diagnostic Medical Sonography \(DMS\)](#)
4. [Medical Laboratory Science \(MLS\)](#)
5. [Nuclear Medicine Technology \(NMT\)](#)
6. [Nursing \(ASN\)](#)
7. [Surgical Technology \(SUR\)](#)
8. [Vascular Sonography \(VAS\)](#)

***Baccalaureate Programs***

1. [Healthcare Administration \(BSHA\)](#)
2. [Health Sciences \(BSHS\)](#)
3. [Nursing \(BSN\)](#)
  - i. [Three \(3\)-Year Accelerated Track](#)
  - ii. [RN to BSN Track](#)

***Professional Certificates***

1. [Foundation in Health Informatics](#)
2. [Health Care Administration](#)

***Technical Certificates***

1. [Medical Assistant \(MAP\)](#)
2. [Paramedic \(EMS\)](#)

***Associate Programs & Academic Certificates (if applicable)***

**1. Cardiac Sonography (CAS)**

Applicants to the academic certificate program must have earned an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution, have completed an accredited two (2)-year post-secondary Allied Health program, or will have met the associate or baccalaureate requirements from the primary educational institution upon completion of the Academic Certificate program. Prior to entering the Academic Certificate program, candidates must complete the following college-level courses with a grade of "C" (74%) or better:

- i. English Composition

- ii. College Algebra
- iii. Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II
- iv. Physics

**2. Cardiovascular Technology (CVT)**

Applicants to the Academic Certificate program must have earned an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution, have completed an accredited two (2)-year post-secondary Allied Health program, or will have met the associate or baccalaureate requirements from the primary educational institution upon completion of the Academic Certificate program. Prior to entering the Academic Certificate program, candidates must complete the following college-level courses must be completed with a grade of "C" (74%) or better:

- i. Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II

**3. Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS)**

Applicants to the Academic Certificate program must have earned an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution, have completed an accredited two (2)-year post-secondary Allied Health program or will have met the associate or baccalaureate requirements from the primary educational institution upon completion of the Academic Certificate program. Prior to entering the Academic Certificate program, candidates must complete the following college-level courses with a grade of "C" (74%) or better:

- i. College Algebra
- ii. English Composition
- iii. Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II
- iv. Physics

**4. Medical Laboratory Science (MLS)**

Applicants to the Academic Certificate program must have satisfactorily completed three (3) years of study in a regionally accredited higher education institution prior to entering the clinical year at PA College. The following college-level courses must be included as minimum requirements for admission:

- i. 16 semester hours in Chemistry with Organic and/or Biochemistry included
- ii. 16 semester hours in Biology with Microbiology, Immunology and Genetics and/or Molecular Biology included
- iii. At least three semester hours of one higher-level college mathematics course with Statistics preferred. Other courses will be reviewed for appropriateness.

Biochemistry and Anatomy & Physiology are strongly recommended. Computer Science and Management courses are other desirable electives.

Candidates who have already received a baccalaureate degree may also be eligible for entry into the program. The courses listed above are minimum requirements for admission. Coursework must have occurred within the last eight (8) years to be considered for admission. If more than eight (8) years have passed the candidate must complete Microbiology, Biochemistry and Immunology or Genetics with a grade of "C+" (77%) or higher to assure academic preparedness.

**5. Nuclear Medicine Technology (NMT)**

Applicants to the Academic Certificate program must have earned an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution, have completed an accredited two (2)-year post-secondary Allied Health program, or will have met the associate or baccalaureate requirements from the primary educational institution upon completion of the Academic Certificate program.

Students enrolled in a Nuclear Medicine Technology program other than PA College (Cedar Crest College, Millersville University of Pennsylvania, or York College of Pennsylvania) should apply to the Academic Certificate program in the fall prior to the August they wish to begin clinical. Students enrolled in the Nuclear Medicine Technology program with PA College and the academic affiliates listed above are given priority over other applicants. This is a competitive admission process due to the limited availability of clinical seats.

Prior to entering the Academic Certificate program, candidates must complete the following college-level courses with a grade of "C" (74%) or better:

- i. Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics (at least College Algebra)
- ii. English Composition
- iii. Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II

**6. Nursing (ASN)**

Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Advanced Placement Track

Licensed Practical Nurses have the opportunity for advanced placement. Applicants must have graduated from an accredited practical nurse or vocational nurse program and submit proof of an active practical nurse license. Applicants who graduated from programs lacking accreditation will be considered on an individual basis.

**7. Surgical Technology (SUR)**

Applicants to the Academic Certificate program must have earned an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution, have completed an accredited two (2)-year post-secondary Allied Health program, or will have met the baccalaureate or associate requirements from the primary educational institution upon completion of the Academic Certificate program.

**8. Vascular Sonography (VAS)**

Applicants to the Academic Certificate program must have earned an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution, have completed an accredited two (2)-year post-secondary Allied Health program or will have met the associate or baccalaureate requirements from the primary educational institution upon completion of the Academic Certificate program. Prior to entering the Academic Certificate program, candidates must complete the following college-level courses with a grade of "C" (74%) or better:

- i. College Algebra
- ii. English Composition
- iii. Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II
- iv. Physics

*Baccalaureate Programs*

**1. Bachelor of Healthcare Administration (BSHA)**

The following courses (based on secondary school record or post-secondary college transcript, whichever is most recent) must be completed with a grade of "C" (74%) or higher:

- i. Highest level applied math course (Algebra 2 is minimum requirement)
- ii. Highest level English Composition course

**2. Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences (BSHS)**

Applicants to this program must meet the following additional requirements:

- i. Complete an accredited associated degree allied health program with a minimum of 33 credits related to the allied health field, an accredited paramedic program, or an accredited practical nurse or vocational nurse program. Applicants who graduate from a hospital-based program or from a program lacking accreditation will be evaluated on an individual basis.
- ii. Complete eight (8) credits of anatomy and physiology (with a lab) beyond the 33 course credits related to the allied health field.

**3. Nursing (BSN)**

Three (3)-Year Accelerated BSN Track

Applicants must meet the following additional requirements:

- i. Complete two (2) units of Foreign Language.
- ii. Complete 1 unit of Chemistry to meet the Science requirement.
- iii. Hold a cumulative GPA of 3.4 or above on a 4.0-point scale in secondary education.

RN to BSN Track

Applicants must meet the following additional requirements:

- i. Graduate with an associate degree in nursing from a regionally accredited institution or an accredited hospital-based diploma nursing program. Applicants who graduated from programs lacking accreditation will be considered on an individual basis.
- ii. Hold a GPA of 2.0 or above on a 4.0-point scale from a previous college or nursing program.

*Professional Certificates*

**1. Foundation in Health Informatics**

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- i. Currently enrolled in a PA College bachelor's degree program, have earned an associate or bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution or have 1,000+ hours of health informatics experience.
- ii. Completed the following prerequisite courses:
  - a. College-level math
  - b. English Composition or equivalent

**2. Health Care Administration**

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- i. Currently enrolled in a BSN Program or the BSHS Program at PA College or have an associate or bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution. Applicants with 2080 hours of healthcare administration experience (i.e. one (1) year of full-time work experience) can also apply.
- ii. Completed the following prerequisite courses:
  - a. College-level math
  - b. English Composition or equivalent

#### *Technical Certificates*

Courses required for the Technical Certificate are non-credit bearing. No degree or post-secondary credit is awarded.

#### **1. Medical Assistant (MAP)**

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- i. Be a high school graduate or GED recipient
- ii. Be at least 18 years of age prior to participating in the clinical externship

#### **2. Paramedic (EMS)**

This program is offered through the Lancaster Consortium for Emergency Medicine Education which is a collaboration between PA College and Lancaster EMS. Lancaster Consortium for Emergency Medical Education does not currently offer advanced placement or experience for prior learning to students who are seeking to graduate or become eligible to sit for the National Registry or state examination at the Paramedic level. All students seeking to graduate or become eligible for the National Registry or state examination must complete all requirements of the Lancaster Consortium for Emergency Medicine Education.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and meet the following requirements:

- i. High school graduate or GED recipient.
- ii. Hold a current certification as an PA-EMT or a PA-AEMT. If the applicant has an NREMT designation or an out-of-state certification but not a PA certificate, consideration may be given for admission upon consultation with the Program Director.
- iii. Hold a valid driver's license.

#### ***International Applicants***

PA College is not approved to issue student visas. International applicants must show proof of permanent resident visa status.

An individual educated in another country may be admitted if, in addition to satisfying the general admission requirements, he/she demonstrates proficiency in English, shown by earning a minimum computerized score of 213 or Internet based score of 79 in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) administered by the Educational Testing Service, Princeton, New Jersey. Students from English speaking countries may choose to take the SAT or ACT as an alternative to the TOEFL exam.

A translation and evaluation of foreign transcripts by the World Education Service (WES) or another approved agency is required.

Students applying to the baccalaureate program with licensure/certification/registration from a foreign country will have credentials reviewed to determine that the credentials meet program requirements.

***Applications & Acceptance***

Completed applications should be submitted electronically via PA College website with a non-refundable processing fee. All materials submitted for the application process become the property of PA College and will not be returned or forwarded.

Current students and recent graduates of PA College who plan to pursue another degree at PA College should contact the Office of Admissions for direction.

Upon acceptance, applicants must submit a non-refundable enrollment deposit by the date stated on the enrollment decision form.

***Postponement of Start Term***

Students may be considered for postponement of start term for up to one (1) academic year. Students must submit a letter or email requesting consideration for the next available program start. No application fee is required if the request for reconsideration is made within one (1) year of acceptance. Applicants must submit any additional documentation regarding any coursework taken in the interim.

***Waitlist Consideration***

Students who are placed on a waiting list for a program may request reconsideration for admission to the next available class. No application fee is required if the request for admission is made within one (1) year.

***Readmission***

Students who have withdrawn or been dismissed from a PA College program due to academic deficiencies, but who have evidence of subsequent personal and/or academic maturation or a change in relevant circumstances, may request to be readmitted to PA College (to the same or a different program). An application fee is required.

Applicants must submit a request in writing to the Director of Admissions or designee, which must include a discussion of the barriers that prevented academic success and the resolution of those barriers. If the applicant has completed additional post-secondary education, transcripts should be included with the request.

All readmitted students are required to complete any program requirements in effect in the PA College catalog at the time of readmission. In addition, acceptance of transfer credits from other institutions will be granted in accordance with current policy.

***Academic Fresh Start Readmission***

If a student earned a cumulative GPA less than 2.0 on a 4.0-point scale while attending PA College and if at least three (3) calendar years have passed since the last day of attendance, the student may be

Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences  
ACADEMIC POLICY STATEMENT

Issued: 08/18/03  
Last Revised: 05/06/22  
Last Reviewed: 05/06/22

Policy 1.0

Admission - Undergraduate

Page 8 of 8

eligible for an Academic Fresh Start. The Director of Admissions or designee will submit this request to the Vice President of Academic Affairs for approval.

- A. If approved, the student will be given a new admission date, a GPA of 0.00 on a 4.0-point scale and a designation of Academic Fresh Start on the transcript.
- B. All prior coursework and grades will remain visible as part of the student's official PA College transcript.
- C. Prior successful course attempts will not satisfy degree completion requirements, and all program requirements will need to be successfully completed.
- D. Transfer credit will be re-evaluated at the time of readmission.
- E. Academic Fresh Start will be granted only once.
- F. Upon readmission with Academic Fresh Start status, the applicant or student may not request removal of Academic Fresh Start policy restrictions.

**Open Studies Students**

Individuals not currently accepted to a program are permitted to enroll in designated courses at PA College.

**References:** N/A

<b>Audience:</b>	Students, Prospective Students
<b>Date Issued:</b>	08/18/03
<b>Date Approved by Faculty:</b>	08/18/03, 11/29/08, 03/11/09
<b>Date Revised:</b>	06/19/07, 03/26/08, 05/21/08, 11/17/08, 01/20/09, 02/04/09, 03/04/09, 05/18/09, 06/15/09, 06/16/10, 03/28/11, 02/27/12, 03/26/12, 03/18/13, 04/22/13, 02/24/14, 05/19/14, 01/26/15, 05/11/15, 05/20/15, 09/28/15, 10/29/15, 05/23/16, 06/01/16, 06/07/16, 09/26/16, 10/24/16, 03/27/17, 08/28/17, 09/25/17, 03/19/18, 05/29/18, 06/01/18, 06/04/18, 06/19/18, 06/28/18, 07/23/18, 10/22/18, 01/28/19, 02/25/19, 8/26/19, 06/22/20, 09/28/20, 10/26/20, 03/15/21, 06/21/21, 09/20/21, 11/05/21, 12/03/21, 04/08/22, 05/06/22
<b>Date Reviewed:</b>	06/19/07, 03/26/08, 05/21/08, 11/17/08, 01/20/09, 02/04/09, 03/04/09, 05/18/09, 06/15/09, 06/16/10, 03/28/11, 02/27/12, 03/26/12, 03/18/13, 04/22/13, 02/24/14, 05/19/14, 01/26/15, 05/11/15, 05/20/15, 09/28/15, 10/29/15, 05/23/16, 06/01/16, 06/07/16, 09/26/16, 10/24/16, 03/27/17, 08/28/17, 09/25/17, 03/19/18, 05/29/18, 06/01/18, 06/04/18, 10/22/18, 01/28/19, 02/25/19, 08/26/19, 06/22/20, 09/28/20, 10/26/20, 03/15/21, 04/26/21, 05/24/21, 06/21/21, 09/03/21, 09/20/21, 11/05/21, 12/03/21, 04/08/22, 05/06/22
<b>Owner:</b>	Director of Admissions & Program Directors (as appropriate)