

Admissions Requirements

In addition to Mercyhurst North East's standard requirements for admission, which include a high school diploma or GED, a minimum GPA of 2.5, and either an ACT, SAT or MNE Placement Test score that meet placement requirements for the program, individuals applying for admission to the physical therapist assistant program are subject to the following standards:

- Applicant must be a high school graduate or GED recipient with minimum overall C+ average
- Applicant must have completed high school courses in **algebra, biology AND chemistry**, with a minimum grade of C in each course.
- Preference will be given to applicants with SAT scores at or above 900 (two section total) or a 20 composite score on the ACT test.
- Applicant may be required to take the MNE Placement Test (COMPASS) to determine placement in appropriate English and math courses.
- The skills test is required for students who achieved below 900 on their SATs (two section total), students who achieved below a 20 on sections of their ACTs, or have never taken the SATs or ACTs, as well as those who have been out of school for several years.
- If an applicant does not meet the required scores to enter into Research and Writing, and/or Introduction to Statistics, he or she must take preparatory classes. Placement into Research and Writing, and/or Introduction to Statistics will enable the student to enter directly into the program of study. If preparatory English or Math are required, a student could enter as a Health Studies major for their first year and complete remedial coursework prior to entering the PTA Program.
- Applicant must complete a total of **20 hours of documented work or volunteer experience** in two different physical therapy settings under the supervision of a licensed PT or PTA prior to the start of classes.  [Download a clinical observation form here](#), which you must take with you to the observation.
- Applicants must also submit two **recommendation forms** from a teacher, employer or other reference.
- Official, final transcripts are required before the start of classes.
- All students enrolled in the program are required to complete the following prior to the clinical education courses:
 - **Criminal history clearances** (state, FBI fingerprint, and child abuse)
 - Drug screen
 - Current physical examination and immunizations/titers

- TB screening (2-step)
- CPR certification

Essential Skills

Mercyhurst North East ensures that qualified individuals with disabilities have an equal opportunity to participate in educational and employment programs offered at the university. In higher education, it is the student's responsibility to disclose their disability. Any student who has a history of a diagnosed disability or suspects that he/she may have a disability is encouraged to contact the MNE Learning Differences office. The MNE Learning Differences office is responsible for coordinating accommodations and services for students with disabilities. Office: Karsh 206, Phone: 814-725-6299, 814-725-6141, Email: nelearndiff@mercyhurst.edu