

Linkage Handbook 2011-2012

**Hillsborough Community College
State College of Florida Manatee-Sarasota
Pasco-Hernando Community College
Polk State College
St. Petersburg College**

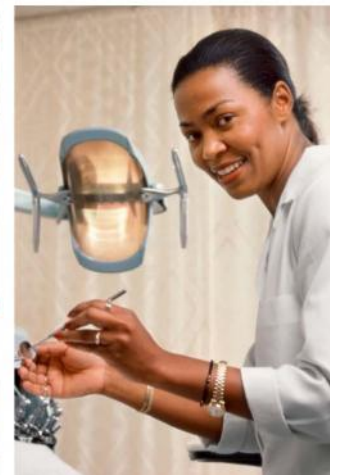
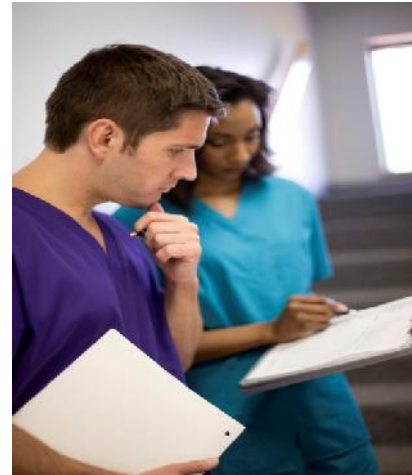


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GUIDE FOR COUNSELORS

This guide has been prepared for counselors for advising students who have indicated that they wish to enroll in a Linkage program. It includes information on all linkage programs, program requirements, selection procedures, and other information to assist the counselor in advising prospective Linkage students. The guide will be reviewed annually and revised as needed.

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WHAT IS A LINKAGE SYSTEM?

The Linkage System is a cooperative agreement among five colleges in the Tampa Bay area. The Linkage System offers students the opportunity to enter identified quota-based or unique occupational programs which are not available at their own institutions. Students selected for admission to a Linkage program may be dually enrolled and will be required to conform to all program requirements, as well as institutional policies and procedures of both colleges.

ADVANTAGES TO STUDENTS

1. An opportunity to select from a greater variety of programs which are not available at their own institution.
2. A chance to apply through the local college for a reserved place in Linkage programs at other colleges.
3. Priority over non-Linkage students applying to a Linkage System quota program.
4. Linkage program requirements may be taken at the local college when available.

ADVANTAGES TO A COMMUNITY COLLEGE OR A COLLEGE

1. Eliminates the need for duplicated high-cost programs in each college.
2. Identifies students from other institutions that would be prepared to enter the Linkage program with the appropriate prerequisites.
3. Guarantees a specified number of seats for students from each Linkage college.
4. Increases enrollment at both the local and the linkage college.
5. Increases utilization of existing facilities and equipment.
6. Provides all linkage communities with competent employees in fields where training is not immediately available in the community.

TRANSFER OF CREDIT

Courses taken at the local college that apply to program requirements of the Linkage program will be transferred to the Linkage college as part of the student's complete transcript.

FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid may be available to Linkage students. Students should check with their college Financial Aid officer to obtain correct information and application procedures. Students will need to alert the financial aid officer of the dual-enrollment factor.

CRITERIA FOR LINKAGE PROGRAMS

An occupational program is considered for the Linkage program when:

1. It is the only program of its kind in the area being served by the Linkage colleges.
2. There are adequate facilities and equipment to serve additional students from other Linkage colleges.
3. It is approved by the Linkage Executive Committee according to their institutional procedures.
4. Training can be provided for a region more economically than for one community or college.

WHAT ARE THE LINKAGE PROGRAMS?

The current list of Linkage *programs that have limited enrollments and special selection and admission requirements*, and the college where these programs are offered are:

Cardiovascular Technology	Polk State College
Dental Hygiene	Hillsborough Community College Pasco-Hernando Community College St. Petersburg College
Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology	Hillsborough Community College Polk State College
Occupational Therapy	State College of Florida Manatee-Sarasota
Nuclear Medicine Technology	Hillsborough Community College
Physical Therapist Assistant	State College of Florida Manatee-Sarasota Polk State College St. Petersburg College
Radiation Therapy	Hillsborough Community College
Respiratory Care	Hillsborough Community College Polk State College St. Petersburg College

Counselors in each linkage college should maintain close contact with the Linkage Administrator for the college in all matters pertaining to Linkage programs. The Linkage Administrator for each linkage college is:

Hillsborough Community College	Amy Anderson Dean of Health and Wellness 813-253-7370
State College of Florida Manatee-Sarasota	Heather Mills Director of Career & Technical Education (941) 363-7231
Pasco-Hernando Community College	Jayne Rothberg Dean of Health Occupations (727) 816-3284

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St. Petersburg College

Chris Kerr
Michelle Hampton
Nora Coles
Tammy Cappleman
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LIMITED ACCESS PROGRAM QUOTAS

Student quotas assigned to each Linkage college for selected Linkage programs are:

STUDENT QUOTAS PROGRAM	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	Number of reserved seats				
		HCC	SCF-MS	PHCC	PSC	SPC
Cardiovascular Technology (PSC) (Linkage deadline April 1)	15	1	1	1	n/a	1
Dental Hygiene (HCC) (Linkage deadline May 1)	12	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	n/a
Dental Hygiene (PHCC) (Linkage deadline May 15)	12	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	n/a
Dental Hygiene (SPC) (Linkage application window: Nov 1-Jan. 15)	36	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	n/a
Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology (HCC) (Linkage deadline January 30)	21	n/a	1	1	1	1
Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology (PSC) (Linkage deadline July 31)	12	n/a	1	1	n/a	1
Nuclear Medicine (HCC) (Linkage deadline January 30)	18	n/a	1	1	1	1
Occupational Therapy Assistant (PSC) (Linkage deadline September 30 th)	24	1	n/a	1	n/a	1
Physical Therapist Assistant (PSC) (Linkage deadline April 30 th)	22	1	n/a	1	n/a	n/a
Physical Therapist Assistant (SCF-MS) (Applications accepted until March 1)	24	1	n/a	1	1	1
Physical Therapist Assistant (SPC) (Linkage application window: March 1 –May 15)	40	2	n/a	2	n/a	n/a
Radiation Therapy (HCC) (Linkage deadline January 30)	18	n/a	1	1	1	1
Respiratory Care (HCC) (Linkage deadline May 1)	25	n/a	n/a	3	3	n/a
Respiratory Care (SPC) (Linkage application window, March 1 –May 15)	24	n/a	n/a	1	1	n/a
Respiratory Care (PSC) (Linkage deadline April 1)	24	n/a	1	1	n/a	n/a

GENERAL LINKAGE INSTRUCTIONS

TIME REQUIREMENTS FOR LINKAGE PROGRAMS

The programs listed in this handbook are designed to allow students, after acceptance into a program, to complete each program in approximately two (2) years. However, students should be advised to follow a program course sequence as listed in this handbook and to make frequent use of the counseling services available at each Linkage college. Counseling services will include, in addition to regular college counselors, program coordinators, and faculty.

PROCEDURES FOR SELECTING STUDENTS FOR LINKAGE PROGRAMS

Candidates for a Linkage program must be screened according to the established procedures of the home college, and only candidates approved by the Linkage Administrator for the home college will be accepted for final consideration at the Linkage College.

1. Student meets with home college counseling department and identifies his/her choice of a Linkage program.
2. Counselor advises student of selected Linkage program requirements, selection process, testing requirements, and program admission requirements. It is the student's responsibility to complete all admissions requirements and application to the receiving institution.
3. After the student completes 15 hours at the home institution, the student may contact the department chairman/program director at the Linkage College for questions about the program.
4. Linkage students must meet individual program GPA minimum. A selection process may occur when Linkage students are chosen.
5. Unused linkage slots will revert to native students.
6. Student completing screening process is recommended by a counselor to the Linkage Administrator for approval as an applicant to the selected Linkage program. The counselor collects the program application form and pertinent documents from the students, and forwards the documents to the Linkage Administrator. Students must have completed or be currently taking all prerequisite courses in order to be recommended by the counselor for linkage.
7. The Linkage Administrator receives and/or *completes the Student Transmittal form and sends copies of the form and a copy of the student's transcript to the Linkage Administrator at the receiving school.*
8. A student recommended as an applicant to a selected Linkage program *will be required to complete any additional program admission requirements, as necessary, for the selected Linkage program.*
9. Admission to a Linkage program will be ultimately made by the Linkage College.

10. Deadline dates for submission of transfer forms are listed on data sheet for each individual program and in the section of the handbook stating program information.
11. Receiving institution will send a response to all applicants.

HCC - Drug Screening & Criminal Background Check Policies

Drug Screening

In accordance with HCC Administrative Rule 6HX-10-3.020, all health science students accepting a seat in a program must pass a drug screening test to satisfactorily demonstrate that they are free from the use of any illegal drug or unprescribed controlled substance described or named in law. The student will be responsible for the cost associated with the drug screening test. The test must be completed within thirty days (30) prior to the first class day of the program.

Criminal Background Check

In accordance with HCC Administrative Rule 6HX-10-3.0202, all health science program applicants accepted must successfully complete a criminal background check demonstrating that they have no convictions of those crimes outlined in Administrative Procedure 3.200 and 3.201. The cost of the criminal background check is included in the application fee for each health science program (allied health and nursing programs).

PSC – Admission Policy

Applicants who meet the application and admission requirements of their chosen program will be admitted on a first-qualified, first-served basis or by selective criteria based on program demand for health related programs. Students who meet their health program's eligibility requirements may submit an application at any time. At the point of entrance into a health program, students must continue to meet that program's eligibility criteria.

Students enrolled in health-related programs will be subject to a background check and drug screening. Students enrolled may also be subject to the drug and/or alcohol testing policies of affiliating agencies. Students with criminal records will be subject to admission criteria set by each program related to criminal histories.

PHCC – Admission Policy

Applicants who meet the selective admissions requirements must complete all program requirements and submit all application materials to the Admissions and Student Records Office, West Campus, by the application deadline date specified in the PHCC College Catalog.

Criminal Background Check and Drug Screens

Criminal background checks and drug screens are required by all health occupations students. Information regarding background checks and drug screen will be available at the mandatory program orientation. Clinical agencies have the right to deny students access based on past criminal history and drug screen results. Applicants to health programs must be aware that denial of access to clinical settings due to criminal history/positive drug screen

may prevent students from completing their program successfully. The cost of the background check and drug screen is incurred by the student.

SPC – Admission Policy

Applicants must submit their linkage applications within the application period indicated for their selected program. Applicants who meet the admission requirements must submit all program admission documents along with their linkage application during the application period for their chosen program.

SCF-MS – Drug Screening Program

The faculty of the State College of Florida Manatee-Sarasota Health Sciences Division has the responsibility for ensuring that all students in the health science programs are able to function safely and effectively in the health care facilities used for clinical experience during the programs. Students are not allowed in the clinical area under the influence of any chemical substance that may alter thinking or functioning. To promote and maintain this level of safe practice, all students accepted into a health science program will submit to drug screening as a condition for remaining in the program.

SPC – Drug Screening and Criminal Background Check Policies

Students who meet the academic requirement for enrollment in health-related programs must pass a background check prior to placement and enrollment. After admission to a Health program, students will be contacted regarding the background check and drug screening process. For progression to the first specialty course, students with a felony conviction must first have had their civil rights restored. Prospective students may not have one felony or two misdemeanor charges with a disposition dated within five years from the start of the health program courses with a judgment of guilty, or with plea of nolo contendere, or where adjudication was withheld. Further, an applicant may be disqualified for admission based on Florida Statute 456.0635, where such a person has been convicted on felony charges relating to medical fraud, neglect or substance abuse, or where terminated for cause from the Florida Medicaid Program or other Medicare program. Other crimes may disqualify an applicant.

All students entering a health program at St. Petersburg College are required to successfully complete a drug screening within ninety (90) days prior to starting the first health program course. The drug screening must satisfactorily demonstrate that the student is free from the use of any illegal drug or non-prescribed controlled substance. Students must remain drug-free throughout the tenure in their program at SPC.

LINKAGE TRANSMITTAL FORM

To: **Linkage Administrator***

- _____ Hillsborough Community College
- _____ State College of Florida Manatee-Sarasota
- _____ Pasco-Hernando Community College
- _____ Polk State College
- _____ St. Petersburg College

The following candidate has been interviewed and briefed by the counselor below for possible selection or entry under the Linkage Agreement into the program checked below:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: (optional) _____

Programs (check one):

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cardiovascular Technology (PSC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupational Therapy Assistant (PSC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental Hygiene (HCC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Therapist Assistant (SCF-MS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental Hygiene (PHCC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Therapist Assistant (PSC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental Hygiene (SPC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Therapist Assistant (SPC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology (HCC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Radiation Therapy (HCC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology (PSC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory Care (HCC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nuclear Medicine (HCC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory Care (PSC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Occupational Therapy Assistant (HCC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory Care (SPC) |

Transcripts (official or unofficial) verifying that student has prerequisite attached.

I recommend the above student for entry under the Linkage Agreement.

Name of Sending College _____

Signed : _____ Date: _____
Counselor

Signed : _____ Date: _____
Occupational Dean/Director/Coordinator/Associate Vice President/Associate Provost

Name of Linkage College _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Occupational Dean/Director/Coordinator/Associate Vice President/Associate Provost

Action by receiving college: ____accepted ____alternate ____rejected
Please mail a copy of this form to the Dean/Director/Associate Vice President/Associate Provost of the home college.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip _____

*See page 7 for Administrators

**CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM
Polk State College**

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Lakeland, FL 33811
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kferrier@polk.edu

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Cardiovascular Technology Program fosters and supports creative and positive learning experiences within an atmosphere of academic excellence and continuous improvement. Our goal is to provide every student with the knowledge, skills, and professional attributes needed to excel within the invasive diagnostic and interventional cardiovascular fields.

The Cardiovascular Technology Program provides students an organized curriculum that includes the college-required general education classes in addition to the required core classes for the Invasive Cardiovascular Curriculum. The Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist is a vital member of the cardiac catheterization and peripheral vascular teams. Our primary role is to assist and scrub with physicians during diagnostic and interventional cardiovascular procedures, monitor patients hemodynamic status during the procedure, and to operate specialized imaging equipment with consideration to radiation safety.

Cardiovascular Technology is a highly skilled, critical thinking, and fast-paced specialty vital to a patient's diagnosis and treatment of Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) and Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD). The field continues to expand at a very rapid rate due to the increase in the middle-aged and elderly populations in the United States as a whole. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, employment of cardiovascular technologists is expected to grow by approximately 27% by the year 2014. This increase is due to the fact that the said demographic group is predisposed to CAD and PAD resulting from the normal aging process.

Graduates from the Cardiovascular Technology Program will find employment in hospital cardiac cath labs, outpatient cardiovascular labs, traveling agencies, and other industry-related facilities in Florida and throughout the country. Entry level technologists can expect to make approximately \$45,000 annually. This pay is based on a 40-hour work week and has potential to increase with on-call pay and shift differential. Graduates will also be eligible to take the national boards administered by Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI) for the Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS) credential.

ACCREDITATION

The Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program is a new, limited-enrollment allied health care program at PSC. The program is accredited through the *Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)* upon the recommendation of the *Joint Review Committee on Education in Cardiovascular Technology (JRC-CVT)*.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

The following are minimum requirements for admission to the Cardiovascular Technology Program:

1. Acceptance to Polk State College as a credit student with all required admission documents received by the Registrar.
2. Completion of any required college prep courses.
3. At time of admission, overall GPA of 2.50 or higher.
4. At time of admission, a GPA of 2.00 or higher in all prerequisite courses.
5. Completion of the following prerequisite courses prior to admission in the program:

ENC 1101	English Composition
MAC 1105	College Algebra or higher
OR	
MGF 1106	Topics in Math
BSC 2085C	Anatomy & Physiology I
BSC 2086C	Anatomy & Physiology II
HSC 1531	Medical Terminology

6. Meeting with Program Director prior to submitting Cardiovascular Technology Program application.
7. Submission of completed Cardiovascular Technology Program application.

Note: The following additional general education courses required for graduation may be taken prior to admission to the program:

HLP 1081	Wellness
PSY 2012	General Psychology
PHI 2600	Ethics

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

These additional admission requirements are to be completed after acceptance into the program:

1. Complete Medical Physical
2. Immunization and Communicable Disease Screening
3. 10-Panel Drug Screening
4. Signed Affidavit of Moral Character attesting to the non-committance of specific criminal acts
5. Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) background check
6. Current Healthcare Provider CPR certification

The Program Director will provide information regarding completion of these additional admission requirements with the letter of acceptance to each student.

ADMISSION PROCESS

The Cardiovascular Technology Program is a limited access program. Students seeking admission into the program must receive an application to the program at the required meeting with the Program Director. Applications must be submitted no later than April 1st of each year for the August admission class. Failure to submit the proper documentation by said deadline will result in disqualification of a student for the upcoming class.

CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

Following the completion of all requirements for graduation from the Cardiovascular Technology Program, graduates are eligible to sit for the national registry exam administered by Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI). After successful completion of this exam, the graduate will earn the credentials of Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS).

For Radiological Technologists, the option to sit for the registry administered by CCI and the registry administered by the American Registry of Radiological Technologist (ARRT) for Cardiovascular Intervention (CI) exists. After successful completion of this exam, the graduate will earn additional credentials and is listed as RT(R) (CI). If graduates opt to take both registries, they will receive the credentials RT(R) (CI), RCIS.

ELECTIVES

Students are encouraged to add appropriate electives to their program courses as their schedule permits. Electives such as computer technology, human relations, chemistry, microbiology, or other health sciences would be pertinent to careers in cardiovascular technology. While these courses are not required, they will serve to prepare students to enter the allied health workforce and act as additional preparation for the national registries.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE

Admissions criteria and curriculum are subject to change; therefore, individuals interested in the program should contact the College to ensure the information is current.

DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

Hillsborough Community College

CONTACT INFORMATION

<http://hccfl.edu/departments/health-science/dental-hygiene.aspx>

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Entry into this program is highly competitive and the program itself is academically rigorous. The Dental Hygiene Program provides students with the skills and knowledge needed to complete national and state or regional board examinations to become licensed dental hygienists. Dental hygienists perform oral health assessments including oral cancer screenings, tooth debridement and polishing procedures, preventive dental procedures, and oral hygiene education under the guidance of a dentist. The graduate dental hygienist also becomes certified to perform expanded duties permitted by Florida Statute. The Dental Hygiene curriculum includes five (5) consecutive semesters of courses and requires a time commitment of at least 35 hours per week. The program is offered on the Dale Mabry Campus.

The graduate dental hygienist can be employed in a variety of settings including dental offices, health clinics, nursing homes, schools, dental sales, research and education. Dental hygienists can work full or part time depending upon individual needs. Average entry-level salaries are between \$22.00 and \$25.00 per hour (Sept. 2007).

ACCREDITATION

Hillsborough Community College's Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation and by the United States Department of Education.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking Linkage admission to a program **must also complete** an application to Hillsborough Community College and an application for admission to Health Science programs. Students are required to submit all documentation and meet all minimum admission requirements for the selected program.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants must be recipients of a standard high school diploma or the G.E.D. They must also complete the required prerequisite courses.

Grade Point Average (GPA):

A minimum 3.0 GPA in prerequisite courses is required for Linkage admission consideration.

Must have completed the following health science general education courses with no less than a grade of C in each course:

ENC 1101	Freshman English I
BSC 1085	Anatomy and Physiology I
BSC 1085L	Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory
BSC 1086	Anatomy and Physiology II
BSC 1086L	Anatomy and Physiology II Laboratory
MCB 1000	Microbiology and Human Disease
MCB 1000L	Microbiology Laboratory
CHM 1032	Chemistry for Health Sciences
CHM 1032L	Chemistry for Health Sciences Laboratory
MGF 1106	Liberal Arts Math I
	OR
MAC 1105	College Algebra

REPEAT OF PROGRAM PREREQUISITE COURSES

For purposes of admission to a health science program, the following policy will apply to the repeating of or number of attempts for the identified prerequisite course for a program.

- (1) For purposes of this policy, a "W", "AW" or other non-calculated grade is considered an attempt.
- (2) An applicant may have two attempts per designated prerequisite course recorded on his/her academic record(s) without penalty.
- (3) Any designated prerequisite course that is recorded on an applicant's academic record(s) in excess of two attempts will result in a reduction of the applicant's prerequisite GPA that is calculated for the purposes of admission to a health science program. The point reduction will be made according to the following scale:
 - i. minus .2 from the prerequisite GPA for each course attempted a 3rd time
 - ii. minus .6 from the prerequisite GPA for each course attempted a 4th time
 - iii. minus 1.2 from the prerequisite GPA for each course attempted a 5th time
 - iv. minus 2.4 from the prerequisite GPA for each course attempted a 6th time
 - v. minus 4.8 from the prerequisite GPA for each course attempted a 7th time

FINAL ACCEPTANCE REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Physical Examination** – Admission to certain health science programs will be contingent upon evidence of satisfactory physical health as certified by a licensed physical. (Refer to Administrative Procedure 4.13 or 4.14.)
- 2. Program Orientation** – Final acceptance to a health science program will be contingent upon the applicant attending the scheduled program orientation session. Individuals not attending the session without prior approval of the program manager will be dropped from the program acceptance status. The acceptance letter will notify the applicant of the time, date and place of the program orientation and a response deadline for confirmation of attendance.
- 3. CPR Certification** – The applicant will be required to provide proof of a two (2) year cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification from an agency that provides a two-year certification, such as the American Heart Association, BCLS course or the American Heart Association BPCLS course. The certification should be the BCLS or the BPCLS. An applicant must provide proof of certification by the first day of classes of the program. Failure to comply with this requirement will constitute failure to comply with admission requirements and the individual will not be permitted to matriculate into the program.
- 4. Drug Screen** – Applicants must provide proof through urinalysis screening that they are free of illegal drugs and controlled substances for which they do not hold a current prescription. Admission will be denied if the drug screen results show the presence of amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine, opiates and PCP. Additional information pertaining to drug screening will be provided during the New Student Program Orientation program. Each applicant will be charged \$35.00 for the drug screening. In addition to this drug screen clinical affiliates may require that students submit to a drug screen prior to placement in accordance with the agency's own pre-employment drug screening policy or request a student be tested if there is reasonable suspicion that he/she is impaired, has used or is using illegal drugs and alcohol.
- 5. Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) background check-** FDLE will provide to the College a summary document listing a person's past arrest and conviction history. In order to be eligible for admission, the applicant cannot have a criminal history with a conviction or nolo contendere plea to one or more specific crimes. The "Occupations in the Health Sciences Booklet" (available in print and online at the Health Sciences section of HCC's website) lists the specific crimes that prohibit admission. An individual will be responsible for notifying college officials of any arrests, regardless of adjudication, that occur during the period after applying and before acceptance. Failure of the applicant/student to notify the appropriate

individuals shall be grounds for denial of admission to or dismissal from a health science program.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE

Admissions criteria and curriculum are subject to change and therefore, individuals interested in the program should contact the College to assure that the information is current.

Admission to a Linkage program will be ultimately made by the Linkage college. Incomplete Linkage applications will be returned to the home institution.

DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

Pasco-Hernando Community College

CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Co-Coordinators

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The modern dentist's office depends on the skilled work of dental hygienists, who perform many dental procedures once handled only by dentists. Dental hygienists discuss oral health problems with clients, clean and examine teeth, administer dental treatments, offer instructions on dental care, take radiographs, and prepare charts that provide detailed information for each client's permanent record. With such skilled help, dentists are able to provide dental care to a larger client base. In addition to a comprehensive course of study, PHCC's Dental Hygiene program emphasizes hands-on training through five intensive clinicals at a state-of-the-art dental clinic located on the New Port Richey campus.

The job outlook for dental hygienists in Florida and nationally is excellent. Graduates find work in private dental offices, public health clinics, hospitals, and educational institutions.

ACCREDITATION

Pasco-Hernando Community College's Dental Hygiene program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation and by the United States Department of Education.

APPLICATION AND ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All requirements for admission to the Dental Hygiene program must be met at the time of application. Submission of an incomplete application may delay your admission.

Linkage students must apply between March 1 and May 15 of the year in which the upcoming Fall semester class begins. All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to application.

1. Completed PHCC application form and application fee.
2. Completed Dental Hygiene Program application and application fee.

3. An official high school transcript indicating graduation and receipt of standard high school diploma or an official transcript of GED scores indicating receipt of a high school equivalency diploma.
4. Official transcripts from each U.S. college and university attended other than PHCC.
5. Submit official scores from external agencies as appropriate for prerequisite courses (ex: AP, CLEP, IB, etc.).
6. Meet one of the following:
 - a. Applicants who are practicing dental assistants must submit their EFDA certificate, OR
 - b. submit a report of scores on an approved Manual Dexterity Test with a minimum score of 60%
7. Have a cumulative grade-point average of 2.0 or higher
8. Have a grade-point average of 2.5 or higher in the following prerequisite courses and complete each with a grade of "C" or higher:

BSC 1085	Human Anatomy and Physiology I
BSC 1085L	Human Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory
BSC 1086	Human Anatomy and Physiology II
BSC 1086L	Human Anatomy and Physiology II Laboratory
CHM 1025	Introductory Chemistry (or higher level chemistry course)
CHM 1025L	Introductory Chemistry Laboratory (or higher level chemistry lab)
CGS 1100	Microcomputer Applications
MCB 2010	Microbiology
MCB 2010L	Microbiology Lab
PSY 1012	Introduction to Psychology
9. Completion of at least 16 hours of observation, volunteer service or work experience in dentistry, as verified by a dentist or dental hygienist.

SPECIAL ACCEPTANCE PROCEDURES

Applicants who meet minimum requirements will be notified in writing of their selection as candidates. Candidate offers are conditional and are dependent upon the following:

1. Receipt of the signed acceptance letter sent by the College's Dean of Health Occupations and Director of Admissions and Student Records indicating acceptance of position into the dental hygiene program by the date specified in the acceptance letter.

2. Certification of good physical health by submission of results of a physical examination conducted by a physician or a registered nurse practitioner by the date specified in the letter of notification.
3. Certification of good oral health, free of dental caries and gum disease by submission of results of an oral examination by a dentist within six (6) months of being accepted into the dental hygiene program.
4. Successful completion of the American Heart Association's Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers Course (8 hours).
5. Registration and payment of fees by the date specified in the PHCC College Catalog.
6. Incomplete Linkage applications will be held by the receiving institution for one year.

Failure to comply with any of the above procedures may result in the allocation of the space to another applicant.

DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

St. Petersburg College

CONTACT INFORMATION

Administrator Manager, Admissions

Damon M. Kuhn, MBA/PA

St. Petersburg College

P.O. Box 13489

St. Petersburg, FL 33733

Telephone: (727) 341-3465

kuhn.damon@spcollege.edu

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Dental hygienists are licensed preventive oral health professionals who provide educational, clinical and therapeutic services supporting total health through the promotion of optimal oral health.

Graduates are awarded the Associate in Science degree in Dental Hygiene. After graduation a license is required to enter dental hygiene practice. A Florida license requires passing the Dental Hygiene National Board, a comprehensive written examination, and a state-regulated clinical examination as well as meeting other eligibility requirements determined by the Florida Board of Dentistry. After the graduate passes the licensing examination, she/he is qualified for employment in a variety of settings such as private dental offices and public health agencies, as per the Board of Dentistry guidelines.

ACCREDITATION

St. Petersburg College's program in Dental Hygiene is accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation, a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation and the United States Department of Education.

Application Information

Applications for the Dental Hygiene program must be submitted beginning November 1st until January 15th.

Applicants who are not eligible or not selected must re-apply for a future admission date. Prior to enrollment all students must meet their selected health program's prerequisite requirements, if any, pass a background check and drug screening and attend a Health Center Orientation.

Before entering the first semester of the Dental Hygiene "program courses" student must complete minimum requirements for application and admission as follows:

- Complete steps to become an SPC student
- Complete BSC 2085 and BSC 20851, Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab, with grades of “C” or better.
- Complete a minimum of 12 hours in the general education and support courses of the Dental Hygiene curriculum with a minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Complete a minimum of 16 hours of observation, volunteer service or work experience in dentistry. A signed observation hour’s form, signed by a dentist or dental hygienist must verify completion of the hours.
- Submit the Linkage application along with all other required admissions documents.

Program begins every May. Students must view and be able to perform within the essential functions of the program as indicated at:

<http://www.spcollege.edu/hec/dental/ess.funct.dh.pdf>

PRE-ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (4 credits) – Grade of C or higher required

BSC 2085	HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY I	3
BSC 20851	HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY LABORATORY I	1

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES (18 credits)

- Enhanced World View Requirement
 - ENC 1101 – Composition I or (Honors) 3
 - Humanities/Fine Arts Approved Course 3
 - SPC 1017 Introduction to Speech Communication or
SPC 1017H, SPC 1065, SPC 1608
or SPC 1608H 3
 - Mathematics – one college level course with MAC, MAP, MAS, MGF, MTG
or STA prefix 3
 - PSY 1012 – General PSYCHOLOGY OR (Honors) 3
 - PHI 2635 HEALTH CARE ETHICS APPLIED or (PHI 1600, PHI 1602H, PHI 1631, or
PHI 2649)

Computer/Information Literacy Competency Requirements

SUPPORT COURSES (8 credits)

BSC 2086	HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY II	3
BSC 20861	HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY LABORATORY II	1
MCB 2010	MICROBIOLOGY	3
MCB 2010L	MICROBIOLOG LABORATORY	1

Visit spcollege.edu/program/GENR-AS for details

Before entering the first semester of the Dental Hygiene “program courses” students must complete minimum requirements for application and admission as follows:

- Requirements for Health Related Programs (BOT 6Hx23-4.53) apply to the Dental Hygiene Program by submitting the “Health Program” application.
- Complete pre-entrance testing and all college preparatory course work based on pre-entrance testing.
- A 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale in a minimum of 12 semester hours in the dental hygiene general education and support courses.
- Completion of Human Anatomy and Physiology I with lab with grades of “C” or better.
- *Completion of twelve (12) credits in general education and support courses including BSC 2085 and 2085L Anatomy & Physiology I and Lab.
- Completion of 16 hours of observation, volunteer service or work experience in dentistry. A signed form from a dentist or dental hygienist must verify completion of the hours.

Program begins every May. Linkage applications must be received no later than January 15th to begin the program during summer term. Students must view and be able to perform within the essential functions of the program as indicated at:

<http://www.spcollege.edu/hec/dental/ess.funct.dh.pdf>

• ENC 1101	Composition I	3
• Humanities/Fine Arts Approved Course		3
• SPC 1017 Introduction to Speech Communication		3
	Or (SPC 1017H, 1065, 1608 or 1608H)	
Mathematics	One college-level course with MAC, MAP, MGF	3
	MAS, MTG or STA prefix	
PSY 1012	General Psychology	
PHI 2635	Applied Ethics	3
	Or (PHI 1600, 1602H, 1631 or 2649)	
Computer/Information Literacy Competency Requirement		
SUPPORT COURSES		8 CREDITS
BSC 2086/2086L	Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab	3,1
MCB 2010/2010L	Microbiology and Lab	3,1

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

Hillsborough Community College

CONTACT INFORMATION

<http://hccfl.edu/departments/health-science/sonography.aspx>

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Diagnostic Medical Sonography is a health science specialty that involves the use of ultrasonic sound waves to image the internal anatomy of the human body. The sonographer is a highly skilled individual who is qualified by academic and clinical experience to provide patient services using high frequency sound waves.

The sonographer works under the supervision of a Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy, who is responsible for the interpretation of ultrasound procedures. The sonographer assists the physician in gathering the sonographic data necessary to reach a diagnosis. As such, the sonographer is able to obtain, review, and integrate patient history and supporting clinical data to facilitate a diagnosis; perform appropriate procedures and record anatomical, pathological, and/or physiological data for interpretation by a physician; record and process sonographic data and other observations made during the procedure for presentation to a physician; exercise discretion and judgment in the performance of sonographic services; provide patient education related to medical ultrasound; and promote principles of good health.

Sonographers may be employed in hospitals, clinics, private offices, and industry. There is also a need for suitably qualified educators, researchers, and administrators. The demand for sonographers continues to exceed the supply. The supply and demand ratio affects salaries, depending upon experience, job description, and geographical location.

Hillsborough Community College offers an Associate in Science degree, *Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology program*. The *Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology program is open to Linkage students*. Upon graduation from the Associate degree program, the graduate will be eligible to challenge the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers' Examination for certification in Ultrasound Physics and Instrumentation, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Abdomen.

The program is sequential structured for students to complete the curriculum within two years and requires a full-time, day-time enrollment commitment by the student.

ACCREDITATION

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography in cooperation with the Commission of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), 2025 Woodlane Drive, St. Paul, MN 55125.

The Associate in Science degree programs is designated selective admission due to the number of clinical affiliates available for students to develop clinical competence. The program admits students only once per year for entry in the Fall semester.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking Linkage admission to a program *must also complete* an application to Hillsborough Community College and an application for admission to Health Science programs. Students are required to submit all documentation and meet all minimum admission requirements for the selected program.

APPLICATION ORIENTATION

Applicants must contact the Program Manager to set up an orientation session prior to submitting their Health Science application. Applicants who do not attend the orientation session will not have a complete application submitted.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants must be recipients of a standard high school diploma or the G.E.D.

Grade Point Average (GPA):

A minimum 3.0 GPA in prerequisite courses is required for Linkage admission consideration.

Must have completed the following 14 credit hours of health science general education courses with no less than a grade of "C" in each course:

ENC 1101	Freshman English I	3 cr.
BSC 1085	Anatomy and Physiology I	3 cr.
BSC 1085L	Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory	1 cr.
PHY 1025	Fundamentals of Physics	3 cr.
PHY 1025L	Fundamentals of Physics Laboratory	1 cr.
MGF 1106	Liberal Arts Math I	3 cr.
	Or	
MAC 1105	College Algebra	

REPEAT OF PROGRAM PRE-REQUISITE COURSES

For purposes of admission to a health science program, the following policy will apply to the repeating of or number of attempts for the identified pre-requisite courses for a program.

- (1) For purposes of this policy, a "W", "AW" or other non-calculated grade is considered an attempt.
- (2) An applicant may have two attempts per designated pre-requisite course recorded on his/her academic record(s) without penalty.

- (3) Any designated pre-requisite course that is recorded on an applicant's academic record(s) in excess of two attempts will result in a reduction of the applicant's pre-requisite GPA that is calculated for purposes of admission to a health science program. The point reduction will be made according to the following scale.
- (a) minus .2 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 3rd time.
 - (b) minus .6 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 4th time.
 - (c) minus 1.2 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 5th time.
 - (d) minus 2.4 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 6th time.
 - (e) minus 4.8 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 7th time.

FINAL ACCEPTANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. ***Physical Examination*** - Admission to certain health science programs will be contingent upon evidence of satisfactory physical health as certified by a licensed physician. (Refer to Hillsborough Community College's Administrative Procedure 3.041.)
2. ***Program Orientation*** - Final acceptance to a health science program will be contingent upon the applicant attending the scheduled program orientation session. Individuals not attending the session without prior approval of the Health Science Program Admissions Committee Chairman (Dean of Health Sciences) will be dropped from the program acceptance status. The acceptance letter will notify the applicant of the time, date and place of the program orientation and a response deadline for confirmation of attendance.
3. ***CPR Certification*** - The applicant will be required to provide proof of a two (2) year cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification from an agency that provides a two-year certification, such as the American Heart Association, BCLS course or the American Heart Association BPCLS course. The certification should be the BCLS or the BPCLS. An applicant must provide proof of certification by the first day of classes of the program. Failure to comply with this requirement will constitute failure to comply with admission requirements and the individual will not be permitted to matriculate into the program.
4. ***Drug Screen*** – Applicants must provide proof through urinalysis screening that they are free of illegal drugs and controlled substances for which they do not hold a current prescription. Admission will be denied if the drug screen results show the presence of amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine, opiates and PCP. Additional information pertaining to drug screening will be provided during the New Student Program Orientation program. Each applicant will be charged \$35.00 for the drug screening. In addition to this drug screen clinical affiliates may require that students submit to a drug screen prior to placement in accordance with the agency's own pre-employment drug

screening policy or request a student be tested if there is reasonable suspicion that he/she is impaired, has used or is using illegal drugs and alcohol.

5. *Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) background check* - FDLE will provide to the College a summary document listing a person's past arrest and conviction history. In order to be eligible for admission, the applicant cannot have a criminal history with a conviction or nolo contendere plea to one or more specific crimes. The "Occupations in the Health Sciences Booklet" (available in print and online at the Health Sciences section of HCC's website) lists the specific crimes that prohibit admission. An individual will be responsible for notifying college officials of any arrests, regardless of adjudication, that occur during the period after applying and before acceptance. Failure of the applicant/student to notify the appropriate individuals shall be grounds for denial of admission to or dismissal from a health science program.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE

Admissions criteria and curriculum are subject to change and therefore, individuals interested in the program should contact the College to assure that the information is current.

Admission to a Linkage program will be ultimately made by the Linkage college.

Incomplete Linkage applications will be returned to the home institution.

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY PROGRAM

Polk State College

CONTACT INFORMATION

Merrybeth Etherton, AS, RDMS (ABD, OB/GYN)
Program Director, Diagnostic Medical Sonography
Airsides Campus
3515 Aviation Drive, Station # 150
Lakeland, FL 33811
Phone: 863-297-1010 ext. 4068
Email: metherton@polk.edu

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) program fosters and supports creative and positive learning experiences within an atmosphere of academic excellence and continuous improvement. Our goal is to prepare competent entry-level general sonographers in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography is the specific allied imaging modality that uses special equipment to direct high-frequency sound waves into the patient's body. Sonographers are highly skilled professionals who operate equipment that collects reflected echoes and forms an image that may be videotaped, transmitted, or photographed for interpretation and diagnosis by a physician. There are several areas of specialization in the field of sonography: Abdomen, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Echocardiography, Vascular Technology, Neurosonology, and Ophthalmology.

The DMS program provides its students an organized curriculum that includes college-required general education classes in addition to the required core classes for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography curriculum. Through education, the program will emphasize the responsibilities of the sonographer in promoting high clinical standards within the field of sonography. These responsibilities include independent decision making and critical thinking that are vital in assisting the physician in their diagnosis.

Employment of diagnostic medical sonographers is expected to grow much faster than average for all occupations through 2014 as the population grows and ages, increasing the demand for diagnostic imaging and therapeutic technology. Median annual earnings were \$52,000 in 2004 (US Dept. of Labor), based upon a 40-hour work week, with the potential to earn additional pay for on-call responsibilities. Sonographers are employed in hospitals, private physicians' offices, and diagnostic imaging centers. Graduates of the program will be eligible to take the national board exams administered by the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS) for the Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (RDMS) credential.

ACCREDITATION

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is a new, limited-enrollment program at PSC. The program is seeking accreditation through the *Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)* upon the recommendation of the *Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS)*.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

The following are minimum requirements for admission to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program:

1. Acceptance to Polk State College as a credit student with all required admission documents received by the Registrar.
2. Completion of any required college prep courses.
3. At time of admission, overall GPA of 2.0 or higher.
4. At time of admission, a GPA of 2.0 or higher in all prerequisite courses.
5. Completion of the following prerequisite courses prior to admission into the program:

ENC 1101 English Composition I
MAC 1105 College Algebra
BSC 2085C Human Anatomy & Physiology I
PHY 2001C Basic Concepts of Physics

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Admission requirements that are to be completed after admission into the program:

1. Physical examination and essential functions
2. Immunization and Communicable Disease Screening
3. Drug Screening
4. Current CPR Certification
5. Signed Affidavit of Moral Character attesting to the non-committance of specific criminal acts.
6. Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) background check

The Program Director will provide information regarding the completion of these additional admission requirements with the letter of acceptance.

ADMISSION PROCESS

Effective January 2008, the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program will admit students under a "selective-admissions" procedure. Students seeking admission into the program must receive a program application from the program director. Linkage applications must be submitted by July 31 of each year for a January start date.

A selection committee will meet for evaluation of applications. The committee will evaluate the applications using the following criteria: college grade point average, number of credits completed that apply to the general education requirements for the AS in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, prior health care experience related to field of study, and established residency

in Polk, Highlands, or Hardee county. The following prerequisite courses must be completed with a GPA of 2.0 or better before the application will be considered for acceptance:

ENC 1101 English Composition I
MAC 1105 College Algebra
BSC 2085C Human Anatomy & Physiology I
PHY 2001C Basic Concepts of Physics

PSC reserves the right to make changes in the admission criteria as circumstances require. Every reasonable effort will be made to communicate changes in the program to potential students.

PROGRAM COST

The cost of the program is approximately \$8,500. This cost includes course fees, books, uniforms, and national registry fees.

CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

Following the completion of all requirements for graduation from the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program, graduates are eligible to sit for the national registry exam administered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers. After successful completion of this exam, the graduate will earn the credentials of Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (RDMS).

ELECTIVES

Students are encouraged to add appropriate electives to their program courses as their schedule permits. Electives such as computer technology, human relations, chemistry, microbiology, or other health sciences would be pertinent to careers in cardiovascular technology. While these courses are not required, they will serve to prepare students to enter the allied health workforce and act as additional preparation for the national registries.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE

Admissions criteria and curriculum are subject to change; therefore, individuals interested in the program should contact the College to ensure the information is current.

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

Hillsborough Community College

CONTACT INFORMATION

<http://hccfl.edu/departments/health-science/nuclear-medicine.aspx>

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Nuclear Medicine is a medical specialty which concerns itself with the use of radioactive materials for the purpose of diagnosing and treating diseases. Some responsibilities of the technologists include: radiopharmaceutical preparation and administration, operation of nuclear instruments, performing imaging procedures on patients, collection and preparation of biologic specimens, conducting laboratory studies on biologic specimens, and preparing data for a physician's diagnosis.

The field of Nuclear Medicine has been growing in recent years and is expected to continue in that direction. Graduates wishing to pursue a B.S. degree in other fields must be aware that only a limited number of credits are transferable to other colleges and universities.

The Associate of Science degree in Nuclear Medicine Technology is offered at Hillsborough Community College. It has been designed to furnish students with both a theoretical concepts and practical skills of Nuclear Medicine Technology. The degree requirements are fulfilled in six semesters, and the curriculum is sequentially designed requiring a full-time, day-time commitment through the last semester of the second year. During the first three semesters, the students take the required Nuclear Medicine theory courses. The remainder of the program comprises the clinical phase. During the clinical phase, the students spend approximately thirty-two (32) hours per week on a regularly scheduled basis in the clinical training facilities. During this phase of the program, all students are required to return to HCC at least once a week to attend class.

Graduates of the program are eligible to take a national registry examination, a state licensure examination, and are qualified for entering positions as Nuclear Medicine Technologists.

The cost of the NMT program is directly related to the College's established tuition and laboratory fee assessments. In addition to these fees, students will need to purchase books, uniforms, film badge service and have a physical examination by a licensed physician. Tuition and laboratory fees are paid by the semester. Please refer to HCC's current catalog for fee assessments. The Office of Financial Aid at HCC may be able to assist those in need of financial help.

The Nuclear Medicine Technology program at HCC is designed as a selective admissions program because of the limited number of seats available in each class. For this reason, as well

as the technical nature of the program, certain requirements are necessary in order for the applicant to qualify for acceptance.

The following courses are not required, but it is strongly recommended that they be taken before beginning the Nuclear Medicine program in anticipation of being accepted. They will assist in developing a strong background for the content of the program. The courses are:

Biology (BSC 1010, BSC 1011, or APB 1170)
Algebra (MAC 2104) and
Physics (APB 1022).

ACCREDITATION

The Nuclear Medicine Program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology, 2000 W. Danforth Rd; Suite130, #230 Edmond, OK 73003, (405) 385-0546.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT

Students seeking linkage admission to a program *must also complete* an application to Hillsborough Community College and an application for admission to Health Science programs. Students are required to submit all documentation and meet all minimum admission requirements for the selected program.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants must be recipients of a standard high school diploma or the G.E.D. They must also complete the 14 credits of prerequisite courses.

Special Admission Requirements:

Applicants for the Radiography, Radiation Therapy, and Nuclear Medicine Technology, must be at least eighteen (18) years of age by the first day of class.

Grade Point Average (GPA):

A minimum 3.0 GPA in prerequisite courses is required for linkage admission consideration.

Must have completed the following 14 credit hours of health science general education courses with no less than a grade of C in each course:

ENC 1101	Freshman English I
BSC 1085	Anatomy and Physiology I
BSC 1085L	Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory
CHM 1025	Modern Chemistry
CHM 1025L	Modern Chemistry Laboratory
MGF 1119	Introductory Mathematics with Application (AAS Degree Only; 2012 is last year MGF 1119 will be accepted) or Mathematics General (AS or AAS) 3 credits

Effective for the February 15, 2013 deadline for the Fall 2013 start, MGF 1119 will be replaced with:

MAC 1105 College Algebra - 3 credits (or higher three credit General Education transferable math (except statistics)

Effective for the February 15, 2013 deadline for the Fall 2013 start, the following courses will also be required prerequisites:

PHY 1025 Fundamentals of Physics - 3 credits

PHY1025L Fundamentals of Physics Lab -1 credit

REPEAT OF PROGRAM PRE-REQUISITE COURSES

For purposes of admission to a health science program, the following policy will apply to the repeating of or number of attempts for the identified pre-requisite courses for a program.

- (1) For purposes of this policy, a "W", "AW" or other non-calculated grade is considered an attempt.
- (2) An applicant may have two attempts per designated pre-requisite course recorded on his/her academic record(s) without penalty.
- (3) Any designated pre-requisite course that is recorded on an applicant's academic record(s) in excess of two attempts will result in a reduction of the applicant's pre-requisite GPA that is calculated for purposes of admission to a health science program. The point reduction will be made according to the following scale.
 - (a) minus .2 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 3rd time.
 - (b) minus .6 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 4th time.
 - (c) minus 1.2 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 5th time.
 - (d) minus 2.4 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 6th time.
 - (e) minus 4.8 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 7th time.

FINAL ACCEPTANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. *Physical Examination* - Admission to certain health science programs will be contingent upon evidence of satisfactory physical health as certified by a licensed physician. (Refer to Administrative Procedure 3.041.)
2. *Program Orientation* - Final acceptance to a Health Science program will be contingent upon the applicant attending the scheduled program orientation session. Individuals not attending the session without prior approval of the Health Science Program Admissions Committee Chairman (Dean of Health Sciences) will be dropped from the program acceptance status. The acceptance letter will notify the applicant of the time,

date and place of the program orientation and a response deadline for confirmation of attendance.

3. ***CPR Certification*** - The applicant will be required to provide proof of a two (2) year cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification from an agency that provides a two-year certification, such as the American Heart Association, BCLS course or the American Heart Association BPCLS course. The certification should be the BCLS or the BPCLS. An applicant must provide proof of certification by the first day of classes of the program. Failure to comply with this requirement will constitute failure to comply with admission requirements and the individual will not be permitted to matriculate into the program.
4. ***Drug Screen*** – Applicants must provide proof through urinalysis screening that they are free of illegal drugs and controlled substances for which they do not hold a current prescription. Admission will be denied if the drug screen results show the presence of amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine, opiates and PCP. Additional information pertaining to drug screening will be provided during the New Student Program Orientation program. Each applicant will be charged \$35.00 for the drug screening. In addition to this drug screen clinical affiliates may require that students submit to a drug screen prior to placement in accordance with the agency’s own pre-employment drug screening policy or request a student be tested if there is reasonable suspicion that he/she is impaired, has used or is using illegal drugs and alcohol.
5. ***Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) background check*** - FDLE will provide to the College a summary document listing a person’s past arrest and conviction history. In order to be eligible for admission, the applicant cannot have a criminal history with a conviction or nolo contendere plea to one or more specific crimes. The “Occupations in the Health Sciences Booklet” (available in print and online at the Health Sciences section of HCC’s website) lists the specific crimes that prohibit admission. An individual will be responsible for notifying college officials of any arrests, regardless of adjudication, that occur during the period after applying and before acceptance. Failure of the applicant/student to notify the appropriate individuals shall be grounds for denial of admission to or dismissal from a health science program.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE

Admissions criteria and curriculum are subject to change and therefore, individuals interested in the program should contact the College to assure that the information is current.

Admission to a Linkage program will be ultimately made by the Linkage college.

Incomplete Linkage applications will be returned to the home institution.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM

Polk State College

CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Director

Saritza Guzman-Sardina

Winter Haven Campus

999 Avenue H NE

Winter Haven, FL 33881

(863) 669-2905

Sguzman-sardina@polk.edu

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Polk State College offers an Associate in Science and Associate in Applied Science degree to become an Occupational Therapy Assistant. The program was implemented in Spring Term 1999. Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the National Certification Examination for the Occupational Therapy Assistant, administered by the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT), 800 S. Frederick Avenue, Suite 200, Gaithersburg, MD 20877-4150. After successful completion of this exam, the graduate will be a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA).

ROLE OF OTA

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program trains and qualifies graduates to work in the occupational therapy field. Occupational Therapy is a vital health care service whose practitioners help restore and sustain the highest quality of productive life to persons recovering from illness or injuries, or coping with developmental disabilities, or changes resulting from the aging process. Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants use "occupation" (purposeful activity) as a means of preventing, reducing, or overcoming physical, social, and emotional disabilities in people of all ages. The OTA trains disabled individuals to adapt their job skills or daily tasks to their particular condition and to adapt the environment to maximize function. Typical work sites for the OTA are in rehabilitation units/centers, nursing homes, psychiatric units, mental health agencies, forensic facilities, developmental agencies, pediatric agencies, schools, higher education, etc.

ACCREDITATION

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE), 4720 Montgomery Lane, PO Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220, (301) 652-AOTA.

CURRICULUM

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is a limited-access 70 credit hour AS and AAS degree program. The program is housed at the Winter Haven Campus. Most technical OTA

courses are offered two or three days a week (depending on the term) during the day. Students are assigned to clinical/ fieldwork in various facilities in the area. The program requires full-time commitment throughout the year including summer. The program also requires 14 credit hours of clinical fieldwork, and students are required to complete the Level II fieldwork within 18 months following completion of academic preparation.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to complete all courses that are not professional requirements (courses without OTH prefix) prior to program entry. This will greatly lighten the student load while enrolled in the program.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking linkage admission to the program *must also complete* an application to Polk State College. Admission is limited to students that meet the minimum requirements. One class per year is admitted. Minimum requirements are as follows:

1. Must possess and submit a regular high school diploma, a bachelor's or associate of arts' degree, or a general equivalency development (GED) diploma, and official transcripts from each postsecondary institution attended. All admission credentials must be received by the Registrar.
2. Completion of any required college prep courses.
3. An overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher at the time of application and admission.
4. The following prerequisite course work completed at the time of application.
 1. BSC2085C Human Anatomy and Physiology I
 2. PSY2012 General Psychology
 3. ENC1101 College Composition I
5. A GPA of 2.0 or higher in all prerequisite courses at the time of application and a grade of "C" or better in each course.
6. Completion of 20 hours of observation in an occupational therapy department with direct supervision of an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant. Observation hours need to be documented on the "OTA Program Observation Hours Form." This form can be obtained from Polk State College's OTA Program website www.polk.edu/ota or by contacting the program director.
7. Deadline for application is September 30. The application form is available at program website: www.polk.edu/ota, or by contacting the program director or academic advisors. Final notification of admission will be made by November 30th.

8. The OTA program saves one slot each for the HCC, PHCC and SPC, if more than one qualified linkage student from the same institution applies for the same slot in the program, preference will be given to the student with the higher GPA.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements are to be completed by students admitted into the program before the first day of class.

1. Completion of a physical examination.
2. Completion of all immunization and communicable disease screenings, including a Tuberculosis PPD, Tetanus vaccination or booster within the last 5 years, MMR vaccine (Measles/Mumps/Rubella) or an MMR titer, a Varicella titer, and a Hepatitis B vaccination (optional, but recommended).
3. Certification in CPR (current)
4. Certification in AIDS/HIV precautions (4 Hours).

The following requirements are to be completed by a designated date in April and before the summer fieldwork rotations:

1. Submissions of a Level II Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) background check.
2. Completion of drug screening (10 panel).

These admission requirements need to be updated by students every year. Information regarding the completion of these additional admission requirements is provided by the faculty during the orientation meeting held in November.

Note: Students with a history of felonies and who are considering entering an occupational therapy educational program can have their background reviewed by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) prior to actually applying to the program by requesting an Early Determination Review. The fee for this review is \$100. You may visit the following site for further details: <http://www.nbcot.org>.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM
State College of Florida Manatee-Sarasota

CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Director

Matthew Connell, MPT

941-752-5346 Bradenton

941-408-1300, ext. 65346 Venice

Connelm@scf.edu

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Graduates of the program will become Physical Therapist Assistants, or PTAs. PTAs are skilled health care providers who work under the supervision of a physical therapist as part of the health care team. PTAs assist people of all ages who have functional limitations due to disease, injuries, or congenital abnormalities. Care provided by a PTA may include:

- teaching exercises to improve a patient's mobility, strength, flexibility, and coordination
- gait training with crutches, canes, and walkers
- the use of physical agents such as massage, ultrasound, and electrotherapy

Additionally, PTAs participate in the documentation of care and discharge planning.

Accreditation

The State College of Florida Manatee-Sarasota Physical Therapist Assistant Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: Effective January 1, 2009

In addition to the admission requirements of the College, the following are requirements for admission to the SCF-MS Physical Therapist Assistant Program:

1. Earned grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 or better in **ALL** general education courses required by the program toward the degree and a required minimum overall GPA of 2.0 to meet graduation requirements.
2. Satisfactory completion of any remedial coursework needed to be eligible for college level courses. **NOTE:** Prerequisite courses may be required for ENC 1101 and MAT 1033. These prerequisites **MUST** be taken **PRIOR** to entry into PHT1007C to be eligible to take the required courses. Consult the course descriptions in the back of the catalog or the specific department of the College for additional information.

3. Completion of prerequisite courses with a grade of "C" or better by the end of the spring term prior to the fall term of the year in which you are applying. Prerequisite courses:

BSC 2085C Anatomy and Physiology I

ENC1101 Written Communications I

PSY2012 General Psychology

Mathematics Choose from Area II A.S.

Pre-req: Qualifying placement test score or completion of college preparatory/prerequisite math coursework.



Per 2011-2012 SCF catalog, Area II A.S. mathematics is required. If a student's initiated coursework leading to program prior to FALL 2011, MAT 1033 will be accepted, leading to A.A.S. degree.

4. A minimum grade of "C" is required for all courses applied to the PTA degree.
5. A completed PTA program application and payment of a one-time PTA program application fee of \$20. (A separate application is required for admission to the College.)
6. Two completed recommendation forms from non-friend/relatives. This form is provided with PTA application.
7. Verification of attendance at a PTA program information session or meeting with the Program Director. (Call for dates of sessions or to make an appointment.)

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is a limited enrollment program. Completion of all or part of the required academic courses does not assure acceptance. Twenty-four students are admitted into the program annually, with priority given to those with the most completed hours required in the degree prior to the March 1 priority period deadline.

ADMISSION PRIORITY

1. Admission priority will be given to those applicants who have completed, **at the time of application**, the **MOST** general education courses required in the degree.
2. Admission priority will be given to students whose applications are received and files are complete by March 1. After March 1, applications will be accepted on a space available basis.

UPON NOTIFICATION OF ADMISSION, STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING PRIOR TO THE START OF THE FALL SEMESTER:

1. A statement of satisfactory physical and mental health and a record of current serum titers or inoculations verifying immunity from communicable diseases from a licensed

physician or nurse practitioner. This form will be provided at the program orientation scheduled after admission to the program.

2. A criminal background check (form to be provided upon acceptance to the program) and drug screen
3. Successful completion of the Basic Life Support for the Health Care Provider offered through the American Heart Association.
4. Mandatory attendance at the Physical Therapist Assistant program orientation. (Date to be announced)

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

Polk State College

CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Director

Nelson Marquez, PT, Ed.D.

Winter Haven Campus

999 Avenue H NE

Winter Haven, FL 33881

(863) 669-2904

nmarquez@polk.edu

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Polk State College offers Associate of Science and Associate of Applied Science Degrees to become a Physical Therapist Assistant. Following completion of academic and clinical work, graduates of the program will be able to sit for the Physical Therapist Assistant Examination for licensure as registered Physical Therapist Assistants. The exam is administered by the Professional Examination Service Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (PES/FSBPT), 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115, (212) 367-4200. This examination carries both state and national certifications.

ROLE OF PTA

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program prepares students for careers as members of the health care team that provides direct patient care under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist. The PTA provides treatment to patients with various diagnoses to relieve pain and/or improve function via therapeutic application of heat, cold, light, water, electricity, sound, massage, exercise, gait, and functional activity. PTAs are licensed professionals who work in settings where physical therapists are employed. They work in hospitals, private practices, rehabilitation centers, school systems, sports teams, home health agencies, and other qualified facilities.

ACCREDITATION

Polk State College has achieved accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association.

CURRICULUM

The PTA program is a 74 credit hour AS and AAS degree program that trains and qualifies graduates to work in the physical therapist assistant field. Students are admitted to the program by a selective-admission process with 18 students accepted once a year. Students seeking admission must be admitted to the College and complete the prerequisite courses. The program is housed on the Winter Haven campus. Classes are scheduled Monday through Thursday and include both day and evening hours.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking linkage admission to the program *must also complete* an application to Polk State College. Admission is limited to students that meet the minimum requirements. One class per year is admitted. Minimum requirements are as follows:

1. Must possess and submit a regular high school diploma, a bachelor's or associate of arts' degree, or a general equivalency development (GED) diploma, and official transcripts from each postsecondary institution attended. All admission credentials must be received by the Registrar.
2. Completion of any required college prep courses.
3. An overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher at the time of application and admission.
4. At the time of application and admission, a GPA of 2.00 or higher in all prerequisites courses with a grade of "C" or better in each course.
5. Completion of the following prerequisite courses at the time of application:
 - BSC2085c Human Anatomy and Physiology I
 - ENC1101 College Composition I
 - PSY 2012 General Psychology
6. Verification of at least 50 volunteer/observation/employment hours in at least three physical therapy settings. These hours should be documented and verified by a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant on the verification form available from Polk State College's PTA program. Although only 50 hours are required, additional exposure to the physical therapy profession is strongly recommended.
7. Applications are accepted continuously on a first-qualified, first-accepted basis. For linkage program students, deadline for application is April 30 of each year.
8. In the event that the PTA program has a waiting list, linkage students will be considered as alternates. One alternate slot will be allotted to a linkage student from HCC and one to a student from PHCC each year, provided slots are available (i.e. provided at least two admitted applicants decline their spots in the program). If more than one linkage student from each HCC or PHCC apply, the students from that institution will be ranked according to GPA. After the two linkage slots have been assigned, any remaining alternate slots will be given to non-linkage students on the waiting list. Linkage students, who are not admitted one year, must re-apply for the subsequent year.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

St. Petersburg College

CONTACT INFORMATION

Administrative Manager, Admissions

Damon M. Kuhn, MBA/PA

St. Petersburg College

P. O. Box 13489

St. Petersburg, FL 33733

Phone: (727) 341-3465

Kuhn.damon@spcollege.edu

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The physical therapist assistant is a skilled technical health care worker who assists the professional physical therapist in carrying out patient treatment programs. Under direction of the physical therapist, the assistant works to relieve pain and/or increase function in patients via therapeutic application of heat, cold, light, water, electricity, sound, massage, exercise, gait and functional activity.

Clinical experience is provided in a variety of settings including hospitals, rehabilitation agencies, schools, private offices and nursing homes.

Upon completion of the program, the student is awarded an Associate in Science in Physical Therapist Assistant degree. A state licensing examination is given by the Florida Board of Physical Therapy.

ACCREDITATION

The St. Petersburg College Physical Therapist Assistant Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association.

Application Information

Applications for the Physical Therapist Assistant program must be submitted beginning March 1st until May 15th.

Applicants who are not eligible or not selected must re-apply for a future admission date.

Prior to enrollment all students must meet their selected healthy program's prerequisite requirements, if any pass a background check and drug screening and attend a Health Center Orientation.

Before entering the first semester of the Physical Therapist Assistant "program courses" students must complete minimum requirements for application and admission as follows:

- Complete the steps to become an SPC student.

- Have maintained a cumulative 2.0 GPA if you were previously enrolled at SPC. .
- Complete BSC 2085/BSC 2085L – Human Anatomy and Physiology I/Lab, ENC 1101 Composition I, HSC 1531 –Medical Terminology and CGS 1070-Basic Computer and Information Literacy Competency, with a grade of “C” or better.
- Complete a minimum of 24 hours of observation, volunteer services or work experience in physical therapy department verify by a physical therapist of physical therapist assistant. This requirement must be complete in at least two different types of clinical settings. Some hours must be completed in inpatient (Hospital/skilled nursing facility, inpatient rehab facility) and some hours must be completed in outpatient (sports medicine, private practice).
- Earn a minimum 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale in at least 9 hours in the general education and support courses of the Physical Therapist Assistant curriculum.

Program begins every August. Students must view and be able to perform within the essential functions of the program as indicated at

http://www.spcollege.edu/Hec/pta/ESSENTIAL_STUDENT_FUNCTIONS.pdf

PRE-ENTRY REQUIREMENT 9 CREDITS

BSC	2085/2085L	Human Anatomy & Physiology I and Lab	3,1
ENC	1101	Composition I	3
HSC	1531	Medical Terminology	2
Computer Information Literacy Competency Requirement			

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES 15 CREDITS

*Enhance World View requirements

SPC	1017	Introduction to Speech Communication OR (SPC1017H, 1065, 1608 or 1608H)	3
Humanities/Fine Arts Approved Course			3
Mathematics Any college-level course with a MAC, MGF or STA prefix			3
PSY	1012	General Psychology	3
PHI	2635	Healthcare Ethics Applied OR (PHI 1600, 1602H, 1631 OR 2649)	3

SUPPORT COURSES 8 CREDITS

BSC	2086-2086L	Human Anatomy & Physiology II and Lab	3,1
DEP	2004	Developmental Psychology of the Life Span	3
HSC	1149C	General Pharmacology for Health Professionals	1

*Visit spcollege.edu/program/GENR-AS for details.

RADIATION THERAPY PROGRAM

Hillsborough Community College

CONTACT INFORMATION

<http://hccfl.edu/departments/health-science/radiation-therapy.aspx>

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Hillsborough Community College offers the Associate in Science degree and College Credit Certificate programs in Radiation Therapy. (The one-year certificate program is designed for those individuals who are registered by ARRT or registry eligible *and is not open to linkage students*.) The program provides educational classes and clinical experiences in radiation therapy. The Associate in Science degree program, which is a full two-year program, is designed for the individual who does not have prior health career certification. The first year of the program is devoted to health career training, patient care, physics of radiography, and introduction to radiation therapy. The second year of the program is devoted solely to radiation therapy. Accreditation for these programs has been accomplished by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology.

Upon graduation from either the certificate program or the Associate in Science degree program, the students will be eligible to take the national registry examination for Radiation Therapy (ARRT).

Radiation Therapy is a health science specialty that educates the Radiation Therapy student in the use of various forms of gamma and ionizing radiation used to treat pathological conditions. Malignant neoplasms disorders are the most common diseases treated with radiation therapy. Treatments may be administered on low-dose x-ray machines, high-dose linear accelerators, and cobalt 60 therapy units. The Radiation Therapist works closely with the physician and physicist in administering the radiation doses to the patient in carefully prescribed amounts. In the therapy program the students learn about treatment procedures, the physics of radiation, biological effects of radiations, and the diseases treated by radiation. A multi-disciplinary education is achieved by rotating students through clinical education centers, hospitals and clinics to gain experience in the performance of the procedures. The procedures are carefully monitored by qualified registered Radiation Therapist.

On completion of the 24 months, the A.S. student will be eligible to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technology (ARRT) examination in Radiation Therapy. On completion of the twelve month certificate program, the certificate student will be eligible to take the same examination.

The Radiation Therapy Program is located in the Technology Building on the Dale Mabry Campus. In addition to the simulation laboratory (T-102), there is a separate darkroom for the

Radiation Therapy Program (T-103) and classroom (T-104). The Technology Building has many well-equipped computer labs.

HCC is one of approximately five JRCERT approved programs in the State of Florida. Graduates of this medical discipline are needed in both the regional and national job market. Relocation may be necessary to secure employment. The Radiation Therapy Program at HCC boasts a 100% job placement for its graduates.

The cost of the program is directly related to the College's established tuition and laboratory fee assessments. In addition to these fees, students will need to purchase books, uniforms, film badge service and have a physical examination by a licensed physician. Tuition and laboratory fees are paid by the semester. Please refer to H.C.C.'s current catalog for fee assessments. The Office of Financial Aid at HCC may be able to assist those in need of financial help.

Both therapy programs are designed as selective admissions programs due to the limited number of clinical spaces available. Therefore, certain requirements are necessary in order for the applicant to qualify for acceptance.

ACCREDITATION

The program is fully accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology, 20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 900, Chicago, IL, (312) 704-5300.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking linkage admission to a program *must also complete* an application to Hillsborough Community College and an application for admission to Health Science Health programs. Students are required to submit all documentation and meet all minimum admission requirements for the selected program.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Special Admission Requirements:

Applicants for the Radiography, Radiation Therapy, Nuclear Medicine Technology, and Emergency Medical Services Programs must be at least eighteen (18) years of age by the first day of class.

Applicants must be recipients of a standard high school diploma or the G.E.D.

Grade Point Average (GPA):

A minimum 3.0 GPA in prerequisite courses is required for linkage admission consideration.

Must have completed the following 13 credit hours of health science general education courses with no less than a grade of C in each course:

ENC 1101	Freshman English I
BSC 1085	Anatomy and Physiology I
BSC 1085L	Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory
PSY 2012	General Psychology
MAC 1105	College Algebra (or MGF 1107)

REPEAT OF PROGRAM PRE-REQUISITE COURSES

For purposes of admission to a health science program, the following policy will apply to the repeating of or number of attempts for the identified pre-requisite courses for a program.

- (1) For purposes of this policy, a "W", "AW" or other non-calculated grade is considered an attempt.
- (2) An applicant may have two attempts per designated pre-requisite course recorded on his/her academic record(s) without penalty.
- (3) Any designated pre-requisite course that is recorded on an applicant's academic record(s) in excess of two attempts will result in a reduction of the applicant's pre-requisite GPA that is calculated for purposes of admission to a health science program. The point reduction will be made according to the following scale.
 - (a) minus .2 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 3rd time.
 - (b) minus .6 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 4th time.
 - (c) minus 1.2 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 5th time.
 - (d) minus 2.4 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 6th time.
 - (e) minus 4.8 from the pre-requisite GPA for each course attempted a 7th time.

FINAL ACCEPTANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Physical Examination** - Admission to certain health science programs will be contingent upon evidence of satisfactory physical health as certified by a licensed physician. (Refer to Administrative Procedure 3.041.)
2. **Program Orientation** - Final acceptance to a Health Science program will be contingent upon the applicant attending the scheduled program orientation session. Individuals not attending the session without prior approval of the Health Science Program Admissions Committee Chairman (Dean of Health Sciences) will be dropped from the program acceptance status. The acceptance letter will notify the applicant of the time,

date and place of the program orientation and a response deadline for confirmation of attendance.

3. ***CPR Certification*** - The applicant will be required to provide proof of a two (2) year cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification from an agency that provides a two-year certification, such as the American Heart Association, BCLS course or the American Heart Association BPCLS course. The certification should be the BCLS or the BPCLS. An applicant must provide proof of certification by the first day of classes of the program. Failure to comply with this requirement will constitute failure to comply with admission requirements and the individual will not be permitted to matriculate into the program. Students in the Associate of Science program will receive a CPR card upon successful completion of HSC 1220 in the fall semester.
4. ***Drug Screen*** - Applicants must provide proof through urinalysis screening that they are free of illegal drugs and controlled substances for which they do not hold a current prescription. Admission will be denied if the drug screen results show the presence of amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine, opiates and PCP. Additional information pertaining to drug screening will be provided during the New Student Program Orientation program. Each applicant will be charged \$35.00 for the drug screening. In addition to this drug screen clinical affiliates may require that students submit to a drug screen prior to placement in accordance with the agency's own pre-employment drug screening policy or request a student be tested if there is reasonable suspicion that he/she is impaired, has used or is using illegal drugs and alcohol.
5. ***Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) background check*** - FDLE will provide to the College a summary document listing a person's past arrest and conviction history. In order to be eligible for admission, the applicant cannot have a criminal history with a conviction or nolo contendere plea to one or more specific crimes. The "Occupations in the Health Sciences Booklet" (available in print and online at the Health Sciences section of HCC's website) lists the specific crimes that prohibit admission. An individual will be responsible for notifying college officials of any arrests, regardless of adjudication, that occur during the period after applying and before acceptance. Failure of the applicant/student to notify the appropriate individuals shall be grounds for denial of admission to or dismissal from a health science program.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE

Admissions criteria and curriculum are subject to change and therefore, individuals interested in the program should contact the College to assure that the information is current.

Incomplete Linkage applications will be returned to the home institution.

RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM

Hillsborough Community College

CONTACT INFORMATION

<http://hccfl.edu/departments/health-science/respiratory-care.aspx>

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Hillsborough Community College offers an Associate in Science degree in Respiratory Care. The Associate of Science Degree is designed for individuals who do not possess an allied health education. The program requires a twenty-month continuous, full-time enrollment for completion of the program. The program requires the student to attend the College or the clinical setting on a full-time basis that shall not exceed 40 hours per week.

Graduates of the program are needed on a local, regional, and national basis. A Registered Respiratory Therapist may secure employment in hospitals, clinics, physician offices, home care, cardiopulmonary rehabilitation, pulmonary function labs, and extended care facilities.

Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the national certification and registry exams administered by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC). Upon successful completion of all the exams, the graduate will be titled a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT). Most states require licensure in order to practice.

The cost of the program is based upon the College's established fee rate. The fee rates are located in the College's catalog. In addition to matriculation and /or tuition fees, there are additional costs for books, self assessment exams, uniforms and a name tag.

ACCREDITATION

The Respiratory Care program is accredited by the (CoARC) Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care, 1248 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas 76021-4244. (800-874-5615)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The program is designated selective admission due to the limited number of clinical affiliates available for students to develop clinical competence. The Program admits students only once per year for entry in the fall semester. (Please refer to admissions criteria included with this document.)

BSC 1085	Human Anatomy & Physiology I
BSC 1085L	Anatomy & Physiology I Laboratory
BSC 1086	Human Anatomy and Physiology II
BSC 1086L	Human Anatomy and Physiology II lab
MAC 1105	College Algebra or higher General Education transferable math
ENC 1101	English I
PSY 2012	General Psychology

Any remaining general education courses inclusive of BSC 1086 Human Anatomy and Physiology II and 1086L Human Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory II may be completed prior to admission to the program. *Applicants who are considering application and receipt of financial aid should meet with an advisor, counselor, or financial aid specialist prior to completion of these additional courses.* Financial aid recipients are required to meet minimum credit hours each semester.

APPLICANT ORIENTATION

Applicants must attend one of the orientation sessions presented throughout the year in order to complete the application process. These dates are made available to students in the application packet. Applicants who do not attend one applicant orientation session *will not* have a complete application submitted. You may attend the session of your choice. However, you are encouraged to attend as soon as possible.

FINAL ACCEPTANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Physical Examination** - Admission to certain health science programs will be contingent upon evidence of satisfactory physical health as certified by a licensed physician. (Refer to Administrative Procedure 3.041.)
2. **Program Orientation** - Final acceptance to a Health Science program will be contingent upon the applicant attending the scheduled program orientation session. Individuals not attending the session without prior approval of the Health Science Program Admissions Committee Chairman (Dean of Health Sciences) will be dropped from the program acceptance status. The acceptance letter will notify the applicant of the time, date and place of the program orientation and a response deadline for confirmation of attendance.
3. **Drug Screen** – Applicants must provide proof through urinalysis screening that they are free of illegal drugs and controlled substances for which they do not hold a current prescription. Admission will be denied if the drug screen results show the presence of amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine, opiates and PCP. Additional information pertaining to drug screening will be provided during the New Student Program Orientation program. Each applicant will be charged \$35.00 for the drug screening. In addition to this drug screen clinical affiliates may require that students submit to a drug screen prior to placement in accordance with the agency's own pre-employment drug screening policy or request a student be tested if there is reasonable suspicion that he/she is impaired, has used or is using illegal drugs and alcohol.
4. **Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) background check** - FDLE will provide to the College a summary document listing a person's past arrest and

conviction history. In order to be eligible for admission, the applicant cannot have a criminal history with a conviction or nolo contendere plea to one or more specific crimes. The "Occupations in the Health Sciences Booklet" (available in print and online at the Health Sciences section of HCC's website) lists the specific crimes that prohibit admission. An individual will be responsible for notifying college officials of any arrests, regardless of adjudication, that occur during the period after applying and before acceptance. Failure of the applicant/student to notify the appropriate individuals shall be grounds for denial of admission to or dismissal from a health science program.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE

Admissions criteria and curriculum are subject to change and therefore, individuals interested in the program should contact the College to assure that the information is current.

Incomplete Linkage applications will be returned to the home institution.

RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM

Polk State College

CONTACT INFORMATION

Respiratory Care Program Director
Kathee Ford, MPH, RRT
Lakeland Campus
3425 Winter Lake Road
Lakeland, FL 33803
Phone: (863) 298-6818
kford@polk.edu

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The PSC Respiratory Care program prepares outstanding advanced-level Respiratory Therapists to meet the dynamic health care needs of the community. The program is a two-year curriculum that offers an Associate of Science degree in Respiratory Care. Upon successful completion of the CRT (Certified Respiratory Therapist) board exam, the candidate is able to become state licensed. The program prepares the candidate to become an RRT (Registered Respiratory Therapist). The RRT national board exams are completed after the entry level CRT credential is achieved. Experience is provided in basic cardiopulmonary modalities, critical care, cardiopulmonary diagnostics and rehabilitation, endotracheal intubation, arterial puncture/analysis, mechanical ventilation, emergency medicine, neonatal care, and pediatrics. Special rotations include cardiac catheterization, bronchoscopy, and pertinent surgery. The program has well qualified clinical instructors and physicians at the varied clinical site rotations. The Respiratory Care Program requires a full-time commitment throughout the two years, including a summer term during year one.

ACCREDITATION

The program has initial accreditation from the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). CoARC may be reached at (817) 283-2835.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Respiratory Care program is a selective-admission, limited-access program. The following are required:

1. Applicants must achieve the state standards for placement at the college level on the College Placement Test (CPT) or from recent scores on the SAT and/or ACT tests. Reading score exempting enrollment in college prep reading courses or satisfactory completion of these courses is also required.
2. Applicants must be accepted to Polk State College as credit students with all required admission documents received by the Registrar.

3. The following prerequisite courses must be completed with a “C” or better prior to beginning the professional core courses (courses beginning with the prefix, RET):

ENC 1101 English Composition I
BSC 2085C Human Anatomy & Physiology I
MAC 1105 College Algebra (or higher)

4. Pre-admission conference with the Respiratory Care Program Director.
5. The application packet for the Respiratory Care Program must be submitted by May 1 in order to be considered for that fall semester class. The Respiratory Care Program is offered in a two-year curriculum with a new class starting in the fall (Term 1) semester.
6. An **Overall G.P.A.** of 2.0 is required.

Students who fail to enroll and/or attend the term that admission is granted must reapply for a future date.

Note: The following additional general education courses that are required for graduation may be taken prior to admission to the program:

CHM 1025 Introduction to Chemistry
PSY 2012 General Psychology
BSC 2086C Human Anatomy & Physiology II
MCB 2010C Microbiology
PHI 2600 Ethics

FINAL ACCEPTANCE REQUIREMENTS

Admission requirements that must be completed after the selection process has been finalized in order to remain enrolled in the program include:

1. Physical examination and essential functions
2. Immunizations and Communicable Disease Screenings
3. Current Healthcare CPR Certification
4. Drug screening
5. National Background Checks
6. Program Orientation– Final acceptance to the Respiratory Care Program will be contingent upon the applicant attending the scheduled program orientation session. Individuals not attending the session without prior approval of the program director will be dropped from the program acceptance status. The acceptance letter will notify the applicant of the time, date, and place of the program orientation and a response deadline for confirmation of attendance.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Completion of the following courses with a GPA of 2.0 is required in addition to an overall G.P.A. of 2.0.

ENC 1101	College Composition I
MAC 1105	College Algebra or higher
BSC 2085C	Human Anatomy & Physiology I

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE

Admissions criteria and curriculum are subject to change; therefore, individuals interested in the program should contact the College to ensure the information is current.

RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM

St. Petersburg College

CONTACT INFORMATION

Administrative Manager Admissions

Damon M. Kuhn MBA/PA

St. Petersburg College

P.O. Box 13489

St. Petersburg, FL 33733

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The SPC Respiratory Care Program provides a careful integration of clinical, laboratory, and classroom work which has resulted in unusual success for program graduates. Experience is provided in basic care, critical care, pulmonary laboratory, intubation, neonatal care, and pediatrics. Special rotations include surgery, cardiac catheterization, and radiology. The program has a well-qualified teaching staff of therapists and physicians.

ACCREDITATION

The Respiratory Care program at St. Petersburg College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). Inquiries regarding accreditation should be directed to: CoARC, 1248 Harwood Road, Bedford, TX 76021, 817-283-2835, <http://www.coarc.com>.

Application Information

Applications for the Respiratory Care program must be submitted beginning March 1st until May 15th.

Applicants who are not eligible or not selected must re-apply for a future admission date. Prior to enrollment all students must meet their selected health program's prerequisite requirements, if any pass a background check and drug screening and attend a Health Center Orientation.

Before entering the first semester of the Respiratory Care "program courses" students must complete minimum requirements for application and admission as follows:

- Complete the steps to become an SPC student.
- Have maintained a cumulative 2.0 GPA if you were previously enrolled at SPC.
- Complete BSC 2085 and BSC 2085L, Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab with grades of "C" or better.

- Complete a minimum 12 semester hours in the general educational/support courses of the Respiratory Care curriculum with a minimum 2.5 GPA.
- Complete a minimum four (4) hours of observation, volunteer service or work experience in a respiratory care department.

Program begins in August. Students must view and be able to perform within the essential functions of the program as indicated at:

<http://www.spcollege.edu/hec/resp/ess.funct.resp.pdf>

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES 18 CREDITS

*Enhance World View Requirements

ENC	1101	Composition I	3
SPC	1017	Introduction to Speech Communication OR (SPC 1017H, 1065, 1608 or 1608H)	3
Humanities/Fine Arts Approved Course			3
Mathematics		Any college-level course with a MAC, MGF or STA prefix	3
Social & Behavioral Sciences Approved Course			3
PHI	1600	Applied Ethics or (PHI 1602 H, PHI 1631, PHI 2635, PHI 2649)	3

Computer Information Literacy Competency Requirements

SUPPORT COURSES 12 CREDITS

BSC	2085-2085L	Human Anatomy & Physiology I and Lab	3,1
BSC	2086-2086L	Human Anatomy & Physiology II and Lab	3,1
CHM	1025-1025L	Introductory Chemistry and Lab	3,1

*Visit spcollege.edu/courses/program/GENR-AS for details.