I. INITIAL ADMISSION PROCEDURE

A. Overview and Timeframes

Genesee Community College accepts applicants whom it determines can benefit from an educational program. However, admission into the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program is competitive and therefore selective. Applicants who have submitted a complete application and have a competitive academic background in math, biology, and chemistry and/or physics, will be offered acceptance into the PTA program according to their academic prerequisite score until the class and wait lists are full. Thirty (30) students are admitted for the class starting in the fall term. No new first-time applicant will be admitted to start taking PTA courses in the spring term. Evaluations of applications will begin on January 15 of each year. A second review of applications will occur on June 1st if space remains in the class or wait list after the January 15th review of applications.

An application to the program is complete when the following items have been submitted to the Genesee Community College Admissions office:

- GCC application specifying PTA as curriculum of choice (NOTE: Internal PTA Program application for students currently enrolled at GCC)
- Official High School transcripts
- Official college transcripts that (s)he attended in the past
- PTA Program Volunteer/Work Experience form documenting at least 20 hours with Recommendation by a PT or PTA, current within the past 2 years
- Met reading, math and English proficiency requirements at GCC
- Has a minimum GPA of 2.0 at GCC
- Completion of BIO 104 (Cell Biology) or higher (BIO 152 and/or BIO 153) course, or equivalent course at another college, with grade of C or higher and within the past five years
- Completion of math, preferably algebra based, with grade of ‘C’ or higher
- Completion of chemistry, or physics, with grade of ‘C’ or higher
B. Admission Process

A competitive applicant should complete his/her academic prerequisites in math, biology, chemistry and/or physics by the end of the fall term in order to submit a complete application by the January 15th application deadline. Each complete application is evaluated by the PTA Program Admissions Committee and is assigned an academic prerequisite score based on grades earned in the following areas: math, biology (within past 5 years and at Cell Biology level or higher) and chemistry (or physics). A higher score is assigned to applicants who earn higher grades in more academically difficult courses. Applications will be ranked according to their academic prerequisite scores after each application deadline, which is January 15 and June 1.

Preference will be given to those applicants with higher academic prerequisite scores. If applicants have the same academic prerequisite score, then applicants residing in Genesee, Livingston, Orleans or Wyoming (GLOW) counties will be given preference over applicants who do not reside in the GLOW region. Competitive applicants will be offered full acceptances until the class of 30 is full. After that point, competitive applicants will be offered wait list acceptances until the wait list of 25 is full. The wait list will not carry over into the next year.

C. Types of Applicants and Transcripts to Submit

Admission to the PTA program may be accomplished by applying either as a high school or a college applicant. High school applicants are those applicants who are currently attending high school at the time of their application. These applicants should submit high school transcripts with midterm grades of classes in progress at the time of application.

College applicants are those applicants who are not currently attending high school at the time of their application. This would include students who have either attended college or those who have not had any college experience since having graduated from high school. College applicants should submit their transcripts from high school and all colleges attended other than Genesee Community College.

D. Academic Criteria

In order to select applicants who are academically prepared for the PTA courses, specific academic criteria for admission have been established. An academic prerequisite score is determined by adding points from each of the three areas: biology, math and chemistry or physics. A higher score is assigned to applicants who earn a higher grade in a course that is above the standard level of difficulty.

1. Prerequisite Coursework at the Standard Level of Difficulty

Applicant’s grades in academic prerequisites that are at the standard level of difficulty will be multiplied by 1.0 to produce an equivalent score. Examples of academic prerequisites at the standard level of difficulty are as follows:
a. **Biology** – BIO 104 (Cell Biology) at Genesee Community College (GCC) or an equivalent course from another college. All biology prerequisites must have been completed within the past five years from the application deadline date.

b. **Math** – MAT 092 (Algebra 1) at GCC, an equivalent course from another college or grade earned on high school Algebra 2 Regents exam.

c. **Chemistry and/or Physics** – CHEM 100 (Introduction to Chemistry) at GCC, an equivalent course from another college, or grade earned on high school chemistry regents exam. Another option is PHY 100 (How Things Work) at GCC, an equivalent course from another college or grade earned on high school physics regents exam.

Only courses with a grade of "C" or higher will be considered as fulfillment of an academic prerequisite. High school grades in the 90's are considered an "A," 80's a "B," and 70's a "C."

**EXAMPLE #1**

**PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Difficulty</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIO 104</td>
<td>B = 3</td>
<td>x 1</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAT 092</td>
<td>B = 3</td>
<td>x 1</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 100</td>
<td>B = 3</td>
<td>x 1</td>
<td>+ 3.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL SCORE** 9.0

As can be seen in Example #1, a grade of “B” in each of the standard level difficulty courses would produce a total academic prerequisite score of 9.0.

1. **Prerequisite Coursework that is Above or Below the Standard Level of Difficulty**

   Applicant’s grades in academic prerequisites that are **above** the standard level of difficulty will be **multiplied by 1.5** to produce an equivalent score. Examples of academic prerequisites that are above the standard level of difficulty are as follows:

   a. **Biology** - BIO 152 and 153 (Anatomy and Physiology 1 and 2) at GCC, or equivalent courses from another college.

   b. **Math** - Advanced Placement Math in high school, MAT 121 (Technical Math 1) at GCC, or an equivalent course from another college.
c. **Chemistry** - Advanced Placement Chemistry in high school, CHE 101 (General Chemistry 1) at GCC, or an equivalent course from another college.

d. **Physics** - Advanced Placement Physics in high school, PHY 121 (College Physics 1) at GCC, or an equivalent course from another college.

Applicant's grades in academic prerequisites that are below the standard level of difficulty will be multiplied by 0.75 to produce an equivalent score. High school non-Regents courses are considered to be below the standard level of difficulty.

**EXAMPLE #2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK:</th>
<th>GRADE:</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY:</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIO 152</td>
<td>C = 2</td>
<td>x 1.5</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAT 092</td>
<td>B = 3</td>
<td>x 1.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-regents Chemistry/Physics</td>
<td>A = 4</td>
<td>x .75</td>
<td>+ 3.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL SCORE 9.0

As can be seen in Example #2, a higher grade in a less difficult level course would produce an equivalent score. For instance, a grade of "A" in non-Regents chemistry would earn a point value of 3 since "A," or 4, multiplied by 0.75 (less than standard level difficulty course) is equal to 3. A lower grade in a more difficult level course would also produce a similar score. For instance, a grade of "C" in BIO 152 would earn a point value of 3 since "C," or 2, multiplied by 1.5 (greater than standard level difficulty course) is equal to 3.

A minimum academic prerequisite score of 9.0 is required for an applicant to be considered a qualified applicant. Qualified applicants who have met the January 15th application deadline will be ranked and those with higher academic prerequisite scores will be considered more competitive than applicants with a lower score. When spots in the program are limited due to a large applicant pool and there are more qualified applicants than available spots, then spots will be offered to the most competitive applicants first according to the ranking of their academic prerequisite scores.

**E. Time Limits on Academic Prerequisites**

There is no time limit for the math, chemistry or physics prerequisite; however, the biology prerequisite course must have been completed within five years prior to application to the program.
F. Additional Considerations

If there are several applicants who have the same prerequisite scores, then the applicants who are residents of the GLOW counties (Genesee, Livingston, Orleans and Wyoming) will be given preference over residents from other counties.

G. Acceptances to the College and PTA Program

Applicants will receive either a full acceptance to the PTA program, a wait list acceptance to the PTA program, or admission to the College.

A full acceptance is one in which the applicant has met all the admission criteria and has submitted a competitive application with a higher academic prerequisite score. After receiving an acceptance letter from the Admissions Office, the fully accepted applicant will respond by registering for their fall semester classes to confirm his or her intention to attend Genesee Community College in the fall. These applicants will be notified of the orientation sessions in which they will be expected to register for fall classes if they haven’t already registered.

A wait-list acceptance is one in which the applicant has met all the admission criteria and has submitted a competitive application but the class is already full. Qualified applicants with higher academic prerequisite scores will be given preference over those with lower scores. The first 25 competitive applicants in this situation would be offered a wait-list acceptance. If an applicant who received a full acceptance withdraws at a later date, then the person at the top of the wait list will be offered a full acceptance. If the admissions committee is unable to convert an applicant's wait-list acceptance into a full acceptance prior to the start of the fall term classes, then the applicant will need to start over by reapplying before January 15 of the next year. It is recommended that those on the wait list take courses, such as BIO 152 and 153 or its equivalent, to increase their academic prerequisite score before reapplying.

Applicants who are not accepted for the PTA program will be offered admission to Genesee Community College in another program. Unaccepted applicants who elect to pursue their interest in PTA will be advised to enroll in the Health Studies certificate program. Individuals selecting this option may reapply for admission to the PTA program by submitting an internal transfer application. Successful experience in the Health Studies program does not guarantee admission into the PTA program. This option will allow an applicant to take some of the courses supportive to the PTA program while working toward meeting the admission requirements.

I. TIME LIMITS FOR COMPLETION OF THE PTA COURSES

The sequence of PTA courses must be completed within five years after completing PTA 101.

II. REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUING ENROLLMENT IN THE PTA PROGRAM

Students must earn a grade of "C" or higher in all courses which are directly applicable to the PTA program (such as courses beginning with a PTA, BIO or MAT prefix) and at least a 2.0 GPA
in all courses which are required in the PTA program in order to maintain enrollment in the PTA curriculum.

III. READMISSION INTO THE PTA PROGRAM

In the event that a student does not meet the requirements to continue in the PTA program, a student may apply for readmission into the PTA program. Readmission to the PTA program is not automatic, nor guaranteed. A student's request for readmission will be considered only after the applicant has had an exit interview with the program director and submitted a letter requesting readmission. An applicant's letter should identify the reasons for his or her inability to continue in the program and propose a realistic plan of action to address effectively the area(s) of concern. The letter and interview requirements need to be met by December 1 for reacceptance into the spring term, and May 1 for reacceptance into the fall term. Under no circumstances is readmission into the PTA program guaranteed, but it will be offered on a space available basis to worthy candidates.

The program director will notify the candidate of the reacceptance status by phone after the conclusion of the term in which he or she has applied. The program director will send the applicant a written acknowledgement of changes in the applicant's reacceptance status prior to the beginning of the new term.

Upon readmission to the PTA program, students are expected to perform at the same level as continuing students in the clinical and academic portions of the curriculum. The returning student is responsible to review materials from previous courses to ensure an entry level similar to that of other students beginning the course. Upon reentry into the PTA course sequence, students will be required to retake the course(s) in which they previously earned a grade of less than a "C." Students are permitted to repeat a PTA course only once throughout the entire PTA curriculum.