Linkage Handbook
2010-2011

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.

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:

**Linkage Executive Committee**

**Ginger Clark, Ph.D.**  
**Director, Technical Programs**  
Hillsborough Community College  
P.O. Box 30030  
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FAX: (941) 727-6050  
phillii@scf.edu

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crewm@phcc.edu

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**District Dean of Academic and Student Services**  
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FAX: (863) 297-1037  
pjones@polk.edu
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 (Linkage Administrators according to their institutional procedures.)

4. Training can be provided for a region more economically than for one community or state 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

**Nuclear Medicine Technology**
- Hillsborough Community College

**Occupational Therapy Assistant**
- State College of Florida Manatee-Sarasota
- Polk State 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

For general information, contact the staff listed below. For program specific questions, contact the coordinator listed on the program page.

**Hillsborough Community College**

**State College of Florida Manatee-Sarasota**
- Dr. Idelia Phillips
- Director of Career & Technical Education
- (941) 752-5219

**Pasco-Hernando Community College**
- Jayme Rothberg
- Dean of Health Occupations
- (727) 816-3284

**Polk State College**
- Kerri Anderson (863) 297-1010 ext. 6121
- Mark Culver (863) 297-1010 ext. 5233

**St. Petersburg College**
- Chris Kerr
- Dawn Janusz
- Nora Coles
- (727) 341-3687
# LIMITED ACCESS PROGRAM QUOTAS

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUDENT QUOTAS PROGRAM</th>
<th>TOTAL ENROLLMENT</th>
<th>PROGRAM FOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HCC</td>
<td>SCF-MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular Technology (PSC) (Linkage deadline April 1)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Hygiene (HCC) (Linkage deadline May 1)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Hygiene (PHCC) (Linkage deadline May 15)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Hygiene (SPC) (Linkage deadline date is January 15)</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology (HCC) (Linkage deadline January 30)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology (PSC) (Linkage deadline July 31)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear Medicine (HCC) (Linkage deadline January 30)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Therapy Assistant (PSC) (Students are accepted on a 1st qualified, 1st served basis)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Therapy Assistant (SCF-MS) (Applications accepted until March 1)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant (PSC) (Students are accepted on a 1st qualified, 1st served basis)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant (SCF-MS) (Applications accepted until March 1)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant (SPC) (Students are accepted each Fall on a 1st qualified, 1st served basis)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiation Therapy (HCC) (Linkage deadline January 30)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Care (HCC) (Linkage deadline May 1)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Care (SPC) (Students are accepted each Fall on a 1st qualified, 1st served basis)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Care (PSC) (Linkage deadline April 1)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.
3. After the student completes 15 hours at the home institution, the student may contact the department chairman 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.
7. The Linkage Administrator 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.
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.

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
Clinical agencies may require students to obtain a criminal background check. Clinical agencies have the right to deny students access based on past criminal history. Applicants to health programs must be aware that denial of access to clinical settings due to criminal history may prevent students from completing their program successfully. The cost of the background check is incurred by the student.

SPC – Admission Policy
Using a selective admission process, Dental Hygiene applicants who meet the admission requirements will be admitted on a point system based on program GPA (pre-entry
requirements, general education, and support course) and total program credits earned. The minimum program GPA for consideration is 3.0.

Physical Therapist Assistant and Respiratory Program applicants will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis. Students who meet their health program’s eligibility requirements may submit an application at any time. Eligible applicants will be placed on a waiting list for their selected health program. At the point of entrance into their health program, students must continue to meet the program’s eligibility criteria.

Students enrolled in health related programs must follow the progression requirements as outlined in the Board of Trustees Rule 6Hx23-4.53.

**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. Once civil rights have been restored, the Florida Board of Nursing “Conviction Record Guidelines for Applicants” that were approved by the Board of Nursing on August 15, 2002 is used to determine whether students with felony backgrounds can progress into the major course of study.

Additionally, prior to acceptance prospective students will be tested and must pass a drug screening. If the program enrollment occurs 90 days or longer after acceptance, prospective students may be retested and must pass a second drug screening. All students enrolled in a health-related program, are required to be drug and/or alcohol free when reporting to school and while at “affiliating agencies” (including parking lots and grounds). Students violating this Rule will be subject to dismissal from the program. For additional information see Board of Trustees Rule 6Hx23-4.53.
LINKAGE TRANSMITTAL FORM

To: Dean/Director/Coordinator/Associate Vice President/Associate Provost

_________ 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: __________________________________________________________________________________
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: (optional) ___________________________________________________________________

Programs (check one):

_____ Cardiovascular Technology (PSC)   _____ Occupational Therapy Assistant (PSC)
_____ Dental Hygiene (HCC)   _____ Physical Therapist Assistant (SCF-MS)
_____ Dental Hygiene (PHCC)   _____ Physical Therapist Assistant (PSC)
_____ Dental Hygiene (SPC)   _____ Physical Therapist Assistant (SPC)
_____ Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology (HCC)   _____ Radiation Therapy (HCC)
_____ Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technology (PSC)   _____ Respiratory Care (HCC)
_____ Nuclear Medicine (HCC)   _____ Respiratory Care (PSC)
_____ Occupational Therapy Assistant (HCC)   _____ 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

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__________________
CONTACT INFORMATION
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Cardiovascular Technology Program Director
999 Avenue H NE, Station 150
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Airside Campus
Phone: 863-699-2947
Fax: 863-669-2330
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 PERSON
Program Manager
Debra Heysck
Hillsborough Community College
P.O. Box 30030
Tampa, Florida 33630-3030
Dale Mabry Campus
Technology Building, Room 208B
(813) 253-7426
E-mail: dheysck@hccfl.edu

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 PERSON
Program Co-Coordinators
Donna S. Low, BSDH, MS
Deborah A. Nastelli, RDH, MS
Pasco-Hernando Community College
10230 Ridge Road
New Port Richey, FL 34654
Telephone: (727) 816-3224 or (727) 816-3423
e-mail: lowd@phcc.edu
nasteld@phcc.edu

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 30 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 fee.
2. Completed Dental Hygiene Program application and 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 PERSON
Program Director, Dental Hygiene Program
Joan Tonner
St. Petersburg College
P.O. Box 13489
St. Petersburg, FL 33733
Telephone: (727) 341-3671
Tonner.Joan@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.

Effective January 2006, Students will be considered based on a selective admissions process using a point system determined by health program GPA and general education/support course work completed according to the following:

- Sixty percent (60%) of the points awarded will be based on the number of health program general education and support coursework completed (minimum grade of “C” or higher in each course).
- Forty percent (40%) of the points awarded will be based on the health program GPA (grades earned from general education and support courses applicable to the designated health program).

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” 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:


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENC</th>
<th>1101</th>
<th>Composition I</th>
<th>3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>1017</td>
<td>Introduction to Speech Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Or (SPC 1017H, 1065, 1608 or 1608H)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>1017</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY</td>
<td>1012</td>
<td>General Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHI</td>
<td>2635</td>
<td>Applied Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Or (PHI 1600, 1602H, 1631 or 2649)</td>
<td></td>
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Computer/Information Literacy Competency Requirement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUPPORT COURSES</th>
<th>8 CREDITS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSC 2086/2086L</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCB 2010/2010L</td>
<td>Microbiology and Lab</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONTACT PERSON
Program Manager
Louis Gomez, R.D.M.S.
P.O. Box 30030
Tampa, FL 33630-3030
Dale Mabry Campus
Technology Building, Room 469
(813) 253-7412
E-mail: lgomez@hccfl.edu

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENC 1101</td>
<td>Freshman English I</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSC 1085</td>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology I</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSC 1085L</td>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory</td>
<td>1 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHY 1025</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Physics</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHY 1025L</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Physics Laboratory</td>
<td>1 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGF 1106</td>
<td>Liberal Arts Math I</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Or</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MAC 1105</td>
<td>College Algebra</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
CONTACT INFORMATION
Beth Luckett, M.A., RT(R) (ARRT)
Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program Director
999 Avenue H NE, Box 150
Winter Haven, FL 33881-4299
Airside Campus
Phone: 863-207-1010 ext. 4070
Fax: 863-669-2330
bluckett@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 PERSON
Program Manager
Mr. Larry Gibson
(813) 253-7418
Technology Bldg., Room 125
lgibson@hcc.cc.fl.us

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, #1 2nd Avenue East, Suite C, Polson, Montana 59860-2320, (406) 883-0003.

**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 1106 Liberal Arts Math I
    OR
MGF 1107 Liberal Arts Math II
    OR
MAC 1105 College Algebra
    OR
MGF 1119 Introductory Mathematics with Applications (AAS only)

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
State College of Florida Manatee-Sarasota

CONTACT PERSON
Program Director
Debra Chasanoff, MEd, OTR/L
941-752-5346 Bradenton
941-408-1300, ext. 65346 Venice
chasand@scf.edu

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
The Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program prepares graduates to function as members of the health care team. Working under the supervision of an occupational therapist, the OTA assists individuals of all ages to acquire, improve or regain independent living skills. Program graduates will be able to assist in the evaluations of a client’s physical, intellectual, perceptual and psychosocial skills and needs and setting of treatment goals, implementation of treatment plans, evaluation of treatment effectiveness, maintenance of client records and assisting with service management. The OTA is able to work in a variety of practice areas including but not limited to pediatrics, physical disabilities and mental health.

Upon completion of the program, the graduate is eligible to take the national certification examination of the occupational therapy assistant administered by the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of the exam, the individual will be a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). Most states require licensure to practice. State licenses are usually based upon the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
In addition to the admission requirements of the College, the following are requirements for admission to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program:

1. Earned grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 or better in ALL general education courses required by the program towards the degree and a 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 OTH 1001 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. Prerequisite courses MUST be completed with a grade of “C” or better by the end of the summer term classes of the year in which you are applying.

   Prerequisite courses for the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
   BSC 2093C Anatomy and Physiology I
   MAT 1033 Intermediate Algebra or higher-level
   PSY 2012 General Psychology

4. A minimum grade of “C” is required on all courses applied to the Occupational Therapy Assistant degree.

5. A completed application for the Occupational Therapy Assistant program and the nonrefundable application fee of $20. (A separate application is required for admission to the College.)

   Note: Letters of Recommendation are not required for application, and will not be considered as a part of the admission process.

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 only be accepted on a space available basis.

   Files MUST include:
   • Completed application to State College of Florida Manatee-Sarasota
   • Official high school transcripts
   • Official transcript for each college attended for credit courses
   • Florida Placement test scores and/or ACT or SAT scores
   • Completed application to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

3. If there are more qualified applications than seats available in the program, GPA (grade point average) on the general education courses required by the program will be the determining criteria.

4. Conditional admission may be granted, pending successful completion of prerequisite coursework by the end of the summer semester classes of the year that you are applying.
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 Health Professional (CPR-PRO) course or Basic Life Support for the Health Care Provider offered through the American Heart Association. This requirement can be completed through courses offered by the Corporate and Community Division at SCF-MS. Information regarding course dates, times, location and cost will be provided at the program orientation.

4. Mandatory attendance at the Occupational Therapist Assistant program orientation. (Date to be announced)

Students are admitted to the Occupational Therapist Assistant Program ONCE a year in the fall term. This is a limited enrollment program. Completion of all or part of the general academic coursework toward the degree does not guarantee acceptance into the program. However, priority is give to applicants who, at the time of application, have completed the most hours toward the degree and who submit their applications during the priority period. After the priority period, applications will be accepted on a space-available basis.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS ONCE IN THE PROGRAM

1. All students accepted into a health science program will submit to a drug screening as a condition for remaining in the program. Random testing will be done at intervals throughout the program.

2. Students may need to be fingerprinted to meet requirements of some clinical education facilities. Students may be responsible for cost of fingerprinting.

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

Students are encouraged to complete as many as possible or the general academic courses listed below PRIOR to entry into the program.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<td>Anatomy and Physiology I</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSC 2094</td>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology II</td>
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<td>MAT 1033*</td>
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<td>Course</td>
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<td>Credits</td>
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<td>PSY 2012*</td>
<td>General Psychology</td>
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<td>DEP 2004</td>
<td>Human Development: Life Span</td>
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<td>ENC 1101</td>
<td>Written Communication I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENC 1102</td>
<td>Written Communication II OR</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SPC 1600</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Speech Communication OR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPC 1300</td>
<td>Interpersonal Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>Choose from Area IV, AAS</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total: 26**

* These courses MUST be completed PRIOR to entry into the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program.

+ Students who complete MAT 1033 will receive the associate in applied science, a non transfer degree.

+ MAC 1105 or any Gordon Rule Mathematics course is required to receive the SCF-MS associate in science degree.
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 courses are offered three days a week, primarily during the day hours. 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.

   BSC2085c   Human Anatomy and Physiology I  
   PSY2012   General Psychology  
   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](http://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](http://www.polk.edu/ota), or by contacting the program director or academic advisors.
ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
The following requirements are to be completed prior to the first summer clinical affiliation.

A. Physical examination and essential functions
B. Immunization and Communicable Disease Screenings
C. Current CPR Certification
D. AIDS/HIV Certification
E. Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) background check
F. Drug Screening

The OTA program director provides information regarding the completion of these additional admission requirements during the orientation meeting.
CONTACT PERSON

Program Director
Janice Pollock PT, MHS
941-752-5346 Bradenton
941-408-1300, ext. 65346 Venice
pollocj@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.

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

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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 PERSON
Program Director
Nelson Marquez, PT, Ed.D.
999 Avenue H NE
Winter Haven, FL 33881
Winter Haven Campus
(863) 297-1010, ext. 5751
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.
CONTACT PERSON

Program Director
Rebecca Kramer, MPT
St. Petersburg College
P. O. Box 13489
St. Petersburg, FL 33733
Phone: (727) 341-3614
Kramer.rebecca@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.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

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 Physical Therapist Assistant “program courses” students must complete BSC 2085 Anatomy and Physiology I and BSC 2085L Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory with a grade of “C” or better, ENC 1101, HSC 1531 and the Computer Literacy Competency requirement. General education and support courses must be completed in the order listed. Candidates will also complete the “Health Programs” application. Please see a counselor or advisor.
Eligibility to start first specialty course in the program is based upon the following minimum requirements:

- Requirements for Health Related Programs (BOT 6Hx23-4.53) apply to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program.
- A minimum Physical Therapist Assistant Program general education and support programs GPA of 2.5 is required.
- Within three months prior to enrolling in the first specialty course each student must have a physical examination by a licensed physician or advanced RN practitioner verifying satisfactory health status. This must include all immunizations, tests, and health verification as specified within contractual agreements with affiliating agencies. This may be required on an annual basis at the discretion of the program director.
- Students transferring from another physical therapist assistant or other health related program must be in good standing in such program. Exceptions will be handled by the Provost at the Health Education Center.
- Completion of a minimum total of 24 hours of observation, volunteer service or work experience in a physical therapy department verified by a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant. This requirement must be completed in at least two (2) different types of clinical agencies.

Program begins every August. Linkage applications must be received no later than May 15th to begin the program during fall term. 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

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<td>ENC 1101</td>
<td>Composition I</td>
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<td>HSC 1531</td>
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Computer Information Literacy Competency Requirement

### GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES 15 CREDITS

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<td>(SPC1017H, 1065, 1608 or 1608H)</td>
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<td>Humanities/Fine Arts Approved Course</td>
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<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Any college-level course with a MAC, MGF or STA prefix</td>
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<td>PSY 1012</td>
<td>General Psychology</td>
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<td>PHI 2635</td>
<td>Healthcare Ethics Applied OR</td>
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### SUPPORT COURSES 8 CREDITS

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<td>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology II and Lab</td>
<td>3,1</td>
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<td>DEP 2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSC 1149C</td>
<td>General Pharmacology for Health Professionals</td>
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</table>

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RADIATION THERAPY PROGRAM
Hillsborough Community College

CONTACT PERSON
Program Manager
Karen Nelson, B.A., R.T. (R) (T)
(813) 253-7372
Technology Bldg., Room 116
knelson@hccfl.edu

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.
CONTACT PERSON
Program Manager
Richard Palma
P.O. Box 30030
Tampa, FL 33630-3030
Dale Mabry Campus
Technology Building, Room 327
(813) 253-7318
rpalma@hcc.cc.fl.us

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 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 Human Anatomy & Physiology Laboratory I
MGF 1119 Introduction Mathematics with Applications (AAS only)
    OR
MGF 1106 Liberal Arts Math I
    OR
MGF 1107 Liberal Arts Math II
    OR
MAC 1105 College Algebra
    OR
Any other general Math (AS)

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 PERSON
Respiratory Care Program Director
Kathee Ford, MPH, RRT
Polk State College
999 Avenue H NE
Winter Haven, FL 33881
Lakeland Campus
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 PERSON
Program Director
Stephen Mikles
St. Petersburg College
P.O. Box 13489
St. Petersburg, FL 33733
Phone: (727) 341-3627
mikles.steve@spcollege.edu

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.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Eligibility to start the first specialty course in the program is based upon the following minimum requirements:

- Requirements for Health Related Programs (BOT 6Hx23-4.53) apply to the Respiratory Care Program by submitting a “Health Programs” application.
- A minimum Respiratory Care Program general education and support course GPA of 2.5 is required.
- Within three months prior to enrolling in the first specialty course each student must have a physical examination by a licensed physician or advanced RN practitioner verifying satisfactory health status. This must include all immunizations, tests, and health verification as specified within contractual agreements with affiliating agencies. This may be required on an annual basis at the discretion of the program director of the health related program to which the student has been admitted.
- Students transferring from another respiratory care program must be in good standing in such program. Exceptions will be handled by the Provost at the Health Education Center.
• Completion of twelve (12) credits in general education and support courses including BSC 2085 and 2085L with grades of “C” or better.
• Completion of a minimum of four hours of observation, volunteer service or work experience in a respiratory care department.

Program begins in August. Linkage applications must be received no later than May 15th to begin the program during fall term. Students must view and be able to perform within the essential functions of the program as indicated at:
http://www.spccollege.edu/hec/resp/ess.funct.resp.pdf

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<th>GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES</th>
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<tr>
<td>ENC 1101</td>
<td>Composition I</td>
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<td>SPC 1017</td>
<td>Introduction to Speech Communication OR (SPC 1017H, 1065, 1608 or 1608H)</td>
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<td>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences Approved Course</td>
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<td>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology I and Lab</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSC 2086-2086L</td>
<td>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology II and Lab</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHM 1025-1025L</td>
<td>Introductory Chemistry and Lab</td>
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