

Idaho State University College of Technology
Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program
General Pool Selection Criteria

Minimum Requirements:

- Completion of PTA prerequisites (English and Math – Accuplacer/ACT/SAT scores accepted) by March 1.
- All General Pool preference courses must be completed with a cumulative 2.0 GPA (“C” or higher), unless otherwise noted below, by the application deadline (March 1) to be considered.
- Medical Law and Ethics, Anatomy & Physiology, and Introduction to Pathology must each be completed with a grade of “C” or higher and within the last five (5) years.
- No disqualifying criminal history (per program and clinical site requirements).
- Applicant must be willing to relocate outside a 75-mile radius of Idaho State University’s Pocatello campus for at least one (and possibly both) required clinical affiliations, at the applicant’s own expense.
- Completion of the TEAS exam within the last 12 months of the application deadline (March 1 of the same year). No more than two (2) attempts per application with a minimum of 30 days between attempts.
- Completion of a separate PTA program application, submitted online during the application period (Dec. 1 – March 1).

***After meeting the minimum requirements above, students are ranked based on the point system below. Course points are calculated as Credits × Grade Point Value earned in the course (4.0 scale). The example column illustrates the highest possible points attainable in each course, assuming a 4.0 GPA (grade of “A”).**

Grade Point Conversion Scale

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	Below C
4.0	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.0	Not Accepted

General Pool Preference Courses

Credits and points below reflect the highest-credit option where a course offers alternative equivalent options (e.g., Anatomy & Physiology). Points Possible = Credits × 4.0.

Course / Criteria	Credits	Points Possible highest-credit option shown	Points Awarded (Example)
Writing and Rhetoric I (ENGL 1101 or ENGL 1101P)	3	12	12 (4.0 GPA)
Oral Communication (COMM 1101)	3	12	12 (4.0 GPA)

Course / Criteria	Credits	Points Possible highest-credit option shown	Points Awarded (Example)
Psychology (PSYC 1101)	3	12	12 (4.0 GPA)
Objective 3 Math (1123/P, 1127, 1130, 1143/P, 1153/P, 1160, or 1170; TGE 1140)	3	12	12 (4.0 GPA)
Biology I (BIOL 1101/1101L)	4	16	16 (4.0 GPA)
Medical Terminology (HO 1106 or HCA 2210 or HE 2210)	2	8	8 (4.0 GPA)
Medical Law and Ethics (HO 1107 or HCA 4475) – must be “C” or higher, within last 5 years	3	12	12 (4.0 GPA)
Anatomy & Physiology – choose one option (a. HO 1111; b. BIOL 2227/L & 2228/L; c. BIOL 3301/L & 3302/L**) – highest-credit option shown; must be “C” or higher, within last 5 years	a. 4 b. 8 c. 8	32	32 (4.0 GPA)
Introduction to Pathology (HO 2208 or BIOL 3305) – must be “C” or higher, within last 5 years	3	12	12 (4.0 GPA)
Number of Preference Courses Completed AND Cumulative GPA – rubric-scored (most points awarded for higher GPAs)	—	10	10
General Pool Subtotal	32	138	138

TEAS – Test of Essential Academic Skills

ATI Academic Preparedness Levels

TEAS Performance Criteria	—	Points Possible	Points Awarded (Example)
Developmental: 0.0% to 40%		40	—
Basic: 40.7% to 58.0%		60	—
Proficient: 58.7% to 79.3%		80	—
Advanced: 80.0% to 91.3%		100	
Exemplary: 92.0% to 100.0%		120	120 (Example: score above 90.7%)
TEAS Subtotal		120	120

PTA Assignment

Scored by program faculty using a rubric assessing completeness, quality, and adherence to instructions. Required of all applicants.

PTA Assignment Criteria	—	Points Possible	Points Awarded (Example)
PTA Assignment – rubric-scored (completeness, quality, adherence to instructions)		50	10 (Example: full-credit rubric score)
PTA Assignment Subtotal		50	50

Reference Forms

Scored by program faculty using a rubric assessing supportiveness and appropriate sources. Required of all applicants.

Reference Forms Criteria	—	Points Possible	Points Awarded (Example)
Two (2) PTA Applicant References		10	10 (Example: full-credit rubric score)
PTA Assignment Subtotal		10	10

Observation Hours

Scored by program faculty using a rubric assessing completeness and number of settings. Required of all applicants.

Observation Hours Criteria	—	Points Possible	Points Awarded (Example)
20 Hours minimum required Observation Hours in 2 different settings		20	20 (Example: full-credit rubric score)
PTA Assignment Subtotal		20	20
TOTAL APPLICATION POINTS		338	338 (Example)

Other Requirements

- Please work with the Health Occupations Advisor via Student Services (Phone 208-282-2622).
- Current CPR certification (BLS Healthcare Provider) from the American Heart Association.