



Shenandoah  
University

## Division of Physical Therapy

School of Health Professions

### Articulation Agreement: Penn State University, Mont Alto

This articulation agreement is designed for applicants to the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Shenandoah University who have completed the pre-requisites and who will have obtained both an Associate Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant (2PTA) and a baccalaureate degree from Penn State University. The 2PTA program is offered at Penn State DuBois, Hazleton, Mont Alto, and Shenango Campuses.

### Admission Requirements

For admissions and entry into the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program through this articulation agreement, candidates must complete the following for priority status eligibility:

- Submit an admission application available through the Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service (PTCAS) ([www.PTCAS.org](http://www.PTCAS.org)) The PTCAS admissions cycle begins on July 1st of each academic year.
- Follow the instructions provided in the PTCAS instruction booklet for submission of a minimum total of 100 volunteer hours in at least two physical therapy practice settings.
- Provide two (2) evaluator names as references on your PTCAS application. Evaluators can submit electronic letters of reference (eLORs) or paper references to PTCAS. Shenandoah University Division of Physical Therapy requires that you designate the following individuals as evaluators
  - One from a licensed PT
  - One from an academic professor (from Penn State University)
    - Prefer a professor from the 2PTA program
- The application deadline for Shenandoah University utilizing PTCAS process is posted on the PTCAS website.

**Priority** status will be offered to those who meet the following criteria:

- An associate degree in 2PTA and a baccalaureate degree, both from Penn State, with all pre-requisites completed at Penn State University, with an overall GPA of 2.8 (in a 4.0 system) in all undergraduate work. A grade of "D" in any required prerequisite course is not acceptable.
- A minimum grade-point average of 3.2 (in a 4.0 system) for all prerequisite courses. A complete list of prerequisite courses is available on our website [www.su.edu/pt](http://www.su.edu/pt) and on the PTCAS website [www.PTCAS.org](http://www.PTCAS.org)
- Acceptable Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores. Scores should be reported directly to Shenandoah University. Our school code is R5613.

- For nonnative English-speaking applicants, regardless of immigration status, a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 550 will represent a score of 450 in the GRE verbal test. Scores should be reported directly to Shenandoah University. Our school code is R5613.
- A score of acceptable or above in a personal interview with an SU Division of Physical Therapy faculty member and current student.

## **Admissions Process**

Up to a total of three students/graduates per year from Penn State University, who meet the criteria for admission through the Articulation Agreement will be granted priority status for admission to the Division of Physical Therapy at Shenandoah University. As with all other applicants, priority applicants must have an on-site interview prior to admission and receive an interview score of acceptable or above.

If more than 3 students meet the application deadline and qualify for priority status, Shenandoah University's Division of Physical Therapy will rank-order all priority applicants based on consideration of the full set of application materials and the evaluations from the admissions interview. The additional students will enter our regular applicant pool.

All decisions for Admission into the Doctorate in Physical Therapy program are made by the Admissions Committee for the Division of Physical Therapy. Final decisions for all applicants are based on consideration of the full set of application materials and the evaluations from the admissions interview. Applicants who have been interviewed will be notified in writing of the Admissions Committee decision within 30 days of their visit.

Students can be given provisional acceptance indicating that some of the admissions requirements need to be completed prior to matriculation into the program. Provisional acceptances are generally offered to those students completing final prerequisite courses prior to program entry. These students receive a letter from the Division as well as from the Admissions Office that describes/outlines which courses, materials, or other requirements (e.g. – desired level of competency for remaining pre-requisites) that need to be completed.

Nothing in this agreement is intended to negate the usual process of student evaluation or supersede final decisions on admissions. After successful completion of the curriculum in the Division of Physical Therapy, Shenandoah University awards a Doctorate of Physical Therapy.

This agreement is intended to be a long-term arrangement. Each party may continue or discontinue this agreement on a yearly basis with notice.

## Signature Page

David C. Gnage

David C. Gnage, PhD  
Chancellor  
Penn State Mont Alto

11/30/09

Date

Francis Achampong

Francis Achampong, PhD  
Director of Academic Affairs  
Penn State Mont Alto

11/30/09

Date

John J. Romano

John J. Romano, PhD  
Vice President  
Commonwealth Campuses  
Penn State University

12/9/09

Date

Robert N. Pangborn

Robert N. Pangborn, PhD  
Vice President and Dean  
Undergraduate Education  
Penn State University

12/11/09

Date

Bryon Grigsby

Bryon Grigsby, PhD  
Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Shenandoah University

11/16/09

Date

Karen Abraham

Karen Abraham, PT, PhD  
Director, Division of Physical Therapy  
Shenandoah University

11/16/09

Date