



PIEDMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

PROCEDURE

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TITLE: Open Admissions

**RELATED POLICY
AND PROCEDURES:** 3-2-1010 Open Admissions Policy
3-2-1010.2 Minimum Age for Admission
3-2-1010.3 International Admission

**DIVISION OF
RESPONSIBILITY:** Enrollment and Communications

February 24, 2015
Date Approved by President

January 11, 2018
Date of Last Review

January 11, 2018
Date of Last Revision

Administrative Responsibilities

The Dean of Admissions is responsible for ensuring admissions procedures are developed, reviewed and revised as needed on an annual basis, vetting changes through Student Affairs and the Deans' Council. The Dean is also responsible for communicating changes college-wide, providing training when necessary, and ensuring the procedures are accurately enforced at all campus locations.

Open Admissions

Piedmont Technical College provides access to post-secondary education to all who are eligible in accordance with statutory requirements and existing policies of the South Carolina Technical College System. Evidence of high school graduation or its equivalent is required for admission to Associate Degree and Diploma programs. Certain certificate programs require a high school diploma or the equivalent.

The purpose of defined Admissions Procedures is to delineate the steps applicants must follow to be admitted into the college and the program of study of their choice. Admission requirements and procedures are established to ensure equal opportunity for all students in consideration of their potential for success and graduation from the College.

General Admission Requirements for Associate Degree, Diploma and Certificate Programs

1. All applicants for admission to the College must be eighteen years of age or possess a high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) credential. Exceptions are made for specific programs and partnerships, such as the Dual Enrollment Program with area high schools.
2. All applicants must submit a College application for admission.



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3. All applicants for admission to associate degree, diploma, and certain certificate programs must possess and provide evidence of a high school diploma, GED or the equivalent.

There are four exceptions to providing proof of high school diploma or GED, and they are listed below:

- 1) Current graduating seniors will be admitted provisionally until June 30 of each year. If the student indicates s/he cannot provide the documentation, the student must meet with the Dean of Admissions to change the student type to Non High School Graduate.
- 2) Students enrolling in certificate programs that are not eligible for federal financial aid.
- 3) Applicants who have earned an associate degree or higher, or the equivalent, from an accredited institution are not required to verify high school graduation or GED provided they submit an official college transcript verifying the highest degree earned or equivalent coursework.
- 4) Applicants who have attended an accredited four-year institution and have earned at least 15 college-level credit hours.

It is the responsibility of the Dean of Admissions to determine the validity of a high school credential or diploma based on criteria set out by regional accreditation bodies and State Departments of Education. Requests for exceptions to the Dean of Admissions' determination must be reviewed and approved by the PTC Associate Vice President for Enrollment and Communications.

4. All applicants must have taken the College placement test within the past 5 years or meet one of the following criteria for exemption:
 - a. Before March 2016, an earned minimum SAT score of 480 on Critical Reading waives the Reading and Writing portion; and a minimum SAT score of 480 on Math waives the Math portion. After March 2016, a score of 510 on Critical Reading and 510 on Math is required.
 - b. Earned a minimum score of 19 on ACT Math waives the Math portion; and a minimum score of 20 on ACT English waives the English portion; and a minimum score of 20 on ACT Reading waives the Reading portion.
 - c. Completed college level English and math courses from a regionally accredited or approved institution with minimum grades of "C."
 - d. Earned an associate, bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution.
5. All applicants must be US citizens, have a lawful presence in the United States, or apply as a non-immigrant.



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Additional Admission Procedures for Specific Academic Programs

1. Nursing and Health Science Programs
 - a. Applicants for Health Science Transfer programs with other technical colleges may have additional requirements which are listed in the College catalog.
 - b. Applicants must meet specific Program-Ready or Merit entrance requirements for admission into the clinical phase of limited-enrollment programs. These are defined in the College catalog and on the College website.
 - c. Applicants must complete a physical examination, a criminal background check, and a drug screening prior to the clinical experience for healthcare facilities.
2. Gunsmithing

Applicants must possess a current concealed weapons permit or complete a background check.
3. Funeral Service and Mortuary Science

Applicants must complete all general education courses and meet with the department head prior to enrollment in Funeral Services courses.
4. Early Care and Education

Applicants must complete a background check and drug screening prior to the Supervised Field Experience, which is a required component in the program. Some school districts might require a TB test as well.

General Admission Requirements for Other Student Types

Transient

Applicants enrolled at another college desiring to transfer Piedmont courses to their home college may be admitted as transient students. Applicants must submit an application for admission, and the Transient Coursework Approval form. Satisfaction of course prerequisites is indicated via signature of the home institution registrar/designee. Transient Students are not eligible for federal or state financial aid. The College placement test is not required for Transient Students.

Non-Degree

Applicants not seeking admission into a degree, diploma, or certificate program may be admitted as non-degree students. Applicants must complete an application for admission. Non-Degree Students are not eligible for federal or state financial aid.

Dual Enrollment Students

Dual enrollment students are high school students who take college courses. Dual enrollment applicants are admitted into the General Studies Certificate program once the application for admission is submitted and the registration form that requires the approval of their high school guidance counselor and a parent or guardian.



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Early High School Graduates

Early graduates must follow the general admissions requirements and complete the “Early Graduates” form that verifies graduation and the importance of submitting their final official high school transcript before financial aid can be awarded.

International Students

Piedmont Technical College reaffirms its policy of nondiscrimination with specific reference to international students. The College's "Open Door" procedure does not apply to international students. The College can deny admission to any international applicant whenever such action appears to be in the best interest of the College. Refer to the Admission of International Student Procedure 3-2-1010.3 for more information.

Readmission

Students who are not enrolled at Piedmont Technical College for three consecutive semesters (including summer) or more, and who wish to re-enroll must reapply for admission, and must meet admissions criteria under the current catalog. Students who want to reapply to the same program must re-enter under the current catalog for their program.

Exceptions to the Open Admission Procedure

Any exceptions to the procedures documented herein must be approved by the PTC Associate Vice President for Enrollment and Communications.