

Get The Facts

What you need to know about Parkland's Selective Admission Process for Health Profession Programs

January 2021

Health Profession Programs

- ▶ **Which programs require Selective Admissions?**
 - ▶ Dental Hygiene
 - ▶ Emergency Medical Services: Paramedic
 - ▶ Massage Therapy
 - ▶ Medical Assisting
 - ▶ Nursing
 - ▶ LPN to RN Bridge Program
 - ▶ Paramedic to RN Bridge Program
 - ▶ Occupational Therapy Assistant
 - ▶ Practical Nursing
 - ▶ Radiologic Technology
 - ▶ Respiratory Care
 - ▶ Surgical Technology
 - ▶ Veterinary Technology

Programs that are not Selective Admissions

- ▶ Emergency Medical Services Basic
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Emergency-Medical-Services>
- ▶ Fire Service Technology
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Fire-Service-Technology>
 - ▶ No checklist for this program
- ▶ Nurse Assistant
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Nurse-Assistant>
- ▶ Sterile Processing Technician
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Sterile-Processing-Technician>

Please visit the associated websites for more information about admission.

What does Selective Admissions mean?

- ▶ Each program has specific admission criteria – including minimum requirements
- ▶ Students must specifically apply and be accepted into the program before taking “program” classes
- ▶ Once selected, students are “conditionally” admitted until all “other” program requirements are completed.
- ▶ Application deadlines are specific:
 - ▶ March 1 for all programs - classes begin in the Fall (August).
 - ▶ Radiologic Technology begins in the summer
 - ▶ October 1 for certain programs that also admit new students in Spring (January).
 - ▶ Nursing and Practical Nursing programs
- ▶ Admissions are competitive – even though minimum requirements are met you may not be accepted

Where Do I Start?

- ▶ Apply and be accepted to Parkland College
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Admissions/stepstoapply>
 - ▶ Enter the program code for the program you intend to apply to
- ▶ Send all official transcripts to Parkland
 - ▶ High School or GED
 - ▶ ACT scores if less than 24 months after your high school graduation
 - ▶ ALL Colleges other than Parkland you have attended
- ▶ Refer to the website above as you progress through the application process – it provides step by step instructions on what you need to do

I've been accepted to Parkland - Now What?

- ▶ **Assessment testing** for English, Reading, and Math must be completed *if applicable*. The following website provides information as well as great resources to help you prepare and do your best:
<https://www.parkland.edu/Main/About-Parkland/Department-Office-Directory/Assessment-Center/placement>
- ▶ Each program requires specific placements before applying to the program so you want to do your very best on your assessment tests.
- ▶ If you are new to Parkland, please attend the SOAR orientation. It is only required for those who enter Parkland with fewer than 15 college credit hours but you will be happy you took the time to attend:
<https://www.parkland.edu/Main/About-Parkland/Department-Office-Directory/Learning-Support/Center-for-Academic-Success/Student-Orientation>
- ▶ **LOG IN TO YOUR STUDENT EMAIL AND CHECK IT DAILY – THIS IS YOUR LINK TO ALL FACULTY/COLLEGE CORRESPONDENCE! NO OTHER EMAIL ADDRESS WILL BE USED.**

For those who have a degree or previous College credits

- ▶ Make sure all your transcripts from past College(s) have been sent and received at Parkland
- ▶ THEN – call Admissions at 217-351-2482 to verify your transcripts have been received. They will also be able to determine if you need to take an assessment or refer you to someone who can
- ▶ Complete the Transcript Evaluation Request form and submit it to the Admissions department ([request form on this website](#))
- ▶ If you have not had a college level math course, such as statistics, college algebra, or calculus within the past 5 years you must take the math assessment.
- ▶ If no assessments are needed, make an appointment with an Academic Advisor. They can help you determine which courses you need to enroll in.

Meet with an Academic Advisor

- ▶ **Advising and Counseling (U267):**
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/About-Parkland/Department-Office-Directory/Counseling-Services/default>
 - ▶ An advisor will meet with you, review your assessment scores, and help you develop a plan of study to attain your goal
 - ▶ If your program requires you be eligible for BIO121 the advisor can help you determine this
 - ▶ An advisor can answer many of your questions and refer you to other people or places to get more information
- ▶ **Discuss your academic and personal readiness with the advisor**
 - ▶ Do you need to work while in school? How many hours?
 - ▶ Do you have the support you need in areas such as: child care, financial, transportation??
 - ▶ How many credits can you realistically handle given your personal commitments? In addition to hours in class, lab, and clinical calculate at **LEAST 3** hours of study/prep time for **EACH** hour in class, lab, and clinical.
- ▶ It is easy to get confused in this process so it is absolutely imperative to keep in touch with an advisor.

What else should I know?

- ▶ All **biology** courses required must be less than 5 years old at the time of admission to any program
- ▶ **BIO 121** requires **chemistry** which expires after 3 years
- ▶ Make sure you know for certain that any science courses taken at a different college are equivalent to the ones you need for your program. It is up to you to make sure any past college courses have been evaluated.
- ▶ **Math** assessment and/or pre-college math courses are only good for 2 years. If you have taken College level math it is good for 5 years
- ▶ Students for whom **English is a second language** are required to take TOEFL or IELTS and meet the requirements for their specific program
 - ▶ ESL classes are accepted equally to ENG classes
 - ▶ Regardless of assessment testing, if English is your second language, you will be required to take the TOEFL or IELTS test
- ▶ ACT scores can only be used for 24 months after high school graduation. After that a student needs to have a minimum of 15 college credit hours, which includes at least one science class with a lab, completed before applying.

Are there non-academic requirements?

- ▶ Yes – each program has “**Clinical Eligibility Requirements**”
- ▶ **Essential Qualifications** are listed for each program that address minimum physical, emotional, and mental requirements
- ▶ You may need to pass a **background check, drug screen, physical, and provide evidence of:**
 - ▶ Current immunizations and TB test
 - ▶ CPR specifically *Red Cross BLS or American Heart Association BLS*
- ▶ **Make sure to read through everything and honestly assess yourself – is this the right field for me?**
- ▶ **Visit the Career Center:**
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/About-Parkland/Department-Office-Directory/Counseling-Services/Career-Services>

Are you ready to apply?

- ▶ Each program has their own website. These are provided in the following slides.
- ▶ Visit your program website often to make sure you have all the information you need. Any changes to the admissions process or criteria will be posted on the program website
- ▶ Click on “How to Apply” for forms and directions
- ▶ Each program has an application checklist on their website to use as you proceed step by step through the process.
- ▶ When you have completed each step & initialed it:
 - ▶ Sign the checklist, to verify you completed each step.
 - ▶ Submit the form with \$10 fee to Admissions (U214)

Admission Scores

- ▶ **Most of the programs refer to a minimum admission “score”. This is how it is calculated:**
 - ▶ **Cumulative GPA + Science GPA**
divided by: 2
- ▶ **Example: 3.0 GPA + 2.0 science GPA/2 = 2.5 score**
- ▶ **Students must meet a minimum score before being “ranked” in the program for possible admission**
- ▶ **All programs that require minimum scores designate these scores on their catalog page**

Other ways to be scored

- ▶ **Coming straight from high school? We will use:**
 - ▶ High School grades and your ACT/SAT Composite and Science scores
 - ▶ ACT/SAT scores are only valid for scoring purposes if it has been 24 months or less since you graduated from high school
- ▶ **If you do not have ACT/SAT scores OR you received your GED you can not be scored until you have completed a sufficient number of college credit hours. You MUST speak to an advisor about this since each program has different requirements**
- ▶ **Past College grades not so good?**
 - ▶ Use the Program Grade Point Average – PGPA
 - ▶ Instead of using your Cumulative GPA we can use your PGPA – only those general education and science classes required for the program you are applying to. Your score would be calculated as:
 - ▶ $\text{PGPA} + \text{science GPA (using only your program sciences)} \div 2$
- ▶ **Confused? Don't guess – ask an advisor!**

What about rubrics?

- ▶ **IMPORTANT:** some programs utilize a scoring rubric where students can earn more points and be more competitive by completing certain courses or earning certain grades. Refer to each specific program!
- ▶ If only using a rubric and not a “score” the program will have the rubric posted on their website, such as
 - ▶ Practical Nursing
 - ▶ Medical Assisting
 - ▶ Massage Therapy
 - ▶ Veterinary Technology
- ▶ Other programs will have their “score” on their Program Catalog page. If they award additional “points” to the score that will be stated on their catalog page. For these programs you must attain the minimum score before any additional points are added.

Dental Hygiene

- ▶ Hygienists provide clinical services such as:
 - ▶ oral exams, oral hygiene instruction, radiographs, dental cleanings, pit and fissure sealants, teeth bleaching, infection control and sterilization, and local anesthesia & nitrous oxide sedation
- ▶ Begin by visiting the website; minimum score is 2.75:
 - ▶ www.parkland.edu/dhg
 - ▶ PGPA will be used prior to cumulative GPA
 - ▶ Admission rubric will be applied
 - ▶ For information on employment outlook and to explore the role of the Dental Hygienists visit:
 - ▶ US Dept of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics website:
 - ▶ <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/Healthcare/Dental-hygienists.htm>
 - ▶ Click on “How to become one” to learn more about the education and personal qualities necessary to be successful

Emergency Medical Services

- ▶ Begin by visiting the website:
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Emergency-Medical-Services>
- ▶ **EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) certificate** (not selective admissions)
 - ▶ One semester; 5 hour course; first-responder care
 - ▶ Prepares student to take State of IL EMT license exam
- ▶ **EMS – Paramedic Certificate** (selective admissions)
 - ▶ Must be licensed as EMT-Basic in Illinois
 - ▶ One full year – 29 credit hours; leads to Paramedic license
 - ▶ Advanced EMS provider; increased responsibilities
- ▶ **EMS - Associate in Applied Science Paramedic degree** – additional year after certificate; 2 years total - 66 semester hours
- ▶ For information on employment outlook and more information on Emergency Medicine occupations:
 - ▶ US Dept of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics website:
 - ▶ <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/emts-and-paramedics.htm>
 - ▶ Click on “How to become one” to learn more about the education and personal qualities necessary to be successful
- ▶ **EMS QUESTIONS?** – please contact the Program Director, Wade Hales at whales@parkland.edu or 217-353-2779

Fire Service Technology

- ▶ **Begin by visiting the website:**
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Fire-Service-Technology>
- ▶ **For information on employment outlook and more information on Fire Service occupations:**
 - ▶ **US Dept of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics website:**
 - ▶ <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/protective-service/firefighters.htm>
 - ▶ **Click on “How to become one” to learn more about the education and personal qualities necessary to be successful**
- ▶ **FST QUESTIONS? – please contact the Program Director, Mike Manint at mmanint@parkland.edu.**

Massage Therapy

- ▶ Begin by visiting the website:
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Massage-Therapy>
- ▶ For information on employment outlook and to explore a career in Massage Therapy visit:
 - ▶ US Dept of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics website:
 - ▶ <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/massage-therapists.htm>
 - ▶ Click on “How to become one” to learn more about the education and personal qualities necessary to be successful in this profession
- ▶ Prepares graduates to sit for National Certification (NCTMB) and are eligible to apply for state license
- ▶ Two pathways are available – a Rubric is used for admission:
 - ▶ 1 year certificate program AND
 - ▶ 2 year Associate in Applied Science degree in Massage Therapy
- ▶ Massage therapists treat clients by using touch to manipulate the soft-tissue muscles of the body. With their touch, therapists relieve pain, rehabilitate injuries, reduce stress, increase relaxation, and aid in the general wellness of clients

Medical Assisting

- ▶ Begin by visiting the website; a Rubric is used for admission:
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Medical-Assistant>
- ▶ For information on employment outlook and to explore the role of Medical Assistants visit:
 - ▶ US Dept of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics website:
 - ▶ <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/Healthcare/Medical-assistants.htm>
 - ▶ Click on “How to become one” to learn more about the education and personal qualities necessary to be successful
- ▶ Medical assistants complete administrative and clinical tasks in the offices of physicians, podiatrists, chiropractors, and other health practitioners. Their duties vary with the location, specialty, and size of the practice.
- ▶ Employment is expected to grow by 29 percent from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations

Nursing - ADN program

- ▶ Graduates are eligible to take the National Exam (NCLEX) and be licensed as registered nurses (RNs)
- ▶ Begin by visiting the website; minimum scores is 2.75:
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Nursing-ADN>
- ▶ For information on employment outlook and to explore a career in nursing visit:
 - ▶ US Dept of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics website
 - ▶ <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/Healthcare/Registered-nurses.htm>
 - ▶ **Click on “How to become one” to learn more about the education and personal qualities necessary to be successful in this profession**
- ▶ May work in a variety of capacities: hospitals, long-term care, home care, physician’s offices, and community based settings
- ▶ Registered nurses (RNs) provide and coordinate patient care, educate patients and the public about various health conditions, and provide advice and emotional support to patients and their family members.

Practical Nursing - LPN

- ▶ Graduates are eligible to take the National Exam (NCLEX-PN) and become licensed practical nurses (LPNs)
- ▶ Begin by visiting the website; a Rubric is used for admission:
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Practical-Nurse>
- ▶ For information on employment outlook and to explore a career in Practical Nursing visit:
 - ▶ US Dept of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics website
 - ▶ <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/Healthcare/Licensed-practical-and-licensed-vocational-nurses.htm>
 - ▶ Click on “How to become one” to learn more about the education and personal qualities necessary to be successful in this profession
- ▶ LPNs provide basic nursing care and work under the direction of registered nurses and doctors.
- ▶ They work in many settings, including long-term care facilities, hospitals, physicians' offices, and private homes

LPN to RN Bridge Program

- ▶ For those who have completed their LPN program and would like to continue their education to become RNs this is for you – whether you are a new graduate or have been an LPN for many years.
- ▶ Begin by visiting the website; a minimum 2.75 score is required:
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Nursing-LPN-to-ADN-Bridge>
- ▶ You must also meet the same **admission requirements for the ADN program** so please review these thoroughly.
- ▶ ****The Bridge program is only offered when we have enough qualified candidates to offer the class.**

Paramedic to RN Bridge Program

- ▶ For those who have completed their Paramedic program and would like to continue their education to become RNs this is for you – whether you are a new graduate or have been an Paramedic for many years.
- ▶ Begin by visiting the website; a minimum 2.75 score is required:
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Nursing-Paramedic-to-ADN-Bridge>
- ▶ You must also meet the same **admission requirements for the ADN** program so please review these thoroughly.
- ▶ ****The Bridge program is only offered when we have enough qualified candidates to offer the class.**

Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA)

- ▶ Begin by visiting the website; minimum 2.3 score:
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Occupational-Therapy-Assistant>
- ▶ For information on employment outlook and to explore a career as an Occupational Therapy Assistants visit:
 - ▶ US Dept of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics website
 - ▶ <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/occupational-therapy-assistants-and-aides.htm>
 - ▶ Click on “How to become one” to learn more about the education and personal qualities necessary to be successful in this profession
- ▶ OTAs work under the direction of Occupational Therapists in treating people of all ages who have physical, developmental, emotional, and/or cognitive impairments.
- ▶ OTAs help these patients develop, recover, and improve the skills needed for daily living and working – helping to improve their quality of life.

Radiologic Technology Program

- ▶ Begin by visiting the website; minimum 2.75 score:
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Radiologic-Technology-XRA-CT-MRI>
- ▶ For information on employment outlook and to explore a career in Radiologic Technology visit:
 - ▶ US Dept of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics website
 - ▶ <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/Healthcare/Radiologic-technologists.htm>
 - ▶ Click on “How to become one” to learn more about the education and personal qualities necessary to be successful in this profession
- ▶ Our students take diagnostic images on patients of all ages using an X-ray machine to take images of the internal parts of the patient’s body.
- ▶ You will work in a fast-paced, demanding environment using the latest in digital technology.
- ▶ Graduates are eligible to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists exam for certification nationally.

Respiratory Therapy

- ▶ Begin by visiting the website; minimum 2.2 score:
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Respiratory-Care>
- ▶ For information on employment outlook and to explore a career in Respiratory Therapy visit:
 - ▶ US Dept of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics website
 - ▶ <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/respiratory-therapists.htm>
 - ▶ Click on “How to become one” to learn more about the education and personal qualities necessary to be successful in this profession
- ▶ Respiratory Therapists work with patients of all ages in all patient care areas
 - ▶ Administers respiratory therapy – responsible for airway and breathing
 - ▶ Educates patients and assists with respiratory rehabilitation
- ▶ Cooperative schools include: DACC, Richland, Lakeland, and Heartland
 - ▶ Biology courses are accepted from these colleges

Sterile Processing (not a Selective Admissions Program)

- ▶ Begin by visiting the website
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Sterile-Processing-Technician>
- ▶ The Sterile Processing Technician is responsible for decontaminating, disassembling, cleaning, reassembling, packaging, and sterilizing instrumentation used on surgical cases as well as in the nursing units.
- ▶ SPT 110 is a great elective for Surgical Technology Students. Take this course prior to second year of the Surgical Technology Program.
- ▶ REGISTER IN PERSON for SPT 110 at Health Professions office in L-117 with Rachel Staley.

Surgical Technology

- ▶ Begin by visiting the website; minimum 2.3 score:
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Surgical-Technology>
- ▶ For information on employment outlook and to explore a career in Surgical Technology visit:
 - ▶ US Dept of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics website
 - ▶ <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/surgical-technologists.htm>
 - ▶ **Click on “How to become one” to learn more about the education and personal qualities necessary to be successful in this profession**
- ▶ Our students are trained to provide crucial assistance to surgeons and other surgical staff while caring for patients before, during, and immediately after surgery.
 - ▶ Handles the instruments, supplies, and equipment necessary during the surgical procedure
 - ▶ Has an understanding of the procedure being performed and anticipates the needs of the surgeon
- ▶ Upon completion you qualify to take the National Certification Exam which is accepted in all states.

Veterinary Technology

- ▶ Begin by visiting the website; minimum 2.4 score:
 - ▶ <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Health-Professions/Areas-of-Study/Veterinary-Technology>
- ▶ For information on employment outlook and to explore a career in Veterinary Technology visit:
 - ▶ US Dept of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics website
 - ▶ <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/Healthcare/Veterinary-technologists-and-technicians.htm>
 - ▶ **Click on “How to become one” to learn more about the education and personal qualities necessary to be successful in this profession**
- ▶ Students are trained in the following areas: surgery, anesthesia, large and small animal nursing, radiology, clinical pathology, and computerized record keeping
- ▶ Five semesters, which includes an internship in the summer between the first and second years

Are you ready to apply?

- ▶ **Click on How to Apply on the program's website**
 - ▶ Review checklist to make sure you have met all the requirements, initial each step, and sign this document
 - ▶ Submit the form along with \$10.00 application fee to the Admissions office, U 214
- ▶ Applications will be reviewed immediately after the deadline
- ▶ Students may only apply to one program at a time
- ▶ Letters of acceptance usually are sent within a month of the deadline
 - ▶ March 1 deadline; letters out by April 1
 - ▶ October 1 deadline: letters out by November 1

Application Deadlines

- ▶ All requirements **MUST** be met and completed by the appropriate deadline
- ▶ All Health Profession programs have a **March 1** deadline for classes beginning the following fall or summer
- ▶ Nursing and Practical Nursing admit students twice a year so also have an **October 1** deadline for classes beginning Spring semester each year
- ▶ Immediately *after* the deadline Admissions will score all applicants that have completed the application process
- ▶ Students are notified in writing by the Program Director as to their admission status within **1** month of the deadline. Information is not given out by phone.
- ▶ **MAKE SURE THE COLLEGE HAS YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS AND THAT YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS IS ON THE APPLICATION CHECKLIST.**
- ▶ **CHECK YOUR PARKLAND STUDENT EMAIL DAILY.**

QUESTIONS?

- ▶ Please don't hesitate to ask questions.
- ▶ Resources:
 - ▶ Counseling and Advising 217-351-2219
 - ▶ Division of Health Professions 217-351-2224
 - ▶ Health Professions Department Chair, Kim Pankau
kpankau@parkland.edu
 - ▶ EMS QUESTIONS? – please contact the Program Director, Wade Hales at whales@parkland.edu or 217-353-2779

SUMMARY

- ▶ Thank you for taking the time to view “Get The Facts”. We hope this will answer many of your questions and also provide the resources you need to find answers to any remaining questions.
- ▶ Please go to the following link and complete a brief survey:
- ▶ <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Z28BWPS>
- ▶ If you apply to one of the health profession programs it is a requirement to take the survey as verification you viewed this power point.