



**Rio Grande Valley
College**

Graduation Criteria

Upon successful completion of the following criteria, Rio Grande Valley College will grant an Associate of Applied Science Degree with a major in Physical Therapist Assistant:

- Credit Courses: Students are required to complete all program general education and technical coursework with a minimum grade of “C” for each course.
- Clinical Education: Students are required to pass all clinical education courses.
- Student must be assessed at “Entry-level” for all ten Professional Behaviors by program faculty.
- Students must pass the Practice Exam and Assessment School (PEAT) which is a comprehensive practice test for PTA’s. The first PEAT will be offered at the end of Practicum III in the last semester and the second PEAT will be taken in the last week of the semester five.

PEAT Exam Policy

Passing a comprehensive mock licensure exam is required for program graduation. Students will take 2 PEAT exams (the academic PEAT purchased by the program) during the last semester in PTHA 2210 Seminar in a proctored environment, with the required passing score being 600. Should a student fail both of these exams they will be given an opportunity to purchase another 2 PEAT exams (the individual PEAT) from FSBPT and undergo remediation prior to the repeat of the third PEAT exam. Remediation will take place in different forms that may include but not be limited to tutoring with core faculty, practicing in open lab with peers and/or faculty, and review through a program such as Score builders. The third PEAT exam must be taken within one month of failing the second exam. Should they fail that exam, they will continue with remediation as above and be required to take the fourth PEAT Exam by the end of the summer (before the beginning of the Fall semester). If they pass the third or the fourth PEAT Exam, they will be a graduate from the college as of that date, eligible to take the October NPTE and can officially participate in the December graduation as members of the same cohort.

Should they fail the fourth PEAT Exam; students will receive an incomplete grade for the course and follow the program’s readmission policy. They will only be required to repeat the PTHA 2210 Seminar course, including the PEAT Exams. While awaiting PTHA 2210 Seminar to begin, students will be encouraged to “audit” classes with a lab portion to remain up to date in their skills.