

Psychiatric Technology

9200 Valley View St. Cypress, CA 90630-5897 (714) 484-7270

Program Objectives

The Psychiatric Technology program prepares students to meet the requirements for licensure as a Psychiatric Technician in the state of California. A Psychiatric Technician is a licensed member of the professional health care services team working with people who have been diagnosed with psychiatric disorders and/or developmental disabilities. Employed by private and state hospitals and many community facilities, Psychiatric Technicians also find a variety of jobs available in the fields of correctional mental health, human and developmental disability services. These include outpatient settings, substance abuse treatment programs, special education and many other areas promoting mental health. There are career advancement opportunities available in the areas of counseling, education, nursing, and vendorization of services.

The program is accredited by, and conforms to the regulations of the California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates are eligible to take the State Board Licensure Examination.

Who Becomes a Psychiatric Technician?

Persons interested in becoming health care and/or human service professionals.

Persons interested in helping people with emotional, psychiatric, and/or developmental disabilities.

Persons interested in career-ladder mobility to Registered Nursing, Special Education, Clinical and Forensic Psychology, or Social Work.



Division of
Health Science

Minimum standards for applicants

1. Eligible for admission to Cypress College.
2. Graduation from high school or completion of the General Education Development (GED) test with an average score of 450 on the five-test battery, or passing the high school proficiency examination. Possession of an associate degree or higher satisfies this requirement.
3. Minimum age of 17 years to apply. Must be 18 years old at the start of clinical training.
4. Completion of ENGL 58/ESL 185, or a comparable course with a grade of "C" or better, or submission of test scores that indicate eligibility for ENGL 60/ESL 186.
5. Completion of Biology 160C or Biology 210C or Biology 231C & 241C or a comparable course with a "C" or better; or provide transcript showing courses in progress.
6. Completion of Psychology 101C or a comparable course with a "C" or better or provide transcript showing course in progress.

Application Procedures

1. Meet with a counselor to determine fulfillment of minimum standards.
2. Applications must be completed **online**. Please see the "How to Apply" link on the Health Science home page:

<http://www.cypresscollege.edu/academics/divisions-special-programs/health-science>
3. Submit the following in person or via US mail:

- Signature page of the application
- Copy of high school diploma or GED or High School Proficiency or official High School transcript
- Official transcripts
(except Cypress and Fullerton Colleges)
- Be prepared to present photo ID.

Health Science Applications Office
Health Science Building/TE3-217
Cypress College
9200 Valley View St.
Cypress, CA 90630-5897

Application Deadlines

FALL ENROLLMENT

Applications and supporting documentation must be received between February and March

SPRING ENROLLMENT

Applications and supporting documentation must be received between September and October

Application deadlines may be extended depending on space available.

Please see the "How to Apply" link on the Health Science home page for specific dates.

<http://www.cypresscollege.edu/academics/divisions-special-programs/health-science>

Selection Criteria

1. Twenty-four students (24) are selected for admission each Fall and Spring semester. The number of applicants usually exceeds available seats.
2. Selection is based on completion of required pre-requisites, and date of completed Psychiatric Technology application with supporting documents.
3. Selection criteria is subject to change. See a Health Science Counselor for current selection criteria.
4. Upon selection for the program but prior to the start of classes, the candidate will be required to obtain a physical examination and required immunizations.
5. Students selected for admission to the program must obtain a Professional Provider level cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) card issued by the American Heart Association prior to attending clinical training and must maintain current certification throughout the program.
6. If you have been convicted of a criminal offense, your eligibility to enroll in the program may be affected. All students will be fingerprinted and cleared by the FBI and Department of Justice (DOJ) before enrolling in PT 110.

**Cypress College
Psychiatric Technology Curriculum
(effective Fall 2015)**

Required courses are listed in suggested sequence. Any deviation from this sequence requires the prior approval of the Director of the Psychiatric Technology Program.

<u>Course #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Units</u>
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Prerequisite Courses

BIOL 160C	Integrated Medical Science	3
PSY 101C	Introduction to Psychology	3
		<hr/> 6

Semester I

PT 110C	Nursing Science I	7
PT 115C	Nursing Science II	7
* PSY 139C	Developmental Psychology	3
		<hr/> 17

Semester 2

PT 120C	Developmental Disabilities I	7
PT 125C	Developmental Disabilities II	7
		<hr/> 14

Semester 3

PT 130C	Mental Disabilities I	7
PT 135C	Mental Disabilities II	7
PT 90C	Leadership, Supervision and Ethics	0.5
		<hr/> 14.5

TOTAL 51.5

Electives

COUN 140C	Educational Planning	.5
PT 80C	State Board Review Class	1

***Completion of this course strongly suggested prior to acceptance into the program, but must be completed by the indicated semester. Courses designated "PT" may be taken only by students officially accepted into the program.**

A current "Health Care Provider" cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification must be maintained by all students admitted to the program.

**Associate in Science Degree
Psychiatric Technology**

While the state of California does not require an Associate Degree for licensure as a Psychiatric Technician, the student may elect to earn one. To earn an Associate Degree, students must:

1. Complete all major course requirements with a minimum grade of "C"
2. Complete 25 units of General Education Graduation requirements
3. Complete any elective courses to complete a minimum of 60 units, and
4. Maintain an overall GPA of 2.0. At least 50% of all major course work must be completed at Cypress College.

**Psychiatric Technology
Certificate**

To earn a certificate, complete the required courses with a minimum grade of "C". At least 50% of all course work must be completed at Cypress College. Upon completion of the 51 units of required course work, the student becomes eligible to apply to the BVNPT for licensure examination.



*For more information refer to the
Cypress College Catalog or
Psychiatric Technology Program
Director or Counselor*

Where Are Psychiatric Technicians Employed?

Psychiatric Hospitals & Facilities
Mental Health Day Care Programs
Mental Health Crisis Centers
Residential Treatment Programs
Department of Corrections
County Mental Health Programs
Substance Abuse Treatment Programs
Public Health Services
Independent Living Skills Agencies
Special Education Programs
Vendors of Specialized Behavioral Services
Developmental Centers
Transition Services & Job Coaches
Skilled Nursing Facilities

What is the typical salary range for Psychiatric Technicians?

\$19 - \$33 Per Hour
\$39,500 - \$70,290 Per Year

<http://psychtechs.net>

For more information call:
Program Director
(714) 484-7283
or
Program Counselor
(714) 484-7270

<http://www.cypresscollege.edu/academics/divisions-special-programs/health-science/psychiatric-technology/>

Incoming Psychiatric Technology Students:

Recent changes in health care have caused clinical facilities to mandate that all Psychiatric Technology students carry health insurance. **All Psych Tech students must have documentation of health insurance** to be allowed to provide patient care in the clinical areas. This required health insurance differs from the mandatory health fee collected from each enrolled Cypress College student.

For students who do not have health insurance, this process needs to be started through Covered California as soon as possible since the process may take several months. <https://www.coveredca.com>