Revised 11/2026

Applicant Interest Scoring Rubric

Name: **Total Score :**

Criteria to be Assessed	4	3	2	1
1. Interest in the PTA Program	Provides a thoughtful, specific explanation of why they want to enter the PTA program. Demonstrates knowledge of physical therapy and a genuine interest in the profession.	Clearly explains interest in the program but provides limited detail or connection to the PTA profession.	Provides a general reason for applying with minimal explanation or personal connection.	Provides an unclear, incomplete, or very limited response.
2. Interest in Healthcare	Provides a meaningful explanation demonstrating a genuine interest in healthcare, helping others, and making a positive impact on patients' lives.	Demonstrates interest in healthcare and provides a reasonable explanation.	Provides a general explanation with limited personal insight.	Provides little explanation or does not demonstrate a clear interest in healthcare.
3. Hobbies and Personal Interests	Provides a thoughtful response with meaningful interests or activities. May demonstrate qualities such as teamwork, discipline, leadership, creativity, or personal growth.	Provides several hobbies or interests with some explanation.	Provides a limited list of interests with little explanation.	Provides an incomplete or very limited response.
4. Understanding of Program Commitment	Demonstrates a strong understanding of the time, financial, and academic commitments. Provides thoughtful consideration of how they will manage these responsibilities.	Acknowledges the major commitments and provides some explanation of preparedness.	Recognizes some commitments but provides limited explanation of how they will manage them.	Demonstrates little understanding of the commitment required or provides an incomplete explanation.
5. Adversity and Resilience	Provides a clear example of adversity, explains actions taken to overcome the challenge, and demonstrates meaningful personal growth or lessons learned.	Provides a relevant example and explains how the situation was addressed. Demonstrates perseverance.	Provides a general example but gives limited detail about actions taken or lessons learned.	Provides an unclear, incomplete, or very limited response with little evidence of problem-solving or perseverance.
6. Grammar, Spelling, Punctuation, and Sentence Fluency	Writing is clear, organized, and easy to follow. Demonstrates excellent grammar, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, and fluency. Responses flow naturally and communicate ideas effectively.	Writing is generally clear and understandable. Contains occasional grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors that do not interfere with understanding. Demonstrates adequate sentence structure and fluency.	Writing contains several grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors. Sentence structure or organization may be inconsistent. Some responses may be difficult to follow, but the overall message is understandable.	Frequent writing errors significantly interfere with readability and understanding. Responses demonstrate difficulty organizing thoughts, constructing sentences, or communicating ideas clearly.

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