



Psychiatric Technician Application Instructions

The College of the Redwoods' Psychiatric Technician Program is a three-semester program with admission by application and approved by the California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technician (BVNPT). Upon successful completion of the Program, the student is eligible to take the National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX-PN) for licensure as an PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIAN. The student is also eligible to apply for a Certificate of Completion in Psychiatric Technician or an Associate Science Degree for PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIAN.

PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIAN APPLICATION DISCLOSURES FOR

Apply March 2026 Program start August 2027/Complete December 2028

Applications accepted October 1, 2026, at 8:00 am through October 15, 2026, at 4:00 pm

Program Curriculum Requirements

Admission Information

Admission criteria are subject to change from year to year. Applicants are responsible for reviewing the current application requirements, meeting all deadlines, and following all application instructions.

The College of the Redwoods Psychiatric Technician Program prepares students for a career providing care and support to individuals with mental health and developmental disabilities. The program combines classroom instruction with clinical and supervised experiences to prepare students for employment as psychiatric technicians.

Class Selection

Class selection follows the program's established admission and selection process.

- Applicants must meet all eligibility and prerequisite requirements outlined in the current Psychiatric Technician Program application instructions.
- Applicants are evaluated based on the criteria identified in the current application. Points, when applicable, are awarded according to the point allocation section of these application instructions.
- Program admission is offered to eligible applicants based on the established selection criteria and the number of available seats.
- If there is a tie among applicants after all applicable points have been awarded, a computerized random selection may be used to determine admission.
- **The Psychiatric Technician Program does not require the TEAS examination.**

- **There is no wait list for the Psychiatric Technician Program.**
- Applicants who are not admitted to the program must reapply during a future application cycle if they wish to be considered for admission.

Licensure and Employment

Graduates of the Psychiatric Technician Program may be eligible to apply for psychiatric technician licensure through the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and/or other applicable California licensing or certification requirements, depending on the graduate's intended area of employment.

Applicants should be aware that licensure and employment requirements may include background checks, fingerprinting, and disclosure of certain criminal convictions. A misdemeanor or felony conviction may affect eligibility for licensure or employment. Applicants are responsible for reviewing current licensing requirements with the appropriate California licensing or regulatory agency.

Admission to the Psychiatric Technician Program does not guarantee licensure or employment.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Sept. 28th, 2026 9:00am- Psychiatric Technician Information Session via Zoom
 - Join Zoom Meeting <https://redwoods-edu.zoom.us/j/4443008236>
- Sept. 29th, 2026 3:00pm-Psychiatric Technician Information Session via Zoom
 - Join Zoom Meeting <https://redwoods-edu.zoom.us/j/4443008236>
- August. 31, 2026 Deadline to complete prerequisite courses
- Oct. 1, 2026 Psychiatric Technician Application goes live
- Oct. 1-15, 2026 Applications accepted for Spring 2027 admission
- Oct. 15, 2026 Deadline to submit current official transcripts from ALL colleges attended
- Oct. 23, 2026 Eligibility status and point allocation emailed to all applicants
- Nov. 1, 2026 Deadline to appeal eligibility status and dispute point allocation
- Nov. 13, 2026 Notification of appeal and seat offers
- Nov. 16, 2026 9:00am to 2:00pm – MANDATORY Orientation (in person, on campus)
- Jan. 16, 2027 Spring Semester Begins – Class of 2027 Psychiatric Technician Program

College of the Redwoods Psychiatric Technician Program - Estimated Costs

Expense Category	Details / Description	Estimated Cost
Enrollment Fee	California Resident fee (\$46 per unit × 53.5 Credits)	\$2,461
Student Fees	Student fees for 4 semesters (\$50 per semester)	\$200
Books, Supplies & Materials	Complio tracking system, equipment, and miscellaneous supplies	\$350
FBI Background Check	Approximate cost	\$113
Drug Screen	Approximate cost	\$75
Required Uniforms	Required scrubs, white or black shoes, and a watch with second display	\$200
Physical Exam	Estimated cost (\$0 to \$200 depending on health coverage)	\$200
Immunizations	Approximate estimate for students lacking required immunity	\$220
Approximate Total	Combined estimated expenses	\$3,819

Important Cost Notes

- **Tuition Rate:** Enrollment fees reflect the California resident tuition rate of \$46 per unit over 53.5 credits.
- **Immunization Costs:** Costs are approximate and depend on health coverage; reduced fees are available through Public Health.
- **Physical Exam:** Estimated out-of-pocket costs range from \$0 to \$200 depending on your medical provider and insurance.

Psychiatric Technician Program

Application Steps and Eligibility

- 1. College Application and Student Email: All applicants must have applied to the College of the Redwoods and have a CR student ID number.**

Apply for admission to College of the Redwoods <https://www.redwoods.edu/apply/index.php> .

** If you have not attended classes at the College of the Redwoods for two or more semesters you are required to re-apply. This must be completed prior to submitting your application.*

Ensure your College of the Redwoods email account remains active throughout the entire application process. All eligibility notifications, point allocations, admission offers, and requests for additional information will be sent only to your CR email account.

Name/Address Changes: If there have been any changes to your name, address, email, or phone number after submitting your application, you must update this information immediately by emailing to: HealthOcc@redwoods.edu . Updating your information in College of the Redwoods Admissions alone will **not** update your Program application.

Check CR Email Frequently: Check your College of the Redwoods email regularly for important dates, application updates, and time-sensitive communications. We DO NOT use personal email accounts for program application communication, so please ensure your CR email is active and up to date.

Submit Current Official transcripts with your application. Options for official transcript submittal:

- Official transcripts must be submitted directly by the issuing institution or through the institution's authorized electronic transcript service directly to admissions@redwoods.edu.
 - This may include Parchment or another verified electronic transcript service authorized by the issuing institution.
 - Transcripts submitted or forwarded by applicants are not considered official and will **not** be accepted.
- Hand-deliver official sealed transcripts to the Admissions and Records Office during regular business hours. If you have any questions, please contact Admissions and Records at (707) 476-4200.
- Students may confirm whether their official transcripts have been received by emailing admissions@redwoods.edu or by checking their Etrieve forms under "ADM – Received Transcript" through their MyCR Portal.

AP Exam Score Submission Requirements

Applicants who are using Advanced Placement (AP) exam scores to meet nursing program prerequisites must submit an official AP score report directly from College Board.

Only AP exam scores of 3 or higher will be accepted for prerequisite consideration.

How to Send AP Scores

- Sign in to the AP score reporting system through the College Board AP Scores page.
- Select **"Send AP Scores."**
- Search for **College of the Redwoods** and submit the score report request.
- College Board will send an official AP score report directly to the college.

Important Deadline Information

Applicants are responsible for requesting AP score reports early enough to ensure they are received by the application deadline. College Board processes score report requests in batches and delivery times may vary.

If an official AP score report has not been received by the application deadline, applicants may submit:

- Proof that the official score report was requested from College Board prior to the application deadline; and
- An unofficial copy of the AP score report for preliminary review.

However, official AP scores must be received by the college for final verification. AP scores received after the application deadline may not be considered during the admissions review process, and applicants may not receive prerequisite credit or admission points associated with those scores if official documentation is not received in time.

Applicants are encouraged to request AP score reports well in advance of the application deadline to avoid delays.

Cost

- Students get **one free score** each year they take AP exams if they designate a recipient by the annual deadline (typically in June). ([AP Students](#))
- After that deadline, additional score reports currently cost **\$15 per report**. ([AP Students](#))

***Foreign/International transcripts must be formally evaluated by a foreign transcription service.** For more information, please visit: <https://www.redwoods.edu/services/admissions/transcriptinformation.php>

Prerequisite Coursework:

All applicants must complete the prerequisite coursework August 31, 2026.

No In-progress coursework will be considered.

Prerequisite coursework completed prior to application with a grade of 'C' or better

Prerequisite courses	Minimum semester credits	CR Course
Human Biology	4.0	BIOL8 (4 units)
Nutrition	3.0	HO-15
Basic Patient Care- or a Current California Certified Nursing Assistant License	6.0	HO-110

- A combined GPA of 2.0 or higher is required for all science courses and overall GPA of 2.0.
- Grades of 'C minus' and below are not accepted in prerequisite courses.

*****Consult the CR catalog or CR counseling/advising services for additional degree requirements*****

Program Ineligibility

Applicants will be **ineligible for admission** if **any** of the following apply:

1. GPA and Grade Requirements Not Met

- Combined GPA **below 2.0** (no rounding) in all science prerequisite courses.
- Any prerequisite course grade lower than “C”.
- Overall GPA below **2.0**.

2. Missing Official Transcripts

- Failure to submit **all current, official, sealed transcripts** from every college or university attended (except College of the Redwoods) by the application deadline.

3. Unapproved or Unevaluated Coursework

- Prerequisites not completed at a **regionally accredited U.S. college or university**.
- International coursework not formally evaluated by **ACEI** or **IERF**.

4. Incomplete or Incorrect Applications

- Missing required forms, documents, or attachments.
- Attachments not properly **formatted as PDF**.
- Attachments not **clearly named** as instructed.
- Failure to follow application instructions.

5. Missed Deadlines or Required Communications

- Failure to meet all stated deadlines.
- Failure to respond to **time-sensitive emails** from the Nursing Program.

6. Student Account Holds

- Any **hold** on your College of the Redwoods student account will stop your application from moving forward.
- To resolve holds, contact the **Business Office** at **707-476-4126** or **Business-Office@redwoods.edu**.

**College of the Redwoods PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIAN Program
Multi-Criteria Point Allocation**

1. Academic degree, license or relevant certificate held by applicant. Points are awarded in ONE of the following categories only.

Maximum points = 10

Degree, License or Certificate	Points	Required Documentation
1a. Associate degree or higher	10	- Official, sealed transcripts from regionally accredited U.S. colleges or universities, with degree awarded by the application due date. College of the Redwoods transcripts do not need to be submitted. - Transcripts must show degree awarded if points are to be applied in this category.
1c. California Certificated Health Care Worker with work experience (500 hours in past 2 years): (Nurse Assistant, Medical Assistant, Phlebotomist, EMT, Mental Health Worker, Peer Specialist in Behavioral Health, Case Manager in Behavioral Health, Pharmacy Tech)	8	- Copy of current California certificate with certificate number, date issued, and expiration date. Expired or out of state licenses cannot be accepted. - Copy of 1) current certificate with certificate number, date issued, and expiration date, 2) "Work Experience in Healthcare Verification" form and 3) Employer Letter.
1c. California Certificated Health Care Worker without work experience (in past 2 years): (Nurse Assistant, Medical Assistant, Phlebotomist, EMT, Mental Health Worker, Peer Specialist in Behavioral Health, Case Manager in Behavioral Health, Pharmacy Tech)	6	Copy of current California certificate with certificate number, date issued, and expiration date. Expired or out of state licenses cannot be accepted.

2. Academic Excellence: Grade point average in relevant coursework and prerequisite course attempts.

Maximum points = 46

Coursework	Points	Required Documentation
2a. Combined Prerequisite Science GPA: (BIO 8, HO15) ➤ Minimum 2.0 combined GPA required and no less than a "C" in any course (GPA cannot be rounded). ➤ Points are calculated by multiplying the combined GPA by 10: i.e. a combined GPA of 3.64 x 10 = 36.4 pts. ➤ GPA cannot be rounded. Maximum points 2a and 2b = 46	Combined Science GPA of 2.0 or higher x 10 2a. Maximum 40 points	Official, current, sealed transcripts from regionally accredited U.S. colleges or universities, showing course completion by the due date.
Prerequisite completion first time	Points	Required Documentation
2b. Points awarded for successful completion of prerequisite courses. ➤ 3 points awarded for each of the prerequisite courses completed on the first attempt. ➤ Prerequisites: BIOL 8 and HO15 ➤ BIO 2, 6 and 7 combined receive 3 points if blanket course substitution will be used.	3 points per course Maximum 6 points	Official, current, sealed transcripts from regionally accredited U.S. colleges or universities, showing course completion by the due date.

3. Work or volunteer experience.

Maximum Points = 7.5

****Form located in application ****

Work or Volunteer Experience	Points	Required Documentation
3a. 200 hours or more work experience in healthcare, within the last 2 years	5 points	• Work Experience in Healthcare Verification Form • All work experience must be submitted on the current form with this application to be considered.
3b. 200 hours or more volunteering- unpaid experience in healthcare or a nonprofit organization, within the last 2 years	2.5 points	• Volunteer Experience in Health Care or a Nonprofit Organization Verification Form. • All volunteer experience must be submitted on the current form to be considered. • Hours volunteered and signed on the September 2026 volunteer form will be accepted if they were completed during the required timeframe (the last two years).

4. Life experiences or special circumstances.

*While more than one of the following criteria may apply, **only 10 points** can be awarded in this category.*

Maximum Total points = 10

****Application Supporting Documentation Form located in application required for items 4c, 4e and 4f****

Life Experience or Circumstance	Points	Required Documentation
4a. Disability ** (form required)	2.5	• Current Proof of eligibility for Student Accessibility Supports and Services (SASS) or equivalent program at another institution, or letter from Social Security or your medical provider. Your name must be on document.
4b. Disadvantaged social or educational environment ** (form required)	2.5	• Proof of participation or eligibility for special programs listed on form. Your name must be on document.
4c. First generation to attend college **	2.5	• Admission Supporting Documentation form completed with statement of 1000 characters or less.
4d. Family income	2.5	• Current Proof of eligibility or receipt of financial aid under a program that may include but is not limited to a fee waiver from the Promise Grant, Cal Grant Program, Federal Pell Grant program, or Cal Works. Your name must be on document.
4e. Need to work - student worked at least part-time while completing prerequisite course(s).	2.5	• Admission Supporting Documentation form explanation including dates (1000 characters or less). One paycheck stub from the semester you worked while enrolled in prerequisite course(s), or a letter from your employer verifying employment on official letterhead. Your name must be on document.
4f. Difficult personal or family situation or circumstance	2.5	• Admission Supporting Documentation section 4f- Short personal written statement (1000 characters or less) describing a difficult situation within the past 3 years. Supporting documentation may be requested.
4g. Veteran status	2.5	• Copy of form DD214. Your name must be on document.
4h. Refugee status	2.5	• Documentation or letter from USCIS. Your name must be on document.

5. Proficiency in languages other than English. Applicants may be proficient in more than one additional language but only 2.5 points can be awarded in this category.

Maximum points = 2.5

Proficiency in languages other than English*	Points	Required Documentation
<i>Credit awarded for languages as identified by the Chancellor's Office, not limited to:</i> ➤ American Sign Language ➤ Arabic ➤ Chinese ➤ Farsi ➤ Russian ➤ Spanish ➤ Tagalog ➤ Languages of Indian Subcontinent & Southeast Asia	2.5	• Verification of Proficiency in a Language Other than English Form • Previous language points are no longer valid. The verification form must be submitted on the current form with this application to be considered. * Coursework does not equate to proficiency. Applicants must have the ability to speak, interpret, and write in the language at a conversational level as well as be able to translate in the healthcare setting. The person verifying language ability may not be a relative or family member. Applicants claiming proficiency may be asked to verify this through assessment testing at College of the Redwoods.

6. Additional points for previous applicants not selected for admission

Because 2026 is the first application cycle for the Psychiatric Technician Program, points cannot be awarded for this criterion during the 2026 application cycle. This criterion will be applicable in future application cycles once there is an established history of program participation.

Maximum points = 8

Previous Eligible Applicant Credit	Points	Required Documentation
7a. An additional 2 points will be awarded to eligible applicants who submitted <i>eligible Psychiatric Technician</i> program applications in the previous cycle and were not admitted. 7b. An additional 5 points will be awarded to eligible applicants who have previously submitted 2 <i>eligible</i> Psychiatric Technician program applications within the last 3 years without being admitted. 7c. 8 points will be awarded to <i>eligible</i> applicants who have previously submitted 3 or more <i>eligible</i> Psychiatric Technician applications within the past 5 years <i>without being admitted</i>. The current application does not count toward these points as eligibility has not yet been determined.	2-8	• 2026 is the first Psychiatric Tech Program application, points cannot be awarded this cycle. • The current application does not count toward these points as eligibility has not yet been determined. • Applicants must save their eligible alternate pool letters to resubmit in future applications to receive these points. We are unable to save these for you.