

Welcome to the STC Patient Care Technician (PCT) Program!

Greetings, STC PCT Students,

We are excited to welcome you to the **Patient Care Technician Program for Spring 2026!** Your commitment to healthcare is commendable, and we look forward to guiding you through this rewarding field.

This document contains **mandatory actions** and **critical logistics** you must review.



Mandatory Orientation Details

Attendance is mandatory. Please arrive on time and prepared. There is a waiting list, and those students will be assigned any seats that are not signed in by 8:15am.

Detail	Information
Date:	Wednesday, January 14th, 2026
Time:	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Location:	Ramiro R Casso, Health Science Professions, 1901 South McColl Road , McAllen, Texas
Rooms:	Rooms 2-102 and 2-104
Map Link:	Nursing-and-Allied-Health-Campus-Map.pdf

Before you arrive:

1. **Check Jagnet:** View your **schedule (including course sections)** and **faculty information**. You will need this to sign in.
2. **Bring Your Laptop:** Ensure your laptop is **fully charged** before arrival.



Critical Compliance Checklist (Action Required)

These steps are essential for your enrollment and clinical eligibility.

- **Degree Plan Declaration:**
 - **Action:** Update your degree plan to **Patient Care Technician** when you register.
 - **Note:** Declaring PCT as your major ensures you receive your certificate of completion and the competitive entry points. If this switch affects your **financial aid**, please consult with a Financial Aid representative as soon as possible.

- **Social Security Card:**
 - **Requirement:** Your card must have your **current signature and legal name**.
 - **Name Changes:** If you have had a name change (due to marriage, divorce, etc.), your Social Security card must be updated **before orientation**. The Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) will not allow registration without a valid card or work visa.
 - **Nurse Aide Registry/State Exam History:**
 - **Action:** If you have ever been listed on the **nurse aide registry**, or have **taken or applied** to take the NATCEP (state exam) (regardless of the outcome), you **must notify your faculty** following the January 14th orientation.
 - **HHS Contact:** You must also contact the Texas Department of Health and Human Services to get permission to take the state exam before completing the first two weeks of class if any of the above situations apply to you.
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Textbooks & Resources

The following books are **required by January 20th, 2026**:

- **Primary Textbook:** *Nursing Assistant* (Open Resource Education)
 - **Source:** [Nursing Assistant – Simple Book Publishing \(pressbooks.pub\)](https://www.pressbooks.pub/nursingassistant/)
 - **Note:** The required Texas Curriculum is [Texas Health and Human Services March 2024](#).
- **Purchasing Options:**
 - The book can be purchased at the **FedEx office, 2812 N 10th Street, McAllen, Texas**. (Please call before going.)
 - It can also be **downloaded online** (Open Resource Education).
- **Additional Books:** Three additional books will be needed for **Phlebotomy, EKG, and Patient Care**. Please see the **Book-list on PCT Program Resources** on the South Texas College website.
- **Assistance:** Visit the **PASS program** to see if you qualify for assistance with textbooks.
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Uniform and Clinical ID Photos

Students must be in uniform for class and clinical.

- **Uniform Guidelines:** Please see pages 4-5 for uniform guidelines in the **PTC Handbook**.
- [Patient Care Technician - Student Handbook](#)
- **Clinical ID Pictures:** Clinical ID cards will be issued on the first day of class.
 - **Dress Code:** Please come to orientation **in your uniform** for the ID photo.
 - **Photo Prep (Ladies):** Please wear minimal makeup and have your hair pulled back, away from your face, and up off of your neck, secured.

Contact and Communication

- **STC Student Email:** All communication with the Patient Care Program will be via your **STC student email address**. Check it frequently.
- **Jagnet Update:** Please update your **phone number in Jagnet**.
- **Flexibility:** Last-minute changes can occur, especially with clinical rotations. We ask that you remain flexible as we work to further your education.

We look forward to a successful semester!