



Doctor of Physical Therapy



Mission

To educate Doctors of Physical Therapy to meet current and future health care needs and challenges through a learning environment that promotes academic excellence, evidence-based practice, and a diversity of clinical experiences. Drexel University strives to graduate innovative and caring practitioners who possess a sense of civic and professional responsibility and value lifelong learning.

Program Description

The Professional Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program is designed to prepare competent physical therapy clinicians who understand the delivery of patient care within the changing health care environment. The curriculum values the physical therapist as a health care provider who gives particular attention to the anatomical, physiological and biopsychosocial aspects of the mind and body. Emphasis is placed on evidence-based examination, evaluation and intervention plans in order to determine a diagnosis and prognosis to affect optimal outcomes throughout the continuum of care.

Consistent with Drexel's reputation as a leader in technology, the college affords cutting edge technology via the Center for Interdisciplinary Clinical Simulation and Practice (<http://www.drexel.edu/cnhp/about/CICSP>), which is utilized throughout the DPT curriculum. Students use technology for "bedside" point-of-care, Standardized Patient Labs (SPL) and Human Simulation Labs to practice clinical skills. Point-of-care technology (i-Pod Touch) is infused throughout the curriculum and used in both academic courses and during clinical rotations. This allows students immediate access to information for clinical decision making. The SPL is designed to look like a typical physical therapy out-patient setting where professional actors play the role of the "patient". The SPL lab is equipped with

state-of-the-art video and audio equipment which allows students to be remotely monitored by faculty as they perform various examination and/or treatment interventions with the "patients". Through this technology, students can view themselves for self critique as well as receive feedback from the actor and faculty. The Human Simulation Lab, consists of two large labs, a control and "prop" room, which can be transformed into an acute setting (ICU, OR, ED), medical surgical, or community environments (home, community centers, etc). These labs not only enhance clinical skills but also promote communication skills between physical therapists and patients, as well as with other health care providers. The use of advanced technology has become an invaluable resource for preparing students for real-life patient interactions

Graduates of our program are able to function in a variety of health care settings and are well-prepared to seek licensure by state board examination. In fact, the DPT program at Drexel University and its predecessor, Hahnemann University, have a 100% pass rate on the state board license examination, including first-time pass rate of over 97%. In addition, the program is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

- Refine your assessment skills in our Standardized Patient Lab before you begin your first job
- Use iPod Touch and other health care technology to enhance patient care
- Build confidence in nationwide internships
- 100% pass rate on Physical Therapy license exam throughout the over 25-year history of the program
- Dean's Merit Scholarships ranging from \$25,000-\$50,000 and disbursed over the length of the program are available to qualified students.

"The Drexel PT program allowed me to excel above and beyond all expectations at each of my clinical sites. The faculty here at Drexel provided more than ample learning opportunities to broaden my interest in this profession."

- Andrew Seo, DPT, Class of 2004

Admission Requirements —The following are required for admission to the DPT program:

- Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Official transcripts from each university ever attended
- 2 courses in general biology with laboratory
- 1 course in human or mammalian physiology or the 2-part series of Anatomy and Physiology I, II
- 1 upper divisional biology course at the junior or senior level (must be taken at a 4-year university)
- 2 courses in general chemistry with laboratory
- 2 courses in general physics with laboratory
- 2 courses in psychology: 1 general and 1 additional psych course (developmental or abnormal psychology)
- 1 course in statistics
- 5 courses from the humanities and social sciences (all other courses)
- GRE scores: combined verbal & quantitative minimum score of 1000 and 4.0 analytical
- Science GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Essay - 1 page
- 2 letters of recommendation (*one from a physical therapist and one from a science-based professor or advisor*). No additional form is required.
- Documented work or volunteer experience of a recommended minimum of 50 hours or more
- Qualities such as maturity and effective interpersonal relationships and a strong understanding of the physical therapy field, as ascertained from the letters of recommendation and interview .
- Any candidate who applies and that is deemed competitive will be offered the opportunity to interview for the Program. Interviews are required for admission. They begin in the fall and continue until the class is filled.
- Students are primarily selected for admission into the DPT Program based upon their perceived ability to successfully complete the curriculum. To make this judgment, the Program's Admissions Committee views all applicant materials and conducts a formal interview.
- Students are encouraged to begin applying in July. All applications, transcripts, GRE scores, and supporting documents must be submitted through PTCAS for consideration. All application materials must be received by December 1st to be considered.

• **"The faculty and staff are knowledgeable, helpful, available and reliable. I'm confident that I will succeed precisely because these people are this way."**

• **"I am extremely impressed with the faculty and their commitment and care for the students within the program."**

Curriculum

The DPT curriculum consists of integrated classroom work and clinical experiences spread over 10 quarters and completed in 31 months. Students start classes in the latter half of September and finish in March of their third year of study. Students are exposed early in the curriculum to clinical experiences both with program faculty and clinical mentors across the country. Specific courses within our curriculum make use of our two faculty practice sites (Intercollegiate Athletics at Drexel University and 11th Street Family Health Services) and our affiliation with local health care organizations (Magee Rehabilitation Hospital, Hahnemann Hospital, United Cerebral Palsy, as well as others) to help bring practical experience to lectures and labs. In addition to those experiences, students spend 38 weeks engaged in full-time clinical rotations. Overall, students leave our program ready to become successful clinicians in the health care environment.

"We have found that your graduates possess foundation skills that are strong, enabling them to quickly grasp advanced techniques in both application and performance."

– **Amy Flannery, PT
Owner,
PT Plus in
Washington, NJ
Employer of Drexel
graduates**

To Apply:

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program requires all applicants to apply using the Physical Therapy Application System (PTCAS) at <http://www.ptcas.org> beginning on July 5th.

All supporting documents must be submitted through PTCAS.

For more information contact:

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<http://www.drexel.edu/physicalTherapy/programs/dpt>

