

Doctor of Physical Therapy



Mission

The mission of the DPT program is: To prepare competent, compassionate doctors of physical therapy by promoting excellence, evidence-based practice and lifelong learning, and to graduate innovative practitioners who exhibit civic and professional responsibility in diverse healthcare and community environments.

Program Description

The Professional Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program is designed to prepare 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 DPT program utilizes cutting edge technology through the Center for Interdisciplinary Clinical Simulation and Practice (<http://www.drexel.edu/cnhp/about/CICSP>). Use of these resources is infused throughout the curriculum to prepare students for provider-patient interactions in practice. For example, Standardized Patient Labs (SPL) are 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 video and audio equipment allowing 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 feed-back from the actor and faculty.

Additionally, the Human Simulation Lab, consists of two large labs, a control and "prop" room, which can be transformed into an acute setting (intensive care unit, operating room or emergency department), a home or a community center. These labs allow students to hone their clinical skills in these other environments while promoting communication between physical therapists and patients, as well as with other health care providers. This 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 98%.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Drexel University is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Avenue, Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22305-3085; 703-706-3245; Email: accreditation@apta.org; Website: <http://www.capteonline.org>.



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

College of

Nursing and
Health Professions

Program Features

- Refine your assessment skills in our Standardized Patient Lab before you begin your first job
- Build confidence by participating in 32 – 33 weeks of clinical experiences nationwide and/or abroad
- 100% pass rate on the Physical Therapy license exam throughout the 35 + year history of the program
- Dean's Merit Scholarships ranging from \$13,000 – \$55,000 disbursed over the length of the program are available to qualified students. This range is subject to change from year to year.
- Practice skills and apply classroom knowledge during 4 part-time integrated clinical experiences (ICEs) at local clinical sites during the first year of the program

Curriculum

The DPT curriculum consists of integrated classroom work and clinical experiences spread over 11 quarters and completed in a little under 3 years. Students start classes in the latter half of September and finish in June 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 three faculty practice sites and our affiliation with local health care organizations to help bring practical experience to lectures and labs. In addition to those experiences, students spend 32 – 33 weeks engaged in full-time clinical experiences. Overall, students leave our program ready to become successful clinicians in the health care environment.

// The consistency of topics throughout the program allowed me to apply knowledge and skills in the clinic to maximize patient care."

— Anonymous

// The faculty are approachable and supportive and want to see everyone succeed."

— Anonymous

Requirements for admission to the DPT program

Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with a GPA of at least a 3.0. (Please send official transcripts from every university ever attended.)

Science GPA of at least 3.0

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 with laboratory

1 course in anatomy or the 2-part series of Anatomy and Physiology I, II with laboratory

2 courses in general chemistry with laboratory

2 courses in general physics with laboratory

1 course in statistics

1 course in general psychology

GRE scores: combined verbal & quantitative minimum score of 300 and 4.0 analytical writing score.

Essay— included on PTCAS application

2 letters of recommendation (one from a physical therapist and one from a science-based professor or advisor).

Documented work or volunteer experience of a minimum of 50 hours or more

Qualities such as maturity and effective interpersonal skills 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, and will begin in the fall and continue throughout the winter quarter. Students are then selected for the DPT Program based upon their perceived ability to successfully complete the curriculum.

Students should 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 in PTCAS on or before October 1st for consideration.

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>.

The application opens in July. All supporting documents must be submitted through PTCAS.

FOR MORE INFO. CONTACT:

Admissions

Phone: 267.359.5535 • **Email:** ptadmissions@drexel.edu

Web: <http://www.drexel.edu/PhysicalTherapy>