

## PHYSICAL THERAPY

**Physical therapy** is defined as the assessment, evaluation, and treatment and prevention of physical disability, movement dysfunction and pain resulting from injury, disease, disability, or other health related conditions. It includes: (1) the performance and interpretation of tests and measurements to assess pathophysiological, pathomechanical, electrophysiological, ergonomic, and developmental deficits of bodily systems to determine diagnosis, treatment, progress and prevention; (2) the planning, administration, and modification of therapeutic interventions that focus on posture, locomotion, strength, joint mobility, pain, healing, repair, etc. in daily activities; (3) the provision of consultative, educational, research and other advisory services.

### PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND PREREQUISITES UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE (Memphis, TN & Chattanooga, TN)

| Requirements and Prerequisites | Total Hours |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| General Biology I & II*, **    | 8           |
| General Chemistry I & II**     | 8           |
| General Physics I & II**       | 8           |
| Human A&P I & II**             | 8           |
| Psychology                     | 6           |
| Mathematics**                  | 6           |
| Exercise Physiology+           | 3           |

\*It would be to your advantage to take more science courses than the minimum required.

\*\*AP & CLEP are accepted for psychology, math & statistics only. Courses indicated must have only one course completed at time of application, but both must be completed for matriculation.

+UTC requirement.

^UTHSC requires 2 maths. UT Chattanooga only requires statistics. Prerequisites for physics must be met. A C or better is required in all prerequisite courses.

If a required course is repeated, both grades are calculated into the cumulative GPA, but the credit hours assigned to the course may be counted only once in fulfilling the required number of hours.

UTHSC DPT program allows up to 8 hours of grade forgiveness. This means that if a course is repeated, the higher grade will be substituted for up to 8 hours of credit.

UTC allows up to 3 courses to be repeated where the second grade is used for GPA calculation.

**IS A DEGREE REQUIRED?   X   YES      NO**

A baccalaureate degree, which includes prerequisite courses for the program, must be completed prior to enrollment with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale. Experience has shown that generally a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.00 must be presented for the applicant to be competitive. Credit hours for non-theory physical education, music and military science are not accepted in fulfillment of required number of hours. Priority is given to students who have completed at least a portion of each required course sequence by the fall term prior to application. The student will graduate with a Doctor of Physical Therapy at the end of three years.

UTHSC: The following 19 hours of prerequisite courses must be completed and reported on official transcripts before an application will be considered for admission: Biology I, Chemistry I, Physics I, Anatomy and Physiology I, and Psychology.

**IS CLINICAL EXPERIENCE REQUIRED OR HELPFUL? IF SO, HOW MANY HOURS?**

UT-Memphis requires observation of a physical therapist for a minimum of 25 hours, however more are recommended. These should occur in a variety of work settings, (community, rehab, pediatrics, geriatrics) to give you a broad exposure to the field. Experience in athletic training will not count toward these hours unless the trainer is a physical therapist.

**GPA AND ENTRANCE EXAM REQUIREMENTS:**

Applicants need a 3.0 GPA or above to be competitive. Taking the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is also required. A person must score above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile to be competitive (verbal > 151, quantitative >150). Average GRE was 305 and GPA is 3.5.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** November 1<sup>st</sup>

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND PREREQUISITES  
HARDING UNIVERSITY (Searcy, AR)**

| <b>Requirements and Prerequisites</b> | <b>Equivalent Course at FHU</b> | <b>Hours</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| General Chemistry I & II              | CHE121/121L & 122/122L          | 8            |
| General Biology II                    | BIO112                          | 4            |
| Human A&P I & II                      | BIO211 & 212                    | 8            |
| General Psychology                    | PSY210                          | 3            |
| Developmental or Abnormal Psychology  | PSY310 or 218                   | 3            |
| Medical Terminology                   | BIO115                          | 1            |
| Mathematics                           | MAT101, 120, or 122             | 3            |
| Upper Level Animal Based Biology      | BIO312, 333 or 335*             | 4            |
| Statistics                            | MAT235                          | 3            |
| General Physics I & II                | PHS201, 202                     | 8            |

\*Organic Chemistry or Biochemistry may be accepted. It would be to your advantage to take more science courses than the minimum required, such as additional chemistries or other life science, or social sciences beyond the minimum.

**IS A DEGREE REQUIRED?**   X   YES      NO

A baccalaureate degree, which includes prerequisite courses for the program, must be completed prior to enrollment with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale for the prerequisites. Experience has shown that generally a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.00 must be presented for the applicant to be competitive. CLEP credit may not be used for any of the pre-requisites. AP credit may be accepted if the undergraduate institution counts it.

**IS CLINICAL EXPERIENCE REQUIRED OR HELPFUL? IF SO, HOW MANY HOURS?**

A minimum of 100 hours of observation in a variety of physical therapy settings is required.

**ADMISSION EXAM: GRE** Taking the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is also required. No minimal score was given.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Spring prior to matriculation in the fall. Check website for exact date.

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND PREREQUISITES  
TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY (Nashville, TN)**

| Requirements and Prerequisites |                          | Total Hours |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| General Biology I & II*        | BIO111 & 112             | 8           |
| General Chemistry I & II       | CHE121/121L & 122/122L   | 8           |
| General Physics I & II         | PHS201 & 202             | 8           |
| Human A&P I & II               | BIO211 & 212             | 8           |
| Psychology                     | PSY210, 218, 310, or 340 | 3           |
| Statistics                     | MAT235                   | 3           |

\*It would be to your advantage to take more science courses than the minimum required including medical terminology, upper level physiology/biology, and a neuro/muscular course.

**IS A DEGREE REQUIRED?**   X   YES      NO

A baccalaureate degree, which includes prerequisite courses for the program, must be completed prior to enrollment with a minimum cumulative prerequisite grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale.

Experience has shown that generally a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.00 must be presented for the applicant to be competitive.

**IS CLINICAL EXPERIENCE REQUIRED OR HELPFUL? IF SO, HOW MANY HOURS?**

TSU requires observation of a physical therapist for a minimum of 40 hours in at least 2 settings, however more hours is recommended. These must be documented in PTCAS.

**GPA AND ENTRANCE EXAM REQUIREMENTS:**

TSUs program requires a score of 150 for the Verbal section and 150 for the Quantitative section; we do not consider the combined score. Applicants who meet the minimum GRE score for one section (but not the other) may still apply. However, preference will be given to candidates who meet the minimum scores for both sections. TSU also requires the CASPER exam, a situational judgement test. No minimum score was provided.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** October 1

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND PREREQUISITES  
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY (Bowling Green, KY)**

| <b>Requirements and Prerequisites</b> | <b>Equivalent Course at FHU</b> | <b>Hours</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| General Chemistry I & II              | CHE121/121L & 122/122L          | 8            |
| General Biology I & II                | BIO111 & 112                    | 8            |
| Human A&P I & II                      | BIO211 & 212                    | 8            |
| Psychology                            | PSY Course                      | 3            |
| Statistics                            | MAT235                          | 3            |
| General Physics I & II                | PHS201, 202                     | 8            |

**IS A DEGREE REQUIRED?**  YES  NO

No grade lower than a C (i.e. C-, D, F) is acceptable in any prerequisite course. 5 of the 8 science courses must be completed prior to submission of the PTCAS application.

**IS CLINICAL EXPERIENCE REQUIRED OR HELPFUL? IF SO, HOW MANY HOURS?** 35 hours are required, but additional hours of clinical experience is helpful. Multiple settings are also valued.

**GPA AND ENTRANCE EXAM REQUIREMENTS:** A minimum *undergraduate* GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, for both cumulative and prerequisite courses is required. Average GPA: Cumulative GPA- 3.75, Prerequisite GPA- 3.62 A composite score of 300 or higher on the verbal and quantitative sections will be more competitive. A score of 3.5 out of 6 on the analytical writing section is recommended. WKU will take the highest score from each section, if you have taken the exam multiple times.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** ALL regular PTCAS requirements (application, transcripts, and GRE scores) must be received by PTCAS by the specified due date. See the WKU website for specific dates for each cycle.