



PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAMS

For current requirements and resources please see the following Physical Therapy School (PT) Program. <https://hpa.ucdavis.edu/physical-therapy>

General Info:

- Complete a Bachelor's Degree in any field. (Biology preferred).
- Most programs require a minimum of 3.0 GPA in the prerequisite coursework with grades of C or better in each course.
- A minimum of 100 documented work/volunteer hours is required in more than one setting.
- Applications processed by the Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service.
- Major preparation varies from school to school but typically requires courses in anatomy, biology, chemistry, physics, social science, math & statistics
- GRE exam is needed.
- While some programs offer a master's degree, a growing majority of programs offer the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree. Currently, there are over 200 accredited physical therapist education programs. The DPT is expected to be the degree of choice for practitioners by 2021.
- To become a licensed professional one must graduate from a CAPTE accredited program and pass a state PT licensure exam.

Excellent resources for counselors and students

- APTA (American Physical Therapy Association) at <http://www.apta.org>
- Journal of the American Physical Therapy Association at <http://www.ptjournal.org>
- A World of Physical Therapy at <http://physicaltherapist.com>
- Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service at <http://www.ptcas.org>
- California Physical Therapy Association at <http://www.ccapta.org>
- CAPTE (Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education) at <http://www.capteonline.org>
- Occupational Outlook Handbook <https://www.bls.gov/oo>

California Schools:

Azusa Pacific

- <https://www.apu.edu/bas/physicaltherapy/>
- Offers a DPT
- Offers a 36 month (including summers), Entry level professional program consisting of 133 units.
- Program starts once a year in spring.
- For fall 2019, there were +800 applicants and 56 students were admitted.
- The average GPA was 3.0
- GRE scores for verbal and quantitative combined for admitted students averaged 960, analytical 4.28

California State University Northridge (CSUN)

- <http://www.csun.edu/faculty-affairs/health-and-human-development>
- Offers a DPT
- Offers a three-year full-time academic and clinical experience consisting of 121 units.
- For fall 2019, there were 1,200 applicants and 32 students were admitted.
- The average GPA was 3.8
- GRE scores of admitted students were 155 verbal, 156 quantitative and 4.0 analytical

California State University Long Beach (CSULB)

- <http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/departments/physical-therapy/>
- Offers a DPT
- Offers a three-year academic and clinical experience consisting of 113 units.
- Supplemental application required.
- For fall 2018, there were 1500 applicants and 36 students were admitted.
- The average cumulative GPA for fall 2019 was 3.6
- GRE scores of admitted students were 150 verbal, 150 quantitative and 4.0 analytical.

California State University Fresno (CSUF) and University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)

- <http://www.fresnostate.edu/chhs>
- CSUF offers a 3 year DPT program.
- There were 500 applicants and 34 students were admitted.
- The average GPA was 3.0

California State University Sacramento (CSUS)

- <http://www.hhs.csus.edu/pt/>
- Offers a 3 year DPT program.
- Graduate, supplemental and PTCAS applications required.
- For fall 2019, there were 473 applicants, 93 were interviewed and 32 were admitted.
- The average GPA 3.85

Chapman University

- <http://www.chapman.edu/crean/academic-programs/graduate-programs/physical-therapy/index.aspx>
- Offers a DPT.
- Offers a three-year, full-time program, on a trimester system (15 weeks each trimester).
- For Fall 2019, 1400 applications were received, and 40 students were admitted.
- The average prerequisite GPA for Fall 2019 was 3.5
- GRE scores of admitted students: 144 quantitative; 146 verbal; and 3.5 analytical.

Loma Linda University

- <http://www.llu.edu/>
- Offers a variety of programs: Physical Therapy (DPT Entry-Level/Prior BS), DPT; Physical Therapy (Post-Professional DPT (prior BS in PT)), DPT; Physical Therapy (Post-Professional DPT (Prior MPT)), DPT; Physical Therapy, PhD.

Mount St. Mary's College

<http://www.msmu.edu/graduate-programs/physical-therapy>

- Offers a DPT.
- Offers a three-year, full-time program consisting of 120 units
- Approximately 640 applications were received, 35 students were admitted.
- The average cumulative GPA for Fall 2019 was 3.2.
- GRE scores of admitted students: 153 quantitative; 153 verbal; and analytical writing 4.0.

Samuel Merritt University

- <http://www.samuelmerritt.edu/programs/doctor-physical-therapy>
- Offers a DPT, 33 month program.
- Supplemental essay required.
- For fall 2019, 590 applications were received, 40 were admitted.
- The minimum GPA for all prerequisite courses is 3.0.
- Beginning with 2019 application, GRE scores are no longer an admission

San Diego State University (SDSU)

- <http://ens.sdsu.edu/academic-programs/graduate/dpt>
- Offers a DPT.
- Offers approximately three year program. It includes didactic coursework and clinical requirements.
- Approximately 500-600 students are expected to apply to the program for the 2020-21 academic year.
- Accepting approximately 36-38 students into each class.
- For Summer 2019 the average overall cumulative GPA was 3.67.
- Average GRE score for entering Summer 2019 was 308, with a 4.3 for the average writing score.

San Francisco State University (SFSU) and University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)

- <http://ptrehab.ucsf.edu>
- Offers an integrated DPT program within both schools. SFSU & UCSF also offer 2 additional programs: a DPT for practicing therapy clinicians who meet the requirements and DPTSc program for those interested in teaching.
- 3 year program (36 months) including 32 weeks of full time clinical affiliations which begins in summer.
- Supplemental application required.
- For fall 2019, there were 210 applicants. The program admits 50 students each year.
- The average GPA for fall 2019 was 3.5.
- GRE scores of admitted students averaged verbal 69th%, quantitative 59th%, and analytical 4.4.

University of the Pacific

- <http://www.pharmacy.pacific.edu/pharmacy>
- Offers a DPT program.
- Offers a highly structured 25 month long program.
- There were 400+ applicants and 36 students were admitted.
- The average GPA of admitted students was 3.0.

University of Southern California

- <http://dpt.usc.edu/>
- Offers a DPT program.
- Offers a three-year program (8 semesters).
- Approximately 1,100 applications and 95 students were admitted.
- Minimum cumulative GPA 3.0. Higher GPA's tend to be more competitive in the application pool.
- Recommended minimum combined Verbal and Quantitative GRE score is 300. A score of 150 in each GRE component is preferred.

University of St. Augustine For Health Sciences (CA & FL locations)

- Note: This program is State and CAPTE accredited, but school is nationally (not regionally) accredited.
- <http://www.usa.edu/blog/category/physical-therapy-pt>
- Offers a DPT program.
- Offers a 2.7 year program (8 trimesters) to complete.
- Also offers a part flexible 4 year program (12 trimesters).
- Program consists of 131 credit hours.
- Accepts 3 cohorts per year (fall, spring, summer).
- Approximately 650 applications for Florida and San Marcos campuses and 90 students were admitted to each campus.
- The average GPA 3.0.
- GRE combined scores of 294 for the verbal and quantitative is recommended.

Western University of Health Sciences

- <http://www.westernu.edu>
- Offers a DPT.
- Offers a three-year, full-time program consisting of 145 units.
- For fall 2019, 1,000 applications were received, 300 were interviewed and 54 students were admitted.
- The average prerequisite GPA for fall 2019 was 3.45, cumulative GPA 3.40.
- GRE scores are not required.
- Secondary application required.

Arizona Schools:

A.T. Still University

- <http://www.atsu.edu/school-of-osteopathic-medicine-arizona>
- Offers a DPT.
- Offers a three-year, full-time program.
- Approximately 940 applications received, 439 qualified and 62 students were admitted.
- The cumulative GPA for c/o 2021 was 3.43.
- GRE scores of admitted students: Verbal 150; Quantitative 151; Analytical 3.81.
- Secondary application required.

Northern Arizona University

- <http://nau.edu/physical-therapy/>
- Offers a DPT.
- Offers a 33 month, full-time program.
- There were 1208 applicants, and 93 students were admitted.
- The average cumulative GPA was 3.7.
- GRE scores of admitted students: Quantitative 152; Verbal 152; Analytical 4.0.
- Arizona residents are given preference over non-Arizona residents.

Nevada Schools:

University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)

- <http://pt.unlv.edu/>
- Offers a DPT.
- Offers a three-year, full-time program consisting of 112 units.
- There were approximately 500-800 applicants and 48 students admitted.
- The average GPA for fall 2019 was 3.0.
- A composite score of 300 or higher on the verbal and quantitative sections of the GRE is preferred.
- A score of 4 out of 6 is recommended on the Analytical writing section of the GRE.

- Nevada residents are given preference over non-Nevada residents.

