

# DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

The doctor of physical therapy program reflects the mission of GW's School of Medicine and Health Sciences, which includes teaching with creativity and dedication; healing with quality and compassion; and discovering with imagination and innovation. This is an entry-level professional program that prepares graduates to examine, evaluate, diagnose, develop plans of care, provide interventions, and assess outcomes for patients with a wide range of musculoskeletal, neuromotor, cardiopulmonary, and integumentary dysfunctions. The program is offered full-time over eight semesters.

Students explore the legal and ethical aspects of patient care as well as issues of communication, patient education, health promotion, health policy, and practice management. The program is committed to the development of generalist practitioners prepared to practice in an evidence-based and ethical manner. Graduates are reflective practitioners who think critically to effectively solve problems; compassionate practitioners who demonstrate excellence in communication and interpersonal skills with respect for individual and cultural differences, and the core values of the profession; and dedicated practitioners who value the tenets of lifelong learning. Small classes enable students to engage in critical thinking activities that facilitate effective clinical decision making and problem solving. Faculty members use innovative teaching strategies and integrate clinical experiences to facilitate learning and retention throughout the curriculum.

This program is accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Physical Therapist Education of the American Physical Therapy Association. Students are eligible to sit for the national licensing examination upon graduation.

Visit the program website (<https://smhs.gwu.edu/physical-therapy/dpt-program/>) for additional program information.

## ADMISSIONS

Admission deadlines: Fall - December 1

The application and all supporting documentation (fees, statement of purpose, letters of recommendation, transcripts, test scores) must be received by the deadline in order for the application to be reviewed.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy Program uses the online application system PTCAS (Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service). Please go to the PTCAS Web site to begin the application process. The fee for using PTCAS is based on the number of programs the applicant designates. A limited number of application fee waivers are available. Meeting PTCAS' eligibility criterion for a fee waiver does not guarantee a waiver will be granted for supplemental application fees.

In addition to the PTCAS application, all applicants must submit a GW Supplemental Application to the Health Sciences Office of Admissions.

**Standardized test scores:** The GRE is required for all applicants. Official GRE score reports must be received by the application deadline for an application to be considered for admission. The institution code for GW is 5246.

**Recommendations required:** Two (2) recommendations must be submitted with your PTCAS application.

**Prior academic records:** Official transcripts from every college and university attended must be submitted directly to PTCAS. All transcripts must be submitted, whether or not a degree was earned.

All non-U.S. transcripts (including those in English) must be evaluated by World Education Services and submitted directly to PTCAS.

**Statement of purpose:** In an essay of 250 to 500 words, describe your reasons for undertaking study in the Health Sciences at The George Washington University. You should state your academic objectives, career plans, and related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, as well as any other substantial accomplishments not already mentioned on the application form.

**Additional Requirement:** Applicants to the program must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.

Prerequisite course work includes the following:

-Anatomy and Physiology (two semester sequence, or one semester of each; human focus preferred)

-Physics (two semesters with lab)

-Chemistry (two semesters with lab)

-Biology (two semesters with lab recommended)

-English (two semesters: one composition, one literature)

-Statistics (one semester; mathematical focus preferred)

-Psychology (two semesters: must include psychology beyond the introductory level)

All science courses must be for science/health science majors.

All applicants are required to review the Technical Standards/Essential Functions for the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program and the Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening Policy before applying.

Note: Accepted applicants will be required to pay a non-refundable tuition deposit.

**International applicants only:** Please review International Applicant Information carefully for details on required documents and English language requirements.

PLEASE NOTE that the Health Sciences programs require the following minimum English language test scores for admission:

-Academic IETLS: an overall band score of 7.0 with no individual band score below 6.0; or

-TOEFL: 600 on paper-based, 250 on computer-based, or 100 on Internet-based; or

-PTE Academic: 68

**Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:**

Office of Admissions  
Health Sciences Programs  
The George Washington University  
2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Suite 2000  
Washington, DC 20006

**For questions contact:**

hsphora@gwu.edu  
202-994-0384  
9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday

## REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 109 credits to be taken in the following sequence:

### Program of Study

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Fall I Semester I</b>		
PT 8201	Functional Anatomy	
PT 8311	Foundations of Examination	
PT 8312	Foundations of Interventions	
PT 8351	Professional Issues in Physical Therapy Health Care Management I	
PT 8361	Clinical Conference I	
<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
<b>Spring I Semester II</b>		
PT 8202	Applied Physiology	
PT 8313	Therapeutic Modalities	
PT 8352	Teaching in Physical Therapy Practice	
PT 8203	Neuroscience in Rehabilitation I	
PT 8271	Research in Practice	
PT 8362	Clinical Conference II	

PT 8483 Integrated Clinical Experience I

PT 8204 Movement Science I

**Code Title Credits**

**Summer I Semester III**

PT 8205 Movement Science II

PT 8206 Neuroscience in Rehabilitation II

PT 8207 Clinical Medicine and Pharmacology

PT 8363 Clinical Conference III

PT 8481 Interprofessional Community Practicum

**Code Title Credits**

**Fall II Semester IV**

PT 8315 Management of Musculoskeletal Dysfunction I

PT 8208 Medical Imaging

PT 8318 Management of Neuromotor Dysfunction

PT 8323 Prosthetics and Orthotics

PT 8364 Clinical Conference IV

PT 8272 Research Seminar

PT 8484 Integrated Clinical Experience II

**Code Title Credits**

**Spring II Semester V**

PT 8316 Management of Musculoskeletal Dysfunction II

PT 8320 Management of the Pediatric Client

PT 8322 Management of the Aging Adult

PT 8314 Management of Cardiopulmonary Dysfunction

PT 8317 Management of Integumentary Dysfunction

PT 8365 Clinical Conference V

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
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**Summer II Semester VI**

PT 8491	Clinical Education Experience I	
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PT 8366	Clinical Conference VI	
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PT 8321	Women's Health	
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<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
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**Fall III Semester VII**

PT 8492	Clinical Education Experience II	
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PT 8355	Professional Issues in Physical Therapy Health Care Management II	
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PT 8357	Capstone Seminar	
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PT 8356	Health Promotion and Wellness	
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<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
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**Spring III Semester VIII**

PT 8493	Clinical Education Experience III	
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Elective