

Physical Therapy Requirements

Required Courses:

1 year of General Biology - Bio 240L, Bio 242L
1 year of General Chemistry - Chem 151L, Chem 152L
1 year of General Physics - Phys 136L, Phys 137L - (Math 130 or 150 are prerequisites)
1 year of English/USD Core Requirement – FYW 150 + Upper Division Writing course
1 year of Anatomy and Physiology – Bio 212/213
1 semester of Statistics – Math 120 (most will accept Psych stats or Biostats)
1 semester of Psychology – Psyc 101

Some schools require:

Exercise Physiology - Bio 105 or Bio 115
Abnormal Psychology – Psyc 355
Medical Terminology (taken at community college)
1 semester of Communication - Comm 203
Kinesiology or Biomechanics

These courses will satisfy the requirements for most physical therapy schools. Make sure that you check for additional requirements at your selected schools. Many schools want you to have completed the required courses prior to the time of application. Take all required classes for a grade; Pass/Fail is not acceptable!

GRE (Graduate Record Examination)

Students who intend to apply to Physical Therapy programs must take the GRE prior to application. The GRE measures three areas in verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning and analytical writing.

Extracurricular Activities

Clinical: A minimum of 200 hours of clinical experience in a variety of physical therapy settings is recommended. This can be in a volunteer or paid capacity.

Community Service/Leadership: While physical therapy schools don't require volunteer experience, it will strengthen your overall application! There are many opportunities on and off campus to become involved.

Web Resources: <http://www.apta.org/>