

PHYSICAL THERAPY -- Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)

RECOMMENDATIONS ONLY

Schools Referenced	Clarke University—Dubuque, IA Creighton University--Omaha, NE Des Moines University--Des Moines, IA University of Iowa--Iowa City, IA St. Ambrose University--Davenport, IA Allen College – Waterloo, IA
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Most programs require completion of a baccalaureate degree. ➤ Institutions require a minimum cumulative GPA and minimum GPA in prerequisite courses of 3.0 to 3.2 for application to the program. ➤ Prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of C or better, C- is not acceptable ➤ Graduate Record Exam (GRE) required; http://www.ets.org/gre/ ➤ Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service, ptcas.org ➤ PTCAS factors in all grades of repeated coursework
Biology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> _____ General Biology: Organismal Diversity--BIOL2051 _____ General Biology: Cell Structure and Function--BIOL2052 _____ Anatomy & Physiology I--BIOL3101 _____ Anatomy & Physiology II--BIOL3102
Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> _____ General Chemistry I--CHEM1110 _____ General Chemistry II--CHEM1120
Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> _____ General Physics I--PHYSICS1511 _____ General Physics II--PHYSICS1512
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> _____ Statistics--STAT1772 _____ Trigonometry—MATH 1130 OR Pre-Calculus-MATH 1140 OR Calculus I-MATH 1420
Psychology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> _____ Introduction to Psychology—PSYCH1001 _____ Developmental Psychology—PSYCH2202 _____ Abnormal Psychology—PSYCH3403
Terminology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> _____ Medical Terminology--PH2160
Observation Hours	Observation of physical therapists in various work settings such as outpatient and inpatient care, acute care, neurological rehabilitation and orthopedics. 50-100 hours minimum.
Recommended Elective Courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> _____ Introduction to Neurology – PSYCH3104 _____ Genetics – BIOL3140 _____ Vertebrate Anatomy--BIOL3106 AND Vertebrate Physiology-BIOL4137 OR Comparative Animal Physiology-BIOL4114 _____ Neurobiology—BIOL4116 <p>Due to demand, the following courses are difficult to enroll in if not an Athletic Training or Movement & Exercise Science Major. Contact the professor directly to see if there is space in the course.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> _____ Biomechanics—PEMES3151 _____ Physiology of Exercise--PEMES3153 _____ Anatomy and Physiology of Human Movement - PEMES 2050 _____ Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries—AT1018 _____ Orthopedic Injury Assessment & Pathology I—AT3040

Physical Therapist

http://explorehealthcareers.org/en/Career/70/Physical_Therapist#Tab=Overview

Overview

Physical therapists provide services that help restore function, improve mobility, relieve pain, and prevent or limit permanent physical disabilities of patients with injuries or disease. Physical therapists work closely with patients and clients to restore, maintain, and promote their overall fitness and wellness for healthier and more active lifestyles. Patients may include accident victims and individuals with disabling conditions such as low back pain, fractures, head injuries, arthritis, heart disease, and cerebral palsy.

They take the patient's/client's history and conduct a systems review, and perform tests and measures such as strength, range of motion, balance and coordination, posture, muscle performance, respiration, and motor function, to identify potential and existing problems. Based on the examination and the physical therapist's evaluative judgment, physical therapists determine a patient diagnosis, prognosis, and plan of care that describes evidence-based treatment strategies and the anticipated functional outcomes. Finally, as a part of the plan of care, physical therapists determine the patient's ability to be independent and reintegrate into the community or workplace after injury or illness.

Working Conditions

Physical therapists practice in a variety of settings including hospitals, outpatient clinics, private offices, home health agencies, schools, sports and fitness facilities, work settings, and skilled nursing facilities. Most full-time physical therapists work a 40-hour week, which may include some evenings and weekends.

This position can be physically demanding, because physical therapists often have to stoop, kneel, crouch, lift, and stand for long periods. In addition, physical therapists move heavy equipment and lift patients or help them turn, stand, or walk.

Average Starting Salary: \$80,000

Job Outlook: Excellent