

# PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY

## Wright State University

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### Physical Therapy: The Profession Revealed

The **physical therapist (PT)** works with patients to help improve their strength and mobility, relieve pain, and prevent or limit permanent physical impairment (AMA, 2000). **They are the experts of movement and function and they work in a variety of settings, including hospitals, clinics and private offices.** PTs may specialize in areas such as sports medicine, orthopedics, neurologic rehabilitation, pediatrics, cardiopulmonary, women's health and geriatrics. Depending on experience and job setting, a PT can earn between \$55,000 to

### CORE PRE-REQUISITES

Anatomy & Physiology	ANT 3110 & 3120
Biology	BIO 1120 & 1150
Physics	PHY 1110 & 1120
Chemistry	CHM 1210 & 1120
Statistics	STT 2640
Psychology	PSY 1010
Lifespan Development	PSY 3410
Exercise Physiology	EXB 3530

Humanities courses including but not limited to English, sociology, cultural studies & art or music history.

Science courses typically must include laboratory.

In addition to course work, many programs require experience or observational hours. Letters of recommendation (including one from a Physical Therapist) and a competitive GRE score are often required as well.

### Emerging Trends in the Physical Therapy Profession

PT is a dynamic and progressive profession with continued advances in evidence-based and innovative practice, education, lifelong learning and public advocacy. As of 2016 all entry-level PT programs will be required to award the Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree. As of 2010 there are 206 DPT programs in the U.S.

**Time magazine listed PT as the sixth most recession-proof job.** In 2009 only 0.5% of PTs were seeking employment. This highly sought after field saw 33,800 DPT graduates in 2010. PT is a field that is growing in diversity as well. 68% of physical therapists are female. Most PTs work in private outpatient office or group practice.

## Physical Therapy and Wright State University

Wright State University offers all the courses necessary to meet the requirements for entry to PT programs. In addition, most courses are offered two or three times per year. A pre-professional advisor is also available to assist students with program variations, information on the application process, and current trends within the profession.

There are many undergraduate fields of study that will prepare students for the PT graduate programs. Among the most common at WSU are Exercise Biology, Biology, Athletic Training, and Psychology.

Ohio has a variety of PT programs throughout the state. Requirements needed for admission into these programs vary and students should meet with the professional advisor to review prerequisites for each school. Most of these programs have specific requirements in addition to the core set of admission requirements listed on the front of this fact-sheet.

In addition to the pre-requisites, students will need to complete a standardized test assessing communication and reasoning skills (GRE or MCAT); gain exposure to a variety of physical therapy experiences; have their personal and interpersonal attributes evaluated (interview, references); maintain GPAs (cumulative and science) above a 3.00. On average, 4.9 applications are received for each available class seat. Applicants offered admission to physical therapy programs average a GPA of 3.5.

## Perks of the Profession

### Excellent Income

The median salary for PTs in private practice is \$70,000 with the potential to reach over six figures.

### Satisfying

Many PTs enjoy the independence and autonomy of owning their own practice and the flexibility of determining their practice hours (thus allowing more time for personal life).

### Diverse Career Outlook

New physical therapists are needed in private practice and as teachers in academic settings. Because of our aging population, opportunities for physical therapists specializing in geriatrics are abundant.

### Flexibility

Many PTs work part-time, making it easier to balance a career with family life.

### Great Employment Rate

With just a 0.2% unemployment rate, PTs are experiencing some of the best employment conditions.

## Wright State University College of Science & Mathematics

For additional information  
please visit our website:  
<http://www.wright.edu/cosm/premed>

Or contact the advisors:

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## DPT PROGRAMS IN OHIO

THE OHIO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF  
DAYTON

OHIO UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF  
CINCINNATI

COLLEGE OF MOUNT  
ST. JOSEPH

WALSH UNIVERSITY

YOUNGSTOWN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

CLEVELAND STATE  
UNIVERSITY

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
TOLEDO

UNIVERSITY OF  
FINDLAY

