

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY PRE-HEALTH PROGRAM

THE COLLEGE OF **SCIENCE+MATHEMATICS**

Pre-Physical Therapy

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 practitioner 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 over \$100,000 per year.



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.

Time magazine listed PT as the sixth most recession-proof job. US News & World Report has repeatedly included physical therapists among its best 100 jobs in terms of employment opportunity, good salary, manageable work-life balance, and job security: 2014 (#7), 2013 (#8), 2012, and 2009. CNNMoney.com also included physical therapists among its list of the top 10 "Fastest Growing Jobs" in November 2012 and ranked the profession as one of the 100 "Best Jobs in America" in 2013. . 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.

Core Pre-Requirements

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|------------------------|-----------------|
| • Biology | BIO 1120 & 1150 |
| • Physics | PHY 1110 & 1120 |
| • Chemistry | CHM 1210 & 1220 |
| • Human A&P | ANT 3100 & 3120 |
| • Statistics | STT 2640 |
| • Psychology | PSY 1010 |
| • Lifespan Development | PSY 3410 |
| • Exercise Physiology | BIO 3530 |

Most programs have specific requirements in addition to the core set of admission requirements that go beyond required coursework.

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

Science courses typically must include laboratory.

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

As of 2015 there are 206 DPT programs in the U.S. As of 2016, all entry-level PT programs will be required to award the Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree.

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.

Wright State and Physical Therapy

Wright State University offers all the courses necessary to meet the requirements for entry to PT programs. 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 Applied Physiology, Biology, Athletic Training, and Psychology.

Getting Accepted

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
- Obtain letters of recommendation (with one being from a Physical Therapist)
- Maintain GPAs (cumulative and science) above a 3.00. (**average acceptance GPA is a 3.5**)

On average, 4.9 applications are received for each available class seat.

Perks of the Profession

Excellent Income

The median salary for PTs in private practice is \$82,390 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

Office: 106 Oelman Hall
(937) 775-3180

For additional information please visit
our website:

www.wright.edu/pre-health

Contact our advisor:
Harolynn Williams

harolynn.williams@wright.edu