Pathway to a Doctorate in Physical Therapy

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROFESSION DESCRIPTION**

Physical Therapy is a profession in the health care industry that helps disabled and injured patients regain mobility through examination, evaluation, diagnosis, and physical intervention. Physical therapists typically work in private physical therapy offices, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, sports facilities, schools, etc. According to the Bureau of labor statistics in 2012 the median annual pay for physical therapists was $79,860.

**Program requirements for a Doctorate in Physical Therapy (DPT).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Program Duration</th>
<th>Program Begin</th>
<th>Minimum GPA Required</th>
<th>Patient Care Experience</th>
<th>Application Period Deadline</th>
<th>Cost of Program</th>
<th>Average GPA</th>
<th>Students Admitted Yearly</th>
<th># of Applications received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Long Beach</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>&lt;200</td>
<td>Jul-Nov</td>
<td>$72,423</td>
<td>3.65</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Sacramento</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1-Oct</td>
<td>$67,852</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Fresno</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>5-Oct</td>
<td>$48,984</td>
<td>3.65</td>
<td>32</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Northridge</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Jul2-Oct1</td>
<td>$113,544</td>
<td>3.62</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapman University</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
<td>Jul 1-Nov 17</td>
<td>$84,402</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>80 hrs.</td>
<td>Aug 1-Nov 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loma Linda University</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>80 hrs.</td>
<td>Aug 1-Nov 1</td>
<td>$128,160</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
<td>Aug 1-Nov 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount St. Mary's College</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Merritt University</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1-Oct</td>
<td>$81,857</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
<td>Aug 1-Nov 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC San Francisco-CSU San Francisco</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>1-Oct</td>
<td>$146,490</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>150 hrs.</td>
<td>Jul 1-Dec 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Southern California</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>150 hrs.</td>
<td>Jul 1-Dec 1</td>
<td>$100,583</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>80 hrs.</td>
<td>Sept., Jan., May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of St. Augustine for health Sciences</td>
<td>7 trimesters</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>80 hrs.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of the Pacific</td>
<td>25 mon.</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>50 hrs.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western University of Health Sciences</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>3-Nov</td>
<td>$111,200</td>
<td>3.48</td>
<td>50 hrs.</td>
<td>Dec. 15, June 15, Oct 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NSME Contact Information**

Web: www.csub.edu/science
Phone: (661)654-6322
Email: sciencecenter@csub.edu
### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can I apply to the Physical Therapist Assistant and the Doctor of Physical Therapy programs at the same time?
No, you can only apply for one program at a time.

Do I need to complete all of the prerequisites prior to submitting the application?
The requirement to complete all prerequisites varies by school. However, most do require that they are completed before you submit the application.

What is patient care experience?
Each school has the minimum set hours of direct patient contact that you must complete. The experience must be directly related to the physical therapy department. A portion of those hours must be in a hospital, skilled nursing facility or rehabilitation center.

What is the duration of the program and can I be a part-time student?
Typically programs are 3 years in length. Most schools require that you do enroll as a full time student. The school will not make accommodations to fit your employment schedule.

Do PT schools require the GRE?
Yes, most schools do require the GRE. Refer to each programs website for examination requirements.

### COURSE PREREQUISITES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sciences Prerequisites</th>
<th>Other Prerequisites</th>
<th>GRE Examination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human Anatomy</td>
<td>BIOL 201 &amp; CHEM 211, 212, &amp; 213</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Physiology</td>
<td>NURS 140</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>PSYC 100 + human</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>PHYS 201, 202, &amp; 203</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>PSYC 100 +</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Biology</td>
<td>BIOL 304</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>PSYC 100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Courses</td>
<td>BIOL 201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION:

- **Azusa Pacific University**
  - [Website](http://www.apu.edu/bas/physicaltherapy/dpt)
  - Email: sshore@apu.edu
  - Phone: (626) 815-5020

- **CSU Long Beach**
  - [Website](http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/departments/pt)
  - Email: alrusso@csulb.edu
  - Phone: (562) 985-4072

- **CSU Sacramento**
  - [Website](http://www.hhs.csus.edu/PT)
  - Email: ebarakat@saclink.csus.edu
  - Phone: (916) 278-6426

- **CSU Fresno**
  - [Website](http://www.csufresno.edu/physicaltherapy)
  - Email: peggyt@csufresno.edu
  - Phone: (559) 278-2625

- **CSU Northridge**
  - [Website](http://hhd.csun.edu/pt)
  - Email: pt@csun.edu
  - Phone: (818) 677-2203

- **Chapman University**
  - [Website](http://www.chapman.edu/scst/crean-school-health/physical-therapy/doctor-physical-therapy.aspx)
  - Email: brechter@chapman.edu
  - Phone: (714) 744-7620

- **Loma Linda University**
  - [Website](http://www.llu.edu/allied-health/sahp/pt/dptentry.page)
  - Email: icinnoek@llu.edu
  - Phone: (909) 558-4632

- **Mount St. Mary’s College**
  - [Website](http://www.msmc.la.edu/pt)
  - Email: dlowe@msmc.la.edu
  - Phone: (213) 477-2600

- **Samuel Merritt University**
  - [Website](http://www.samuelmerritt.edu/physical_therapy)
  - Email: rlazaro@samuelmerritt.edu
  - Phone: (510) 869-6241

- **UC & CSU San Francisco**
  - [Website](http://www.ptrehab.medschool.ucsf.edu/Education)
  - Email: gppt@sfsu.edu
  - Phone: (415) 514-7620

- **University of Southern California**
  - [Website](http://www.usc.edu/pt)
  - Email: vorcas@usc.edu
  - Phone: (323) 442-2900

- **University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences**
  - [Website](http://www.usa.edu/dpt.htm)
  - Email: elowe@usa.edu
  - Phone: (760) 591-3012 ext. 401

- **University of the Pacific**
  - [Website](http://www.pacific.edu/Academics/Schools-and-Colleges/Thomas-J-Ling-School-of-Pharmacy-and-health-Sciences/Academic/Doctor-of-Physical-Therapy.html)

- **Western University of Health Sciences**
  - [Website](http://www.westernu.edu/xp/edu/cahp/dpt_about.xml)
  - Email: dpte@westernu.edu
  - Phone: (909) 706-3526