



# PHYSICAL THERAPY

## COUNSELING DIVISION

The following requirements for the major are subject to change without notice. To assure accuracy of the information on this sheet, you should consult with the Physical Therapy counselor, or review articulation agreements via the Internet at [WWW.ASSIST.ORG](http://WWW.ASSIST.ORG). You may also consult the Articulation Officer for specific articulation agreements.

Physical Therapists help patients, including accident victims and individuals with disabling conditions such as low-back pain, arthritis, heart disease, fractures, head injuries, and cerebral palsy, by providing treatment through physical means (exercise, weight lifting, special equipment, hot and cold packs, traction, whirlpool baths, swimming pools, etc.). Physical therapy seeks to improve mobility, relieve pain, and prevent or minimize permanent physical disabilities. They restore, maintain, and promote overall fitness and health. Therapists work under the direction of a physician to assist patients in overcoming or compensating for any loss of function and in restoring physical and emotional health. Registered physical therapists can work independently of physicians. **Education:** to work as a physical therapist one must graduate with a master's or doctorate degree, from an accredited physical therapist educational program. All states require physical therapists to pass a state licensure exam before they can practice. For additional information about the physical therapy field view the following website: [www.apta.org](http://www.apta.org)

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH** (2012-2013) [www.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/departments/pt/requirements/](http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/departments/pt/requirements/)

**The Doctorate of Physical Therapy** program is for baccalaureate degree holders, who have met the prerequisite requirements, demonstrate academic promise and the ability to perform at a satisfactory level during their graduate studies. Complete all prerequisites with a minimum "C" grade (B is preferred). A realistic overall minimum GPA for applying to the program is 3.0. Complete and file a supplemental application with the department and include a transcript of all academic work, a minimum of three letters of recommendation from a registered physical therapist, instructor, and an employer, scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), adult CPR certification, personal statement of career goals (2 pages), and a health statement from a physician.

**Required Courses:** Anatomy 32 and Physiology 31 or Anatomy and Physiology 34A and 34B; Biology 101-102; Chemistry 1A and 1B; Physics 2A and 2B or 3A and 3B; Psychology 5, Math 150 recommended; work experience (100-200 hours) in rehabilitation, geriatric, pediatric acute or general hospital physical therapy is strongly suggested.

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHRIDGE** (2012-2013) <http://hhd.csun.edu/pt>

**The Doctorate of Physical Therapy** program is for baccalaureate degree holders; students must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 and a 3.00 in the prerequisites with a minimum grade of "C", three letters of recommendation, validation of relevant work experience (minimum of 100 hours).

**Required Courses:** Anatomy 32 and Physiology 31 or Anatomy and Physiology 34A and 34B; Biology 10; Physics 2A and 2B; Psychology 5; Math 150; Chemistry 1A and 1B;

**MOUNT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE** (2011-2012) <http://www.msmc.la.edu/pages/217.asp>

**The Doctorate of Physical Therapy** program is for individuals who have earned a Bachelor's Degree from a regionally accredited college or university. Students need a cumulative grade point average of 3.00, science grade point average for all courses must be 3.00 (science courses must have been taken within the last seven years), composite score of 1000 on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) with a minimum of 500 on verbal and quantitative components, essay and interview required, three letters of recommendation (one from academicians, one from a physical therapists, and one from an individual who can address the applicant's problem solving skills).

**Required courses:** Biology 101-102; Chemistry 1A and 1B; English 1A; Communication Studies 1; Anatomy 32; Physiology 31; Physics 2A and 2B; Psychology 5 and Math 150; recommended: Psychology 16 and CIS 13 or computer literacy

**LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY** (2012-2013) <http://www.llu.edu/llu/sahp/prog.html>

**The Doctorate of Physical Therapy** program is for individuals who have earned a Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university. A minimum 3.00 grade point average is required, completion of subject requirements, an interview, essay, letters of recommendation, and must document 80 hours of work/observation experience in a Physical Therapy Department.

**Required courses:** Anatomy 32 and Physiology 31 or Anatomy and Physiology 34A and 34B or Biology 101-102; One additional Natural Science course (Microbiology preferred); Math 150; Psychology 5 and 16; Communication Studies 1; Computer Information Systems 13; Select one of the following science options: Chemistry 1A-1B and Physics 11-12 or Physics 2A-2B and Chemistry 21A-21B.

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA** (2012-2013) <http://pt.usc.edu>

**Doctorate of Physical Therapy** program: Applicants are required to complete a baccalaureate degree and the Graduate Record Examination (the exam must be within the past five years) with a minimum score of 500 on each component of the aptitude test. Students must submit two applications, one online through the PTCAS and the other to the USC department. Applications are available in September for the class entering in September of the following year, deadline for applications is December 1 of each year, students from foreign countries must have completed one year of study in the United States.

**Required courses:** Four courses in the biological sciences (including human anatomy; physiology; and either cell or molecular biology) Anatomy 32, Physiology 31, Biology 101-102 (entire sequence must be completed to meet USC's General Biology); one year of college physics: Physics 2A-2B; one year of college chemistry: Chemistry 1A-1B; Math 150; two courses in psychology: Psychology 5 and 15 or 16; one course in English writing composition and one course in literature: English 1A and 1B or 1C. It is highly recommended to take biochemistry, calculus, kinesiology, exercise physiology, neuroscience, genetics, and a cross-cultural course in sociology. Applicants should be computer literate.

**Additional Physical Therapy Programs in California:**

Asuza Pacific University: (DPT) [www.apu.edu](http://www.apu.edu)

CSU Fresno: (MPT) [www.csufresno.edu](http://www.csufresno.edu)

University of the Pacific: (DPT) [www.uop.edu](http://www.uop.edu)

Western University: (DPT) [www.westernu.edu](http://www.westernu.edu)

**PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAMS**

Physical Therapy Assistants are graduates of Associate Degree Programs who provide such services as electrotherapy, hydrotherapy, phototherapy, massage and rehabilitation services. The programs are offered at the following colleges and universities: Loma Linda University, Cerritos College, and San Diego Mesa College.