

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

College of Health and
Human Services



THE DPT PROGRAM

Our DPT program is designed as an entry-level doctoral degree program with a new class beginning each June. The program consists of nine semesters of coursework presented throughout three academic years.

Year One

You will take courses in:

- Physical therapy assessment
- Medical assessment
- Exercise physiology
- Movement science
- Clinical decision-making
- Human anatomy
- Physical therapy management of cardiovascular and pulmonary conditions
- Transfer techniques

Year Two

You will take courses in:

- Neuroscience
- Physical therapy management of musculoskeletal conditions
- Physical therapy management of neuromuscular conditions
- Physical therapy management of medical conditions
- Physical therapy management of pediatric conditions
- Health care management

Year Three

You will take courses in:

- Reflective practice
- Complex clinical decision-making
- Concepts and practice of administration
- Clinical education – a series of full-time clinical experiences

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program will prepare you to assist individuals in the prevention or treatment of impairments due to developmental deficits, aging, physical illness or injury. Completion of this program leads you to a rewarding career where you are able to make a positive difference in the health and function of people in the local and global community.

Classroom experiences include a mix of lecture, discussion, active learning, group projects, independent study, service learning, hands-on laboratory practice, and clinical internships.

Students participate in leadership, service and research throughout the program.

Outstanding job placement and pass rate on the board exam.

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

POINTS OF ACCEPTANCE

RU undergraduates can apply for the Doctor of Physical Therapy program through freshman pre-admission. This guarantees you a position in the program once you complete your bachelor's degree and meet specific academic requirements.

Students who transfer as an undergraduate to Rockhurst are eligible to apply for the Transfer Admission Guarantee. We also encourage students who did not attend Rockhurst to apply for admission, as a significant portion of each new class is comprised of students from other universities.

PREREQUISITES

Required prerequisite courses include:

- English composition I and II
- Fundamentals of communication
- Ethics
- General and upper-level psychology (preferably abnormal or developmental psychology)
- General biology with lab
- Anatomy with lab
- Physiology with lab
- General chemistry I and II with labs
- Physics I and II with labs
- Statistics

Requirements are subject to change. It is the applicant's responsibility to contact the Office of Graduate Admission to inquire about changes before submitting an application.

THE ADMISSION PROCESS

Apply for the Doctor of Physical Therapy program following these steps:

1. Complete a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a required minimum 2.9 cumulative GPA, 3.2 prerequisite GPA and 3.2 science-prerequisite GPA.
2. Complete all prerequisites by the end of the spring semester prior to beginning the program.
Please note that prerequisite courses taken more than 10 years prior to application will only be considered by petition to RU's Physical Therapy Admissions Committee. If you have questions, please contact our Office of Graduate Admission.
3. Apply online at ptcas.org.
4. Complete the GRE with a recommended minimum of 150 on the verbal and 148 on the quantitative portions. Send your GRE score directly to Rockhurst University's Office of Graduate Admission using University code 6611 and PTCAS GRE code 7638.
5. International students whose first language is not English must also earn a TOEFL score of at least 79 on the internet-based test.
6. Selected participants will participate in a personal interview.

DPT/MBA/MA OPTION

In conjunction with Rockhurst University's Helzberg School of Management, physical therapy students have the opportunity to earn both a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree and a Master of Business Administration or Master of Arts in Management degree. These degrees provide you with the skills to practice as a physical therapist and to effectively manage a department, and/or own your own clinic or corporation. Learn more at rockhurst.edu/dptmba.



For more information on admission requirements or to apply, visit rockhurst.edu/pt or email graduate.admission@rockhurst.edu.