



# 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)

\*Please check the university campus website regarding the application process. Some campuses want the application done on the Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service (PTCAS). <http://www.ptcas.org/home.aspx>

### **CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH** (2017-2018)

<http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/departments/physical-therapy/>

**The Doctorate of Physical Therapy** program is for baccalaureate degree holders in any field, 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 cumulative minimum GPA for applying to the program is 3.0. Please check the website for more details. 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) within the past 5 years (4.0 on the analytic writing component), 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 (Human Anatomy and Human Physiology must be taken within 5 years at the time of application); Biology 101-102; Chemistry 1A and 1B; Physics 2A and 2B or 3A and 3B; Psychology 5, Math 150( all other prerequisites must be taken within 10 years at time of application); work experience (a minimum of 100 hours-400 max.) in rehabilitation, geriatric, pediatric acute or general hospital physical therapy is strongly suggested. Only two courses may be in progress at the time of fall application.

### **CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHRIDGE** (2017-2018) <http://hhd.csun.edu/pt>

**The Doctorate of Physical Therapy** program is for baccalaureate degree holders in any field; 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 (at least 1 from a licensed physical therapist), validation of relevant work experience (a minimum of 200 hours) under a licensed PT.

**Required Courses:** Anatomy 32 and Physiology 31 or Anatomy and Physiology 34A and 34B; Biology 10 or 101 or Microbiology 33; Physics 2A and 2B; Psychology 5 and Psychology 15; Math 150; Chemistry 1A and 1B. Only two courses may be planned or in progress at the time of application.

**MOUNT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE** (2016-2017) <https://www.msmu.edu/graduate-programs/physical-therapy/>

**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, Graduate Record Examination (GRE), three letters of recommendation (one from academician, one from a physical therapist, and one from an individual who can address the applicant's problem solving skills). Prerequisite science courses must have been taken within the last seven years at an accredited college or university in the United States.

**Required courses:** Biology 101-102; Chemistry 1A and 1B; English 1A; Communication Studies 100; Anatomy 32; Physiology 31; Physics 2A and 2B; Psychology 5 plus two additional psychology elective courses; Math 150; recommended: CIS 13 or computer literacy. Completion of all prerequisites by the end of the Spring semester of the year of intended enrollment (a maximum of four prerequisites may be outstanding at the time of application).

**LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY** (2017-2018) <http://alliedhealth.llu.edu/academics/physical-therapy>

**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 3.40 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 (20 hours inpatient, 20 hours outpatient, and 40 hours can be in any setting). International students must provide a TOEFL exam score of 550 or higher to be eligible.

**Required courses:** Anatomy 32 and Physiology 31 or Anatomy and Physiology 34A and 34B; Two additional Biological science courses; Math 150; Chemistry 1A-1B and Physics 2A-2B; Psychology 5 and 16; Communication Studies 100; Medical Terminology 1.

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA** (2017-2018) <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 150 is recommended on each component of the aptitude test as well as a minimum cumulative and science GPA of a 3.0. 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. A minimum of 150 hours of clinical experience in a variety of physical therapy settings is required. This can be in a volunteer or paid capacity. All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to enrolling in the program.

**Required courses:** Four courses in the biological sciences (the Biological Sciences prerequisite coursework must include one course in Human Anatomy with laboratory and one course in Human Physiology with laboratory). Anatomy 32 and Physiology 31 or Anatomy and Physiology 34A and 34B; 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 (An additional college-level geometry or trigonometry course is recommended, but not required); Psychology 5 and 15; It is highly recommended to take biochemistry, calculus, geometry or trigonometry, 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.

#### CERRITOS COLLEGE

Recommended courses: Anatomy 32 and Physiology 31 or Anatomy and Physiology 34A and 34B; English 1A; Math 73 or 80; Medical Terminology 1; Psychology 5; Communication Studies 100; History 101 or 102 or Political Science 1; Humanities course

#### LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY <http://alliedhealth.llu.edu/academics/physical-therapy/degree-options/physical-therapist-assistant-pta>

To be eligible for admission, the applicant must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 in both science and non-science prerequisite courses and must have completed a minimum of 48 quarter units or 32 semester units at an accredited college or university. Admission is a selective process. Criteria used include: Science GPA, non-science GPA, completion of course requirements, interview, essay, recommendations, and work experience. Minimum of 80 hours of observation (volunteer) under the supervision of a Physical Therapist or a PT Assistant, or employment/work experience, with at least 20 hours in an in-patient PT setting and 20 hours in an outpatient PT setting.

**Required Courses:** Anatomy 32 and Physiology 31 or Anatomy and Physiology 34A and 34B; Physics 2A; **Two years of high school-level mathematics selected from Algebra I (elementary), Algebra II (intermediate), geometry, with grades of C (2.0) or better. (May be taken in high school or college. If taken at El Camino College Math 73 or 80 will meet this requirement but credits will not be transferable.);** Psychology 5 and 16; Eng.1A and 1C; Communication Studies 100; Physical education (two courses) or health education; Medical Terminology 1; One 3 semester unit course in either Art/Music (performing arts limited to 2 quarter units). American history, Literature or Foreign Language.