



Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)

Prerequisite Information

For additional information, please contact:

CPH Admissions at cph@temple.edu



1. What are the prerequisites for the DPT program?

Successful applicants to the program must have a:

- Bachelor's degree (unless applying through the Temple University Accelerated 3+3 Admissions Option)
- A strong cumulative GPA
- Good personal references
- Knowledge of the physical therapy profession

2. What is a strong Grade Point Average (GPA)?

- Applicants should have over a 3.0 cumulative undergraduate GPA in order to be reviewed by the Admissions Committee
- Average GPA's for accepted applicants are available on the [PTCAS website](#)
- Accepted student GPA's typically range from a 3.0 to 4.0

GPA	Minimum GPA	Average GPA for accepted students
Overall undergraduate cumulative	3.0	3.6
Program-specific prerequisites		3.55

3. Are volunteer or observational hours required?

- Volunteer/observational work in the field is not required although highly recommended
- We believe that volunteerism and observational hours is a professional responsibility of the applicant and will provide the applicant with a better understanding of the profession as a whole
- We strongly recommend the applicant has experienced a variety of aspects related to the profession of physical therapy (i.e. – outpatient setting, hospital setting, etc.) to enhance their understanding of the profession and assist in answering the essays and interviewing



4. Do I need to write an essay?

- Yes, essays are required within the PTCAS application about your prospective on the profession of physical therapy

5. Are online courses accepted?

- Non-science pre-requisites (statistics, behavioral science, and psychology) may be completed online.
- Science prerequisites (chemistry, anatomy, physiology, biology, and physics) may have the lecture portions completed online. In person labs are highly recommended, however, the Admissions Committee has made exceptions for online lab courses taken due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

6. Do pre-requisites need to be taken at an accredited university or college?

- Yes. Regardless of online or a traditional classroom setting, pre-requisites must be taken at an accredited university or college
- Courses taken at accredited community colleges are acceptable
- Trade school courses are not acceptable

7. What are Temple University's DPT requirements for the pre-requisite courses?

- The pre-requisites may be taken at an accredited 4-year university/college or a 2-year college
- Grades in pre-requisites must be a "C" or better (not "C-")
- Pass/Fair grades are not acceptable
- To apply, an applicant must have completed six (6) out of the ten (10) pre-requisite courses. The remaining four (4) courses may be completed during the application year (if applicable).
- Pre-requisites have an expiration date of ten (10) years from the date taken to the application date
- Advance placement (AP) courses taken in high school if accepted by the undergraduate university will be accepted for the non-science pre-requisites only. These courses must appear on the undergraduate transcript



Prerequisites for Temple DPT Program

Non-Science	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A 3-credit Psychology course with an emphasis on individual behavior (i.e.: general abnormal or developmental, etc.) 2. A 3-credit Behavioral Science course with an emphasis on group behavior (i.e.: sociology, cultural anthropology, etc.) 3. A 3-credit Statistics course
Science	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Two Chemistry courses with lab (any combination of general chemistry, inorganic chemistry, and/or organic chemistry) 2. Two Physics courses with lab (the physics courses do not need to be calculus-based) 3. A 4-credit Biology course with lab. 4. A 4-credit Human or Mammalian Anatomy course with lab 5. A 4-credit Human or Mammalian Physiology course with lab

****A grade of C or better must be obtained for all prerequisite courses.**

***Please note:** If you have not taken a specific course(s) listed below, but you believe you have taken the equivalent of the course(s), please provide us with the appropriate course descriptions so that we can make a determination of equivalency.



Description of Required Courses for Admission to the DPT Program

*** If it is unclear whether a course meets this requirement, please email us a course description for verification. Our email is DPTadmissions@temple.edu.*

Courses	Credit Hours	Description of Course Content
Psychology	3	A course that examines a specific area of psychological theory and practice of the individual. Such courses included: Introduction of Psychology, Personality, Sensation & Perception, Learning & Motivation, Brain & Behavior, Child Psychology, Abnormal Psychology or Cognition.
Behavioral Science	3	A behavioral science course that examines specific area or group behavior and practice. Introduction to Sociology, Sociology of Race & Racism, Sexuality & Gender, Sociology of Health Care, Marriage & Family, Social Psychology, Cultural Anthropology and Comparative Religions are examples of courses that may be taken to satisfy this pre-requisite. Physical Anthropology and technically oriented Archeology courses are not acceptable.
Statistics	3	Probability, estimation, classical inference (through t-test), modern decision theory. Research methods courses are not acceptable.
Chemistry with lab	8	Two course sequence that covers matter, the changes that matter undergoes and the laws governing these changes, with greater emphasis on atomic and molecular structure, chemical bonding, equilibrium, and energy relationships. One course should be Chem I and the second course may be Chem II or an upper-level chemistry course
Physics with lab	8	Two course sequence that covers fundamentals of physics, classical and modern, including mechanics, heat, light, electricity, magnetism, and modern physics
Biology with lab	4	One course offered by a Biology Department (or its equivalent) that includes a laboratory portion
Human or Mammalian Anatomy with lab	4	Study of anatomical structure of the human mammalian body, with lab. One semester of combined "Anatomy & Physiology" with lab also will be accepted. Invertebrate A&P is not accepted.
Human or Mammalian Physiology with lab	4	Study of physiological function of the human mammalian body. One semester of combined "Anatomy & Physiology" with lab also will be accepted. Invertebrate A&P is not accepted.