



WSSU

SCHOOL OF
HEALTH SCIENCES

Department of
Physical Therapy

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Accredited by the Commission
on Accreditation in
Physical Therapy Education
(CAPTE) of the American
Physical Therapy
Association (APTA).

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Alexandria, VA 22314
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DOCTORATE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

The DPT program is committed to providing an integrative education program that is grounded in the basic, social, and clinical sciences. Our goal is to produce competent and compassionate clinicians who are skilled in the areas of critical thinking and inquiry, clinical problem-solving, research, education, management, and treatment delivery to address health disparities. Our program is augmented with teaching techniques that incorporate human patient simulation, student-directed community clinic labs supervised by program faculty as well as having access to a state-of-the-art Human Movement and Biodynamics Lab.



The WSSU Department of Physical Therapy develops doctors of physical therapy from diverse backgrounds who serve the people of North Carolina and beyond.

For more information, please visit the WSSU Department of Physical Therapy [website](#) or email [DPT Admissions](#).

ABOUT THE FIELD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Physical therapists are specialists in evaluating and treating disorders of the human body primarily by physical means. Whether the condition results from injury, disease, or other causes, they focus primarily on those individuals who have disturbed function or impairment related to the musculoskeletal, neurological, cardiopulmonary, and integumentary (skin) systems. PTs evaluate the functioning of these systems and apply the appropriate treatment to alleviate pain and improve physical function. PTs care for people in a variety of settings, including hospitals, private practices, outpatient clinics, home health agencies, schools, sports and fitness facilities, work settings, and nursing homes.

WHAT ARE THE EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BECOMING A DPT?

All physical therapists must receive a graduate degree from an accredited physical therapy program before taking the national licensure exam that allows them to practice. Physical Therapists have the most specialized education to help people restore and improve motion. Today's physical therapist is required to complete a graduate degree- either a masters or clinical doctorate- from an accredited program. Upon successful completion of the program here at WSSU, you will be awarded the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited College or University
- Cumulative minimum GPA of 3.0
- Verified GRE score (within last 5 years)
 - No minimum score required
 - Avg. score of successful applicants is ~300
- A minimum of 25 volunteer observation hours in various PT settings
- 3 Letters of Recommendation (at least 1 Professor within major required)
- Personal Essay
- Complete Graduate Application through the [PTCAS-Centralized Application](#)

PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK

- General Psychology
- Social or Behavioral Science (2 courses)
- Statistics
- Biology I Lecture and Lab
- Upper Level Biology Lecture and Lab
- Chemistry I and II Lecture and Lab
- Physics I and II Lecture and Lab
- Anatomy & Physiology I and II Lecture and Lab

For additional questions about specific courses that you have taken to fulfill each requirement, please visit our website.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of physical therapists is expected to grow by 15% from 2022 to 2032.

Median salaries are approximately \$97,720 as of 2022.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Email [DPT Admissions](#) or call the WSSU Department of Physical Therapy at 336-750-2190