



DES MOINES
UNIVERSITY
MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES

DOCTOR OF
PHYSICAL THERAPY

TOP-NOTCH TRAINING FOR GREAT PATIENT CARE

Des Moines University's Doctor of Physical Therapy Program offers a distinctive, evidence-based curriculum focused on patient-centered care. Classroom and clinical instruction emphasize problem solving, critical thinking and strong manual therapy skills. **The combination of our expert faculty, state-of-the-art facilities and an on-campus clinic make DMU a powerful place to learn.**

The program is **accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).**

The **D.P.T. program is 34 months in length.** The curriculum is focused on movement science, with case-based learning experiences that provide the knowledge and skills needed for the practice of physical therapy. **The results: consistently high student outcomes and rewarding careers for graduates.**



Graduate
employment rate

100%

400+
clinical experience sites
located in 31 states

Licensure exam
first-time pass rate
(2019-2020)

98%

LEARN FROM THE BEST

The diverse clinical experiences and practice interests of DMU's physical therapy faculty mean **you will learn from exceptional teachers.** They are experts in movement science, neuroscience, pain science, orthopedics, pediatrics and geriatrics. They actively maintain relationships with other health care providers and offer innovative therapies.

GAIN SKILLS IN EXCELLENT PATIENT CARE

Des Moines University's physical therapy program **emphasizes strong skills in manual therapy.** Its hands-on focus, class and clinical instruction and promotion of compassionate care will prepare you to be a successful and effective health care provider.

EARLY CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

A hallmark of the DMU D.P.T. program is its embedded full-time clinical education experiences, which allow application and development of the techniques you're learning. The first full-time clinical education experience is scheduled during the fall term of the second year of the program. The second full-time clinical education experience is completed during the summer term between the second and third years. The final two full-time experiences are scheduled at the end of the third year.

You have an opportunity to choose **clinical education experiences offered at more than 400 sites in 36 states** that will expose you to the diversity in physical therapy practice.

You also can gain hands-on patient care experiences in the DMU Physical Therapy Clinic on campus, which includes private and



"DMU offers a rigorous academic course of study and that rigor is matched by the dedication of its faculty to the success of each student. It truly feels like a family in that each student, staff and faculty go above and beyond to work together as a community to foster individual mastery and success." FAITH VANDEHAAR, D.P.T.'22

GET READY FOR SUCCESS

High student outcomes – in job placement, licensure exam pass rates and career satisfaction – demonstrate how the D.P.T. program at DMU will equip you with the knowledge and skills to treat patients of all ages with diverse needs in different health care settings.

While licensure requirements vary by state, all states require physical therapists to achieve a passing score on the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) in order to practice.

You will be ready for the exam: DMU's D.P.T. program requires student completion of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy's Practice Exam and Assessment Tool (PEAT). The PEAT is a timed, computer-based practice exam for the National Physical Therapy Examination.

DISCOVER NEW KNOWLEDGE

In state-of-the-art laboratories on campus, **physical therapy faculty involve students**

in research on a wide variety of topics, including the effects of manual therapy in patients with spinal pain, gait rehabilitation, and interventions for individuals with neurological impairments. Participating in research exposes students to scientific literature, lets them interact with expert faculty and patients, and in some cases, present and publish their work.

YOU'RE PART OF A GREAT PROFESSION

DMU D.P.T. students are members of **both the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) and the Iowa Physical Therapy Association (IPTA)**, and faculty have held leadership positions in both organizations. Students routinely attend the Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) of the APTA and serve as liaisons to the IPTA board of directors.

semi-private treatment rooms and an open gym with advanced technology and equipment.

In addition, DMU will be the exclusive physical therapy and sports performance provider at the MidAmerican Energy Company RecPlex, a 5,000 square-foot sports, recreation and convention facility in West Des Moines.

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM

ACADEMIC YEAR 2019-2020 – FOR THE CLASS OF 2022

	2019							2020				
	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY
YEAR 1			FALL TERM - 20 weeks Anatomy, Physiology, Health Promotion					SPRING TERM - 20 weeks Health Promotion Practicum, Musculoskeletal Lower Quadrant				
YEAR 2	SUMMER TERM - 9 weeks Musculoskeletal Cervical/Thoracic			FALL TERM - 19 weeks (incl. 10 weeks of Clinical Education Experiences) Musculoskeletal Upper Extremity				SPRING TERM - 20 weeks Neuromuscular System, Cardiopulmonary System				
YEAR 3	SUMMER TERM - 10 weeks Clinical Education Experiences			FALL TERM - 18 weeks Practice Topics, Civic Engagement				SPRING TERM - 20 weeks Clinical Education Experiences				

A REWARDING CAREER AWAITS YOU. OBTAIN THE FINEST PREPARATION: VISIT WWW.DMU.EDU/PT TODAY.

HOW TO APPLY:

Apply through the Physical Therapy Centralized Application Service (PTCAS). Applications become available each year in June for the class that begins the following August. The application deadline is December 15; however, due to rolling admission, it is recommended to apply early. Visit ptcas.org for more information.

D.P.T. PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ **Bachelor's degree** from a regionally accredited college or university
- ✓ **Science GPA and cumulative GPA of 3.0** and higher are recommended
- ✓ **Completion of the following courses** prior to matriculation:
 - One course in **anatomy** with lab*
 - One course in **physiology** with lab*
 - Two courses in **biological sciences** (not botany); labs required when available
 - Two courses in **general chemistry** with lab
 - Two courses in **general physics** with lab
 - Two courses in **psychology**
 - One course in **statistics**
- * *OR a two-course sequence in anatomy and physiology with lab*
- ✓ A total of 40 hours **observing licensed physical therapists** in a variety of physical therapy settings
- ✓ **GRE score** submitted through PTCAS
- ✓ **Two letters of recommendation** – one from an academic instructor whose course you have taken; the other is recommended to be a U.S.-licensed physical therapist you have observed, but a letter from another academic instructor, academic adviser, work supervisor or colleague will be accepted
- ✓ **U.S. citizenship or permanent resident status**

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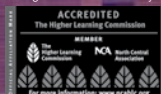
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STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION: DMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, creed, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation or marital status in employment, admission or access to education programs, activities or health care. Education programs within the University also have professional accreditation within their respective fields. Information about professional accreditation is available from the colleges and degree programs. ACCREDITATION: The DMU Doctor of Physical Therapy Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-706-3245; www.captconline.org. Des Moines University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, 230 South LaSalle St., Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604; 312-263-0456; 800-621-7440; fax, 312-263-7462; www.hlcommission.org; 12/20-500



BECAUSE OF WHERE YOU WANT TO GO AFTERWARD

Your ultimate goal is to become an exceptionally well-prepared health care professional. At DMU, you will learn with faculty and students who all share a common focus on medicine and the health sciences. You will become ready for both autonomous and interprofessional practice in providing the highest quality of care.

As a student, you will enjoy the amenities and affordability of Iowa's capital, Des Moines. Learn more at www.catchdesmoines.com.

