



HEALTH PROFESSIONS

# PHYSICAL THERAPY

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

## PT Role

Physical therapy focuses on preventing and treating acute or chronic illness, injury, or physical dysfunction that causes movement disorders, functional impairment, or disability for individuals across the life span.

Physical therapists are health care professionals who help patients restore, achieve, and maintain optimal physical function. They are knowledgeable and creative problem solvers who are motivated to help their patients achieve an improved quality of life and are involved in education, research, consultation, and health promotion activities.

There are many employment opportunities for physical therapists. Demographic forecasts for the United States predict that demand for physical therapists will increase as the population grows and ages. In addition to the settings where physical therapists traditionally have been employed, they are also moving into many new and expanding areas of practice, such as geriatric wellness, workplace ergonomics, women's health, fitness, and complementary/alternative therapies.

## Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at Central Michigan University

CMU's Doctor of Physical Therapy Program is a 130 credit, 3-year, year-round program that accepts up to 60 students each year. Classes for each entering class of DPT students begin mid-May (summer semester).

The DPT program at CMU fosters the development of physical therapy professionals who are dedicated to caring for patients and who will contribute to society through professional activities, community service, and personal commitments. Graduates of the program receive a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree.

Graduates of CMU's DPT program have performed well above the national and state averages on the National Physical Therapy licensure exam (NPTE). They are highly recruited and are employed in all types of clinical settings throughout the United States.

**State-of-the-art Facilities:** CMU's Health Professions Building provides advanced learning environments and resources, including the clinic, an instructional wing that supports all styles of learning, and a modern laboratory and research wing. Other facilities include a human performance laboratory, biomechanics laboratory, anatomy laboratory with computerized instructional enhancement, a functional assessment laboratory, and two physical therapy teaching laboratories.

**Dedicated Instructors:** Faculty members are nationally recognized for their innovative curriculum and teaching methods, and many have leadership roles within professional organizations.

**Accreditation:** Graduation from an accredited program is required for licensure to practice physical therapy in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. CMU's DPT Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), the accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

**Quality Curriculum:** The DPT Program curriculum is responsive to the changing health care environment. It encourages the development of physical therapy professionals who are committed to lifelong learning.

## Application Process

All applicants must apply using PTCAS, an online application service, to be considered for our DPT Program. For details on the application process, visit:

[https://www.cmich.edu/colleges/CHP/hp\\_academics/physical\\_therapy/Pages/Application-Requirements.aspx](https://www.cmich.edu/colleges/CHP/hp_academics/physical_therapy/Pages/Application-Requirements.aspx)

**The application deadline is October 1, 2021 for the program beginning in May 2022.**

## Admission Criteria

To be considered for admission, students must have completed or be in the final stages of completing a bachelor's (B.A. or B.S.) degree and must have earned a minimum overall GPA of 3.0.

The average academic and practical qualifications for the 2018 graduating class was as noted below. We provide this information to allow you to assess your chances of admission and help in your planning process. It is important to note, however, that applicants are evaluated based on their own credentials and merit.

- Average cumulative GPA: 3.67
- Average prerequisite GPA: 3.59
- Average GRE percentiles: Verbal=48, Quantitative=49, Analytical Writing=57

**GRE Scores:** If you have taken the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), send your official scores directly to PTCAS using the code **7751** (Do not send your scores directly to CMU). If you were not able to take the GRE, we will still consider your application if you let us know the reason why when you apply.

**Extracurricular and Human/Community Service:** Students are encouraged to be involved in extracurricular and human/community service activities. Community service activities may include Red Cross, Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, Hospice, community volunteer centers, etc.

**Evaluations:** Two formal recommendations are required with each application. One must be from a licensed physical therapist and the second must be from a professor in your major from whom you took at least one class.

**Observation Hours:** In normal circumstances we require a minimum of 50 career exploration hours. However, we realize that the pandemic forced most facilities to limit access to essential personnel only. For this cycle, the DPT admissions committee will therefore accept whatever number of hours you have completed at the time of application. Instead, you will need to write a short essay in your PTCAS application demonstrating that you have a thorough understanding of the scope and breath of physical therapy practice. You may gain this understanding by researching the profession.

## Prerequisite Courses

To be eligible, applicants must earn a minimum 3.0 overall average GPA on all prerequisites, plus earn no lower than a 2.0 in every prerequisite course.

All prerequisites must have been completed within the six years prior to the date the program matriculates; courses older than that must be retaken.

No more than two prerequisites can be outstanding at the time of application. Students have up until the time the program starts to complete their remaining prerequisites. (We do count a lecture/lab combination as one course.)

- Human Biological Sciences (14 credit hours), including:
  - Anatomy lecture and lab
  - Physiology lecture and lab
  - Physiology of sport and exercise (exercise physiology), with or without lab.
  - One additional course to meet the credit hour requirement (examples include human biology, kinesiology, health science, or a human movement science course)
- Chemistry (8 credit hours, lecture and lab each semester)
- Mathematics: A minimum of trigonometry; also allowed: pre-calculus or calculus.
- Physics I and II, lectures and labs (8-10 credit hours)
- Statistics (3 credit hours). Basic statistics accepted; psychology stats preferred
- Psychology (9 credit hours). Must include a developmental psychology course that covers the lifespan of human development from birth to death, plus two more classes to meet the minimum 9 credit hours. ***Sports psychology is not accepted in most cases.***

Under special circumstances, students may be admitted who have not completed the exact series of recommended prerequisites, if they are able to successfully demonstrate that they possess an academic background that provides them an equivalent preparation. In those cases, the faculty of the program will determine whether a student has received an equivalent preparation.

## Financial Assistance

Financial assistance information can be obtained from the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid: 989-774-3674  
<https://www.cmich.edu/ess/OSFA/Pages/default.aspx>.

## First Year

### Summer: 8 credit hours

HSC 630T (5) Regional Human Anatomy  
PTH 618 (2) Human Development  
PTH 625 (1) Imaging/Radiology in PT

### Fall: 16 credit hours

HSC 631 (4) Physiology of Exercise  
PTH 617 (1) Clinical Pathophysiology I  
PTH 626 (3) Neuroanatomy in Physical Therapy  
PTH 635 (2) Examination and Diagnosis I  
PTH 645 (5) Patient Care I  
PTH 665 (1) PT Seminar I

### Spring: 17 credit hours

PTH 622 (1) Clinical Pathophysiology II  
PTH 633 (3) Clinical Education I  
PTH 636 (2) Examination & Diagnosis II  
PTH 646 (5) Patient Care II  
PTH 666 (1) PT Seminar II  
PTH 672 (4) Clinical Anatomy and Kinesiology of Human Joints

## Second Year

### Summer: 11 credit hours plus electives

HSC 670 (3) Research Methods for Health, Phys Ed & Sport  
PTH 634 (6) Clinical Education II  
PTH 655 (2) Teaching and Learning in PT  
PTH 661 (1) Manual Therapy I

### Fall: 15 credit hours

PTH 623 (1) Clinical Pathophysiology III  
PTH 690 (2) Motor Learning Theory  
PTH 732 (3) Clinical Education III  
PTH 735 (2) Examination & Diagnosis III  
PTH 745 (5) Patient Care III  
PTH 765 (1) PT Seminar III

## Second Year, cont.

### Spring: 16 credit hours

PTH 620 (2) Clinical Management of Geriatric Patients  
PTH 621 (2) Clinical Pediatrics  
PTH 624 (1) Clinical Pathophysiology IV  
PTH 662 (2) Manual Therapy II  
PTH 695 (3) Ethics in PT  
PTH 736 (2) Examination and Diagnosis IV  
PTH 746 (4) Patient Care IV  
PTH 766 (1) PT Seminar IV

## Third Year

### Summer: 11 credit hours

PTH 710 (3) Principles in Clinical Management  
PTH 825 (2) Health Promotion in Physical Therapy Practice  
PTH 850 (2) Research Evidence-Based Practice  
PTH 860 (2) Health Informatics for Physical Therapists  
PTH 870 (3) Rehabilitation Care Management

### Fall: 16 credit hours

PTH 832 (12) Clinical Education IV  
PTH 790 (4) Clinical Research I

### Spring: 16 credit hours

PTH 932 (12) Clinical Education V  
PTH 890 (4) Clinical Research II

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### TOTAL PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM: 130 Credit Hours

3 credits of electives are also required during the program

*CMU, an AA/EQ institution, is strongly and actively committed to increasing diversity within its community*  
[https://www.cmich.edu/office\\_president/OCR/E/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.cmich.edu/office_president/OCR/E/Pages/default.aspx)

**Current in-state (resident) tuition for the DPT is  
\$726 per credit hour**

Please note: All costs are subject to change by the Board of Trustees.



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**For information on scholarships and financial aid options, contact:**

- Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid: (989)774-7424
- College of Graduate Studies: (989)774-4723
- CHP Office of Admissions & Enrollment Management: (989)774-1730, [chpadmit@cmich.edu](mailto:chpadmit@cmich.edu)
- APTA: (703)684-APTA, 800-999-2782 or log on to: <http://www.apta.org>
- FAFSA: Log on to: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>