

Doctor of Physical Therapy

Make quality of life your life's work

Chatham University's Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program is designed for students who want to become skilled practitioners of evidence-based physical therapy. Seven terms of study include 36 weeks of supervised clinical practice. This full-time, 106 credit, cohort program begins each fall term.

The hallmark of a successful program is the success of its students. The DPT program at Chatham University enjoys a 95% graduation rate, with 98% of graduates passing their licensure examination, (93% pass on the first attempt) and 100% becoming employed within six months of graduation.

chatham.edu/dpt

chatham[®]UNIVERSITY



Doctor of Physical Therapy

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program is a program within Chatham University's **SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES**. The highly-collaborative School stands in stark contrast to the “lost in the crowd” health sciences programs at larger universities, and allows for interprofessional education among students in nursing, psychology, physician assistant studies, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and athletic training. Graduates enter or advance their careers ready to contribute to improving the quality of care their organizations deliver.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Designed to prepare graduates to serve as generalists, the curriculum stresses clinical decision making through the study of patient problems typically encountered in the real world.
- An innovative problem-based learning (PBL) approach presents the clinical arts and science of physical therapy in an integrated manner organized around body systems.
- Faculty members are accomplished teachers, scholars, practitioners, and active leaders in the field. Class sizes are small, ensuring that each student receives personalized attention and feedback.
- Service to a variety of communities is encouraged, and all students participate in service learning as part of the curriculum.
- Affiliations with over 500 facilities provide options for clinical experiences in Pennsylvania and across the country.
- Reap the benefits of studying in Pittsburgh: a premier healthcare hub with access to a large and diverse network of hospitals, clinics and rehabilitation facilities.
- Chatham's entry-level physical therapy program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA).

SAMPLE COURSES

Clinical Physiology

This course provides in-depth study of normal human physiologic mechanisms with special application to exercise. Topics include: protein synthesis, cell communication, and energy metabolism; neuromusculoskeletal, cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, renal, immune and endocrine systems; and exercise prescription, health promotion, and wellness. Students will participate in comprehensive fitness assessments during laboratory sessions.

Pediatric Physical Therapy

This problem-based course will provide in-depth information on the examination, evaluation, and management of pediatric neuromusculoskeletal system dysfunction from birth through adolescence and young adulthood. Students will build upon concepts of normal development, motor control, and motor learning to develop a theoretical framework for addressing the physical therapy needs of children.

Principles of Practice I: Intro to PT Practice

This course introduces the novice professional student to the roles of the physical therapist as a professional, a communicator, and as a scholar. There is a heavy emphasis on patient-practitioner communication skills, especially during the patient interview. Fundamentals of evidence-based practice help students embrace the role of scholarly clinician.

OUTCOMES

Recent DPT graduates have gone on to work in the following arenas:

- Hospitals and Medical Centers
 - Trinitas Hospital, New York, NY
 - Avid Physical Therapy, Indio, CA
 - OhioHealth, Columbus, OH
- Rehabilitation Services
 - Rehab Consultants Inc., Amherst, OH
 - Moss Rehab, Philadelphia, PA
 - Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation, Whitehouse, NJ
- Sports Therapy
 - OC Sports & Rehab, Orange County, CA
 - Orthopedic and Sports Physical Therapy Associates, Pittsburgh, PA
- Traveling Physical Therapy
 - Jackson Therapy Partners, Pittsburgh, PA
- Higher Education
 - Remington College, Cleveland, OH
 - Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA
- Pediatrics
 - The Children's Institute, Pittsburgh, PA
 - Bright Start Children's Rehabilitation, Brownsville, TX
- Senior Services
 - Gentiva Health Services, Atlanta, GA
 - Allstar Therapies, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA
 - Legacy Health, Raleigh-Durham, NC

“One of the unique aspects of our physical therapy program is the emphasis on critical thinking and clinical decision-making. These skills are developed as part of the problem-based learning approach within the curriculum and allow students to be very well prepared for clinical practice.”

— JOE SCHREIBER, PT, PH.D.,

professor, physical therapy program director

LEARN MORE

chatham.edu/dpt

Chatham University
Office of Admission
Woodland Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
800-837-1290 or 412-365-1825
gradadmission@chatham.edu

ADMISSION INFORMATION

Students must apply and submit all relevant materials directly to PTCAS at ptcas.org, which opens each June. Students begin their application the year prior to the fall term they intend to start.

Prerequisite Courses

- Human Anatomy with lab
- Physiology with lab (prefer human)
- Biology with lab (two terms)
- Chemistry with lab (two terms)
- Physics with lab (two terms)
- Developmental Psychology
- Statistics or Research Methods

Applicants need to have completed at least 60% (24 credits) of the ten prerequisites by August 31 of the application year, and prerequisite courses must have been completed no more than ten years prior to the anticipated start date of the program.

For more detailed admission requirements and application deadline information, please visit chatham.edu/dpt.

ADMITTED STUDENT PROFILE

for students beginning fall 2020

- Average Overall GPA 3.63
- Average Prerequisite GPA 3.64

▶ [Apply online at ptcas.org](http://ptcas.org)
