



CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

PRE-PROFESSIONAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY

HELPFUL WEBSITES

CSU Pre-Professional Programs
www.csuohio.edu/sciences/preprof

CSU Doctor of Physical Therapy Program
<http://www.csuohio.edu/sciences/health-sciences/doctor-physical-therapy-program>

American Physical Therapy Association
apta.org

Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service & Directory
ptcas.org

CAMPUS LOCATION

Cleveland State University
College of Sciences and Health Professions Advising Office
1899 East 22nd Street, BH 218
Cleveland, OH 44115

P: 216-687-9321 F: 216.687.6945
E: coshpadvising@csuohio.edu
www.csuohio.edu/sciences/preprof

Current students can make appointments by calling the office or by accessing Starfish in CampusNet.



College of Sciences
& Health Professions

Cleveland State University is an AA/EQ institution. 190242

PRE-PROFESSIONAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY

The Office of Pre-Professional Health Programs mission is to serve all students, prospective through alumni and post baccalaureate, seeking entry into professional health schools by providing resources, application assistance, mock interviews and by supporting individual student goals.

Physical therapy is a field where those licensed can help with mobility issues, injury and quality of life through diagnosis, physical manipulations and exercise. Physical therapists are a critical part of the healthcare team and practice in clinical settings, private practice, in-home and other settings. Physical therapists complete a clinical doctorate degree; programs are generally three years in length.

Physical therapists can specialize in many areas and work with diverse patient populations. Physical therapists are required to be patient, innovative, autonomous and empathetic.

There is a high projected growth within the field of physical therapy for the future as the need for healthcare providers expands.

If you have questions about specific course requirements, reach out to the Office of Pre-Professional Health Programs.

ABBREVIATED TIMELINE

FRESHMAN YEAR

- Maintain a strong GPA.
- Attend pre-health meetings on campus to get involved.
- Get to know professors in early prerequisite courses.

- Explore health careers by starting to shadow and volunteer.

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Maintain a strong GPA.
- Pursue meaningful experiences through medically related activities.
- Develop relationships with faculty and mentors that could serve as references.

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Maintain a strong GPA.
- Pursue meaningful experiences through medically related activities.
- Develop relationships with faculty and mentors that could serve as references.

JUNIOR YEAR OR APPLICATION YEAR

- Maintain a strong GPA.
- Attend Applicant Track to learn about application and test preparation process. Meet with Pre-Prof Health Programs office to plan individual timeline and goals.
- Consider who you will ask for letters of reference and schedule meetings to ask them.
- Write your Personal Statement and have at least three people review it.
- Plan a timeline/study schedule for GRE and sign up for a test date in spring or summer after Junior year.
- Familiarize yourself with the PTCAS application.
- Research PT schools and complete applications over the summer.

SENIOR YEAR OR INTERVIEW YEAR

- Maintain a strong GPA.
- Continue meaningful experiences related to the field.
- Complete secondary applications in a timely manner.
- Prepare for interviews and schedule mock interview.
- Make final decisions on plans for PT school or actively seek out Plan B/Gap Year options.

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM

Cleveland State offers a competitive doctorate of physical therapy (DPT) program. Annually, the deadline to apply is October 1 and students are required to take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) for entrance into the program. Competitive applicants will complete the prerequisite courses within the stated guidelines and with a GPA of at least 3.2 or higher. Generally, 40 students are admitted into the program annually.

The CSU DPT curriculum emphasizes advanced physical therapy skills in patient client management, specifically focusing on differential diagnosis, critical thinking,

complex clinical reasoning and clinical decision making to support student independence within a direct access environment. In the three-year program, students will complete 40 weeks of clinical rotations throughout the region in off-campus facilities.

Students are encouraged to review the website in full and to contact the department for an advising appointment. Students can also email ptadvising@csuohio.edu for specific questions.

**CSU students with the Health Science (Pre-PT) major will be favored in the application process.*

PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK

BIO 200/201 Intro Biology I/Lab

CHM 251/256 and 252/257 College Chemistry I and II

PHY 221/222 College Physics I and II

HSC 475/457 OR BIO 266/267 and 268/269 Human Gross Anatomy/Lab OR Human Anatomy/Physiology I/II/Lab

*HSC 422/450 OR BIO 422/423 OR BIO 266/267/268/269 and PED 325: Upper level human physiology course with lab is required (Vertebrate and/or mammalian physiology is acceptable but not recommended). Anatomy and Physiology I and II with corresponding labs AND Exercise Physiology would be acceptable to meet this prerequisite.

STA 347 or PSY 317 Applied Statistics or Behavioral Science Statistics

One PSY course

Two additional Social Science Courses: Can be psychology, sociology, anthropology, or an appropriate course in another department.

This list is not comprehensive. Each PT school may have slightly different requirements and it is the responsibility of the student to take prerequisite courses according to the schools he/she plans to apply to.

PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION AT CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY

The purpose of the CSU Pre-Physical Therapy Association is to provide members with information about the PT profession, connect students to physical therapy admissions offices and speakers, and to share resources.

Speakers are invited to provide additional information about various aspects of their programs.

The club has meetings bi-weekly or monthly throughout the school year. Meetings are announced via email and in the Pre-Professional Health Programs newsletter each week.

Interested students should consider joining by attending meetings and through VikesConnect.

Additional Course Recommendations:
Please see
Pre-Professional Health Programs for recommendations.