

Division of Physical Therapy Admission Requirements

There are two ways to be eligible for application to the Physical Therapy Education Program:

1. Complete a Bachelor's Degree prior to the start of the PT program.
2. Complete the junior year requirements in a declared major and meet the University of Kentucky's University Scholars Program criteria to include (completion of these junior year requirements must be fulfilled by the end of the spring semester in which you apply, if not before):

- Ninety semester hours working toward a Bachelor's degree. This means you are completing the major requirements and are on track to graduate within one year of the semester you are interviewed for the PT program.
- Establish an overall GPA of > 3.2
- Establish a science GPA and major course GPA of > 3.5
- A combined verbal and quantitative GRE score of 1000 is recommended by the Physical Therapy Division

Specific Physical Therapy Academic Requirements

- 1 Two semesters General Physics with labs – equal to that taken by Science majors
- 2 Two semesters General Chemistry with labs – equal to that taken by Science majors
- 3 Two semesters General Biology, animal biology or zoology, with laboratory (botany, ecology or entomology are not acceptable). It is **strongly recommended** that one semester (minimum of 4 semester hours credit) of the biology sequence be comparative or human anatomy with laboratory. One combined Anatomy/Physiology course is not acceptable. A two semester sequence of Anatomy and Physiology in the Kentucky Community & Technical College system or any other university is acceptable as ONE of the TWO required biology courses.

*Note: The above Science courses must be Science major or pre-med level and be a minimum of four semester credits including the lab portion. **Students should have five of the six science prerequisites (courses listed above) completed prior to application. Students with all six completed will be more competitive.***

Required courses to be completed prior to starting the PT education program:

- Two semesters of Psychology (general and developmental are preferred)
- One semester of Statistics (minimum of three credits including calculations of central tendency, measures of variability and hypothesis testing).
- One semester of Medical Terminology (minimum of two credits, three credits preferred). If you cannot find an appropriate course, you may contact the University of Kentucky

Independent Study Program at <http://www.uky.edu/ISP/> or call 800-432-0963 and consider CLA 131 – Medical Terminology)

- Oral Communication (three credits)

Note: A grade of “C” or better is required in all the Pre-Professional courses listed above.

If you do not have a Bachelor’s degree and meet the University Scholars academic requirements, you may apply but must complete the following prior to the start of the PT program. This program allows a student to complete both the University Studies and specific professional program requirements in the first three years (about 90 hours) of their college career and then start the professional program. This can potentially reduce the length of education by one year. These may be completed at most universities. The UK writing requirement may need to be completed at UK prior to starting the PT program. If you have questions about whether a course will fulfill these requirements, contact the College of Health Sciences academic advisors. See the website [Advising](#) page.

University of Kentucky University Studies Program (USP) Requirements:

UK will be changing the general education requirements in 2010 or 2011. Interested students should check the website for updates. Please access this description of the University of Kentucky’s “general educational” requirements known as the [University Studies Program \(USP\)](#). If, when you apply to the program, you are concerned that you will not receive credit for a course which you believe is equivalent to the USP requirements, you may submit a course description with your application for consideration of appropriate courses.

Recommended courses:

- One semester of Comparative or Human Anatomy with laboratory (– see above note with the Biology sequence).
- Courses in Mathematics and computer keyboarding are recommended among elective course work.
- College Algebra is a prerequisite for most college physics courses.
- Upper division Biology, Chemistry, and Physics courses are recommended to give students an opportunity to work toward a degree program and to increase their overall value in the application.
- One semester of Exercise Physiology

Graduate Records Exam (GRE): The GRE is required for application and you should request scores be sent to UK Physical Therapy Program (**PT Department Code # 2915**). The GRE should be taken no later than mid-October to ensure the results are sent in time to the UK College of Health Sciences Office of Student Affairs. Recommended minimum score for the GRE is 1000 on the combined Verbal and Quantitative Sections.

- Certification in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation for adults, children, and infants by the **American Heart Association for the Health Professional** or the **American Red Cross for the Professional Rescuer** is required to participate in clinical education which begins in the second semester. The Community CPR course offered by the American Red Cross is not acceptable. It is recommended that the applicant complete this requirement before entering the program.

- Certification in First Aid by the American Red Cross is required in clinical education which begins in the second year. This requirement must be completed before entry to the program.

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENT: Documentation of 50 work or volunteer hours in a physical therapy setting is required. A minimum of 25 hours should be completed in **each of two different settings (acute hospital, outpatient clinic, rehabilitation hospital, pediatric setting etc.)**. Although 50 is the required minimum, typical applicants average approximately 100-125 hours depending on the year of application.

Availability to attend a personal interview with the Admissions Committee is a must. Interviews are granted to those applicants determined most qualified by the Admissions Committee. Interview dates for the admissions process for 2009-2010 are: Lexington campus March 5, 2010 and Hazard Campus March 8, 2010.

International students must meet the University of Kentucky graduate school International Teaching Assistant standards regarding English proficiency, have an awarded 4 year university level degree and submit all required application materials in addition to meeting the Physical Therapy Program requirements. This includes a written and spoken English language exam (either the TOEFL with a TOEFL iBT score of 26 or above or the IELTS with a speaking test score of 7 or above). Please see the specific information on the web at:

<http://www.uky.edu/IntlAffairs/>

Students should be aware that admissions requirements for the PT PT Program are constantly being evaluated and may, at any time, be changed. Students preparing to apply to the program are advised to check regularly with the College of Health Sciences academic advisors or the program office regarding admission requirements.

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS: In addition to the required courses the following certifications are necessary:

INTERVIEWS Students admitted to the professional program are selected on a competitive basis. A limited number of applicants will be invited for interviews prior to the final selection. The Admissions committee will consider the quality of the overall GPA, academic performance in Chemistry, Biology and Physics (Key GPA), and your Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores.

The personal interview is scored in areas such as:

1. Experience and knowledge of the profession
2. Evidence of initiative and motivation
3. Evidence of leadership and responsibility
4. Communication skills, both verbal and written
5. Demonstrated service orientation
6. Professional potential