

Checklist & Timetable for Students Applying to Doctor of Physical Therapy Programs

Freshmen Year

- Begin taking your first Biology and Chemistry courses (with corresponding labs)
- Focus on grades! To be competitive for physical therapy programs, you need at least a ~3.5 GPA (3.2 in all science/math courses)
- Begin building relationships with professors who can later serve as mentors, offer you the opportunity to participate in research, or write recommendations on your behalf

Sophomore Year

- If you haven't already, consider participating in extracurricular activities, which will enhance you as an applicant
- Spring/Summer of sophomore year
 - Start prepping for the GRE
 - Seek out opportunities for shadowing physical therapists (minimum of 60 hours of practical experience in physical therapy under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist is required)

Junior Year

- Fall of junior year
 - Take a GRE prep course
 - Seek out recommendation letters
- Spring/Summer of junior year
 - Take the GRE (average competitive scores: Q – 150, V – 150, AW – 4.0)
 - Research potential physical therapy programs & visit these schools Informational Sessions
 - Submit all application materials to PTCAS by October 1st

Senior Year

- Send thank you notes to your recommenders
- Prepare for interviews (mock interviews)

Required Courses:

- 8 hours of general biology with laboratory
 - 8 hours of general/inorganic chemistry with laboratory
 - 8 hours of general physics with laboratory
 - 6 hours of Human Anatomy & Physiology
 - 6 hours of psychology (recommended: Abnormal Psychology and Growth & Development)
 - 6 hours of mathematics (alebra level or above)
 - 6 hours of English
 - 3 hours of Advanced English Composition or Technical Writing
 - 3 hours of public speaking
 - 3 hours of advanced biology course (recommended: histology or Cell Biology)
 - 3 hours of Statistics
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