

# GRADUATE PHYSICAL THERAPY

## CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY'S PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAMS

Concordia University Wisconsin offers two Physical Therapy Programs. The post-professional (transitional) Doctor of Physical Therapy (tDPT) program is designed for the licensed Physical Therapist clinician. The professional entry-level Doctor of PT (eDPT) program is based on a liberal arts foundation and encompasses three years of professional education beyond a bachelor's degree.

Physical Therapists work with individuals across the lifespan. Based on thorough examination, PT's develop a diagnosis and treatment plan for persons with mobility disorders. Concordia's Physical Therapy programs prepare students to provide evidence-based physical therapy in a wide variety of practice settings. Our eDPT curriculum combines classroom, laboratory, and supervised clinic-based instruction. Our tDPT curriculum combines classroom and web-based (E-Learning) instruction.

### **Mission Statement**

The Concordia University Wisconsin program in Physical Therapy is committed to developing health care professionals who have a sound foundation in Movement Science and are prepared for safe, autonomous, and ethical practice as physical therapists within a changing health care environment. The program seeks to foster personal growth in mind, body, and spirit for Christian service to the community.

## **PROFESSIONAL (ENTRY-LEVEL) DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM**

### **GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

The DPT degree at Concordia is designed to produce a therapist who is an autonomous provider of physical therapy services. The program emphasizes evidence-based practice and focuses on developing clinicians who will serve the community through excellence in clinical practice, and understanding of the spiritual, economic, and psychosocial needs of the clients they serve.

The Professional Physical Therapy Program at Concordia leads to a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree. This entry-level professional degree program is three full years (including two summers) in duration and is a tracked program. Once a student enters the professional degree program, the course work is sequenced. The student will need to successfully complete one semester of education before starting on the following semester's course work. The program is full time. Students cannot enter the program on a part-time basis. The program encompasses six semesters, three winter terms, and two summer sessions. An optional internship after graduation is available. Concordia's Physical Therapy program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Physical Therapy Education. Graduation from an accredited program is required in order to sit for the licensing exam.

### **Educational Objectives:**

1. Scientific and Applied Knowledge: The graduate of the program will possess the knowledge base for safe, autonomous and ethical practice for physical therapy. The graduate will value ongoing intellectual inquiry through participation in continuing education, research, clinical specialization, and other intellectual pursuits.
2. Communication: The graduate of the program will demonstrate professional oral and written skills compatible for autonomous practice.

3. Professional Development and Service: The graduate of the program will be involved in the physical therapy profession, the church, and the community beyond direct delivery of care.

## REQUIRED PRE-PT COURSE WORK

1. Pre-Physical Therapy Required Science Course Work. All students must have the following science course work or its equivalent from another school before entering the program (CUW courses that satisfy each requirement are listed in parentheses). Single semester survey courses in chemistry or physics will not meet the requirements for admission. The physics sequence does not need to be calculus-based. Students taking the Advanced Placement test with a score of 4 or 5 and students who pass the CLEP test in a required science area will have met the admissions requirement. However, the score will not be figured into the GPA. Only one class in the science requirements may be repeated. If a repeated science course is taken outside Concordia University Wisconsin it must be approved by the Registrar's office.

- Chemistry I (4 credits - lab course; CHEM 210)
- Chemistry II (4 credits - lab course; CHEM 213)
- Physics I (4 credits - lab course; PHYS 151)
- Physics II (4 credits - lab course; PHYS 152)
- Biology (8 credits; BIO 280 Functional Anatomy & Physiology I & Lab (4 credits)  
BIO 281 Functional Anatomy & Physiology II & Lab (4 credits)  
BIO 270 Human Anatomy & Physiology I & Lab (4 credits)  
BIO 272 Human Anatomy & Physiology II & Lab (4 credits)  
BIO 140 General Biology I & Lab (4 credits)  
BIO 142 General Biology II & Lab (4 credits)  
BIO 240 Zoology (4 credits)
- Advanced Human Physiology (4 credits; BIO 470)

2. Pre-Physical Therapy Required General Course Work.

- Psychology (two semesters; 6 credits)
- Statistics I (3 credits; MATH 205)

Strongly recommended courses for success in the Physical Therapy program:

- Biochemistry
- Kinesiology/Biomechanics
- Genetics
- Trigonometry
- Advanced Writing Coursework
- Computer Skills Class

3. Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all required science course work and a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 in all course work taken at a college level to be considered for admission.

4. Students must have a BS or BA degree completed before entering the DPT program.

5. Students must choose an undergraduate major in an area of interest. No specific major is required or preferred provided that all Pre-Physical Therapy requirements are met (prior to entering the curriculum). Copies of various majors that coordinate well with the Pre-Physical Therapy requirements can be obtained in the undergraduate admission office or at [www.cuw.edu/dpt](http://www.cuw.edu/dpt).

6. The final decision on transfer credits to Concordia University is made by the CUW Registrar's

Office.

7. Undergraduate students must choose a faculty member in their chosen BS or BA major as an advisor. To assist students with planning, Physical Therapy faculty will be available weekly to advise pre-PT students. Contact the Physical Therapy office to arrange dates and times at 262-243-4433.

### **Admission Requirements specific to Physical Therapy**

1. CUW will admit one class of 24 students in the fall of each academic year. Students who are not accepted into the program, and who wish to apply for the following year will need to repeat the admission process. No admission slot will be held for students in the event they are accepted and for any reason cannot attend in the fall of the year they are accepted.

2. Applicants to Concordia are chosen for admission on the basis of individual merit. The Physical Therapy program does not discriminate in student admission policies, administration of its educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, or extra curricular activities on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, sex, age, disabling conditions, or marital status.

3. The priority application deadline is January 1st of every year. Applications may be considered after that date if openings remain. Priority applicants will be notified of acceptance by March 1st of each year. Students are responsible for assuring the completeness of their applications and may call the Graduate Admission office for information.

4. GRE scores are not required for application to the program.

5. Students from a Concordia University system school receive preference in the admission process using the following priorities: a) Students who do their undergraduate work at Concordia University Wisconsin. b) Students who do their undergraduate coursework at other Concordia University System Schools. c) Students who have attended a Concordia University System School for less than 5 credits. The Physical Therapy selection committee will determine acceptance into the program. The selection committee chooses applicants it considers most qualified for the study and practice of the profession from the pool of qualified applicants and has the final decision making authority over who will be accepted into the professional Physical Therapy program.

6. Applicants must have volunteer or work experience with individuals who are physically disabled. There is no specific amount of time required; students are encouraged to do this until they are comfortable working with people with disabilities. The experience should allow for direct interaction focusing on individuals with disabilities (rather than "job-shadowing"); organizations such as Special Olympics, camps, YMCA programs, hospitals and nursing homes are ideal for completing this requirement.

7. Two work and/or volunteer reference forms from persons who have supervised the student's volunteer or work experience must be submitted directly to the Graduate Admission Office at Concordia by the individual providing the reference. Reference forms can be found on the Concordia University website at [www.cuw.edu/dpt](http://www.cuw.edu/dpt).

8. A 500-word essay, written solely by the applicant, is required. Specific guidelines for the writing of the essay are provided with the application form. Essays will be evaluated for both content and writing style.

9. If a slot becomes available during the first or second year, students from other Physical Therapy schools with all the CUW Physical Therapy prerequisites and similar Physical Therapy course work may apply for that slot.

10. Students who withdraw from the Physical Therapy program after the first day of class may be considered for readmission as placements become available during the following year.

11. Students from abroad must have their transcripts reviewed and evaluated by a recognized credentialing service in the United States. Contact the Graduate Admission office for recommended agencies. Students must meet the graduate school requirements for international students.

## **COSTS**

1. A \$1000 deposit is required by March 15th from the students accepting admission to the program. Deposits to secure slots in the Physical Therapy program are non-refundable if the student withdraws.

2. A three year flat rate tuition is set in advance for each academic year. Please contact the CUW Admissions office at (262)243-4300 or toll-free at 1-888-628-9472 for current tuition rates.

3. During the clinical education portion of the curriculum, students may be required to leave the Milwaukee area. It is difficult to estimate these expenses, as it cannot be predetermined where the students will complete their clinical internships. Additionally, during the academic work, students will need to have transportation available to leave campus for clinical experiences. Some of the off-campus educational experiences will require a fee.

4. Concordia University Wisconsin student malpractice insurance is included in the tuition.

5. CUW offers a program for those students who need health insurance coverage. For information, please contact the University Health Services (262) 243-4332. Some clinical placements require verification of medical insurance prior to placement. (APTA also offers a student injury and sickness insurance plan. Visit their website at: [www.atpa.org](http://www.atpa.org).)

6. APTA student membership is highly recommended for all students. Current student membership rates are available on the APTA website at [www.apta.org](http://www.apta.org)

## **FINANCING THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

Pre-Physical Therapy Students are eligible for the same number of grants and scholarships as are available to other students on Campus. Please contact the Financial Aid Office (262) 243-4569 to inquire about these resources. As graduate students, almost all students qualify for financial aid in the form of federal subsidized loans. CUW is a Federal Direct lending school participating in the Wm D. Stafford Loan Federal Program offering both subsidized and unsubsidized loans. Alternative loan programs such as Wells Fargo MedCAP-XTRA are also available to students. Students are eligible to apply for loans and scholarships from the APTA, WPTA, and some local and national Physical Therapy agencies. The Physical Therapy Faculty and Financial Aid Office can help provide information on these programs.

### **Entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy Program Curriculum**

BIO 550 Human Anatomy	6 Cr.
BIO 560 Neuroscience	4 Cr.
DPT 500 Foundations of Physical Therapy	3 Cr.
DPT 505 Kinesiology	5 Cr.
DPT 535 Clinical Problem Solving Elective	1 - 6 Cr.
DPT 550 Pathophysiology/Pharmacology I	3 Cr.
DPT 600 Physical Agents	3 Cr.
DPT 601 Electrophysiology	3 Cr.
DPT 609 Exercise Science	3 Cr.
DPT 610 Management of Neuromuscular Disorders – Pediatric	4 Cr.
DPT 611 Management of Neuromuscular Disorders – Adult	4 Cr.
DPT 615 Movement Science	3 Cr.
DPT 621 Tools for Evidence Based Practice	3 Cr.
DPT 622 Scientific Inquiry I	3 Cr.
DPT 628 Clinical Problem Solving I	2 Cr.
DPT 629 Clinical Decision Making	3 Cr.
DPT 630 Clinical Problem Solving II	2 Cr.
DPT 631 Clinical Problem Solving III	6 Cr.
DPT 640 Movement Analysis	3 Cr.
DPT 642 Therapeutic Exercise	1 Cr.
DPT 643 Applied Therapeutic Exercise	1 Cr.
DPT 650 Pathophysiology/Pharmacology II	3 Cr.
DPT 659 Introduction to Management of Musculoskeletal Disorders	2 Cr.
DPT 660 Management of Musculoskeletal Disorders I	5 Cr.
DPT 661 Management of Musculoskeletal Disorders II	5 Cr.
DPT 670 Medical Management of Pathological Conditions	2 Cr.
DPT 705 Medical Imaging	3 Cr.
DPT 723 Cardiopulmonary Systems/Acute Care	4 Cr.
DPT 728 Tests and Measures - Adult	2 Cr.
DPT 730 Scientific Inquiry II or elective	3 Cr.
DPT 733 Industrial Rehabilitation	2 Cr.
DPT 736 Tissue Biomechanics	3 Cr.
DPT 744 Physical Therapy in the Health Care System	3 Cr.
DPT 754 Psychosocial Dimensions of Health Impairments	3 Cr.
DPT 755 Differential Diagnosis of the Client with Multisystem Involvement	3 Cr.
DPT 760 Clinical Practice I	6 Cr.
DPT 761 Clinical Practice II	6 Cr.
DPT 765 Internship	6 Cr.
Total Credits 118 Cr.	

## **POST PROFESSIONAL (transitional) DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM**

### **GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

The DPT degree at Concordia is designed to produce a therapist who is an autonomous provider of physical therapy services. The program emphasizes evidence-based practice and focuses on developing clinicians who will serve the community through excellence in clinical practice and

understanding of the spiritual, economic, and psychosocial needs of the clients they serve.

The post-professional (transitional) DPT program is designed for licensed practitioners and leads to a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree. The clinical doctorate builds upon strong foundational sciences, applied clinical sciences, and electives. Primary literature and use of evidence in determining treatment rationale are integrated throughout the curriculum. Students may enroll on a part-time basis and courses may be completed in any sequence. Courses are offered through E-Learning (web-based courses) with occasional on campus instruction. Courses in the post-professional program may be cancelled due to low enrollment.

### **Admission Requirements**

Students may take selected courses with a non-degree status prior to being admitted, with consent of the instructor. The Physical Therapy Admissions Committee for the post-professional program determines who will be admitted to the program. The minimum admissions requirements include:

1. Completion of a tDPT graduate program application form. This form is available at [www.cuw.edu/pt](http://www.cuw.edu/pt).
2. A one paged typed personal statement of the applicant's physical therapy experiences. It must explain why he/she wishes to obtain the advanced education, including an expression of professional goals.
3. A copy of the applicant's current license to practice Physical Therapy in a given state.
4. Complete transcripts from the highest degree obtained indicating a cumulative GPA at or above a 3.0. Upon recommendation of the admission committee, a student who does not meet the minimum admission requirements may be admitted with a special student status.
5. Two letters of recommendations, including one from the most recent employer.

### **APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION**

Applications for admission can be obtained on-line at [www.cuw.edu/dpt](http://www.cuw.edu/dpt) or by calling or writing to:

Graduate Admission Office  
Concordia University Wisconsin  
12800 North Lake Shore Drive  
Mequon, WI 53097

Graduate Admission Office Phone Number: (262) 243-4248 or Toll Free: 1-800-330-9866

Graduate Admission Office Fax Number: (262) 243-3548

E-mail address: [graduate.admission@cuw.edu](mailto:graduate.admission@cuw.edu)

Program in Physical Therapy Phone Number: (262) 243-4433

Physical Therapy Office Fax Number: (262) 243-4506

Web Site: [www.cuw.edu/dpt](http://www.cuw.edu/dpt)

Students should have letters of recommendation and official transcript sent to the Graduate Admission Office.

The completed application form, a copy of the PT license, the one page personal statement, and the application fee should be sent to the Graduate Admissions Office in one envelope.

When the file is complete, the Program Admissions Committee and Dean of the School of Human Services will consider the application and notify the Graduate School of whether or not the applicant is accepted. The applicant will be notified in writing of this action. Students will be accepted on an ongoing basis and may start the program at the start of any given semester.

## **TRANSFER OF CREDIT**

Students who wish to transfer graduate credits into a CUW graduate program must request transfer credits be applied to the transcript within the first semester of taking classes. It is recommended that students wishing to take graduate courses at another institution while in CUW's graduate program request a review of transfer of credits in writing BEFORE taking the class. Transferring graduate credits into a CUW graduate program is done at the discretion of the program and the Registrar. Final decision on transfer credit rests with the Department of Physical Therapy. An official transcript must be sent from the other institution to the Graduate Admission Office.

## **GUIDELINES FOR TRANSFER OF CREDITS**

1. You may request a maximum of 21 credits to be waived based on graduate-level coursework completed at another accredited institution and/or post-professional continuing education [see #4 below]. To be eligible for consideration, graduate coursework must have been completed within the last 10 years and you must have received a B or better in the course.
2. A minimum of 18 credits must be taken at Concordia University to earn a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT). Sixteen of those credits must be from Foundational and Applied Science courses.
3. You may receive 6 elective credits for proof of an APTA Specialist Certification, or 1 elective credit for completion of the APTA Clinical Instructor Credentialing and Education Program.
4. Concordia University Wisconsin will allow up to 3 elective credits to be awarded at the time of program admission for continuing education coursework. One elective credit may be awarded for each 20 continuing education contact hours (1 CEU is equivalent to 10 contact hours). Only continuing education coursework completed within the past five years will be eligible. Students must provide written request and documentation of course participation for elective credits to be awarded.
5. Special requests may be made for credit for teaching experience or publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

## **APPLICATION FROM INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

Applicants from other countries must be eligible for the Wisconsin State Physical Therapy Licensure exam. For more information, call (608) 221-9191.

## **COSTS**

Contact the Graduate Admission Office at (800) 330-9866 for current tuition. Therapists may earn credit vouchers for being a clinical instructor of students in the CUW Professional (entry-level) DPT

Program.

## **TYPE OF STUDENT STATUS**

**Regular:** A student who has been accepted into the Post-Professional level DPT degree program by the Admissions Committee of the Physical Therapy Department. A full time academic schedule is defined as six or more credit hours per semester.

**Part-time:** A student who has been accepted into a Post-Professional program by the Admissions Committee of the Physical Therapy Department. A part time academic schedule is defined as less than six credit hours per semester.

**Non-degree Seeking:** A student who has not been admitted into the degree-granting program. This may include graduate students from other disciplines or Universities, students not seeking a terminal degree, students considering graduate study, and so on. In this classification, the student may take courses and earn graduate credits at the University. These credits earned while a Special Student may be applied toward the Post-Professional degree if they have been taken in the past five years and if the student meets all the other requirements of the program. Enrollment as a Special Student requires the student to complete the registration form and general information on the application form. Physical Therapy licensure or licensure eligibility is required to enroll in Physical Therapy coursework as a non-degree seeking student.

**Audit:** A student may audit a course contingent upon availability of space and approval of the course instructor. Students auditing a course are expected to attend all classes but are not required to complete written course assignments and examinations. Applications for continuing education credits (CEU) will be made if the student notifies the course instructor one month prior to the start of the class, or registers as an audit student one month before the class begins. Once a course has begun, students changing from credit to audit status may not receive CEUs. Students wishing to take courses for CEUs should enroll as Audit students and are required to complete the front side of the program application form. Physical Therapy licensure or licensure eligibility is required to audit Physical Therapy coursework.

**Special:** A student may be admitted on a special status (provisional basis) if he or she does not meet the initial admission requirements, provided there is other evidence the student has potential for successful graduate study. Upon completion of nine credit hours with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better, the special status will be removed. A student who fails to obtain this grade point average will not be permitted to continue in the program.

**Academic Probation:** A student who is enrolled in the Post-Professional programs and has not maintained a GPA of 3.0 or better will be notified that he or she is on academic probation. The student will have 9 credits to bring their cumulative GPA to 3.0 or better. A student who fails to obtain this grade point average will not be permitted to continue in the program.

## **POST-PROFESSIONAL (transitional) DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM CURRICULUM**

### **Foundational Services**

#### **21 credits**

DPT 711 PathoPharmacology: Cells/Genes/Self-Defense	1 Cr.
DPT 712 PathoPharmacology: Oncology/Reproduction/Hematology	1 Cr.

DPT 713 PathoPharmacology: Cardiovascular/Pulmonary	1 Cr.
DPT 714 PathoPharmacology: Neurology	1 Cr.
DPT 715 PathoPharmacology: Endocrine/GI/Renal	1 Cr.
DPT 716 PathoPharmacology: Musculoskeletal/Integument/Shock/Burns	1 Cr.
DPT 702 Acquisition and Control of Human Movement	3 Cr.
DPT 705 Medical Imaging	3 Cr.
DPT 707 Advanced Human Kinesiology/Anatomy	3 Cr.
DPT 724 Advanced Cardiopulmonary Assessment and Rehabilitation-Life Span	3 Cr.
DPT 736 Tissue Biomechanics	3 Cr.
<b>Applied Clinical Science</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>credits.....</b>	
DPT 621 Tools for Evidence Based Practice	3 Cr.
DPT 741 Movement Analysis	1 Cr.
DPT 755 Differential Diagnosis of the Client with Multisystem Involvement	3 Cr.
DPT 728 Tests and Measures (Adults)	2 Cr.
DPT 740 Evidence-Based Practice	4 Cr.
<b>Electives in Specialty Area OR Clinical Specialist Certification</b>	<b>6 credits</b>
DPT 754 Psychosocial Dimensions of Health Impairments	3 Cr.
DPT 757 Bioenergetics & Weight Control	3 Cr.
DPT 734 Applied Ergonomics	4 Cr.
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>40 Cr.</b>

The number of credits required to complete the DPT program depends on your educational background. Applicants with a Bachelors degree in PT require 40 credits; those with a MPT or MS-PT degree require 22 credits; while CUW MPT graduates require 19 credits to be awarded a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree.