

Basic Pre-Physical Therapy Timeline (Regardless of Major)

Timeline based on Temple University Physical Therapy Program

<p><u>First Year</u></p> <p>Fall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Chemistry I 1031/1033 • Analytical Reading & Writing 0802 <p>Spring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Chemistry II 1032/1033 • Mosaic I • Introductory Psychology 1061 <p>Summer – Exposure to Physical Therapy/ Research/Community Service*</p>	<p><u>Second Year</u></p> <p>Fall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistics 1013 • Sociology** (focus on group behavior) • Mosaic II <p>Spring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology 1011 • Sociology** (focus on group behavior) <p>Summer – Exposure to Physical Therapy/ Research/Community Service*</p>
<p><u>Third Year</u></p> <p>Fall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Anatomy & Physiology I 1223 (Under Kinesiology) • Upper Level Psychology (Theory and Practice) • GRE Preparation <p>Spring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Anatomy & Physiology II 1224 • GRE Prep/Take GRE Exam <p><u>PTCAS Application Cycle opens July 15th</u> The application must show plan in place to complete any outstanding prerequisites.</p> <p>Summer – Exposure to Physical Therapy/ Research/Community Service*</p>	<p><u>Fourth Year</u></p> <p>Fall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physics 1021 • GRE Prep/Take GRE Exam • PT Program Interviews • Complete Requirements for Major <p>Spring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physics 1022 • Completion of requirements for major • PT Program Interviews • Completion of Financial Aid form (FAFSA) <p>Prepare to begin your studies; take a break!</p>

***Exposure to Physical Therapy** is an important part of your preparation/application. Do not over extend yourself at the expense of grades however.

****Sociology**: There are several other courses that satisfy this requirement: Intro. to Soc., Soc. Of Race & Racism, Sexuality and Gender, Soc. of Health Care, Marriage and Family, Soc. Psychology, Cultural Anthropology, and Comparative Religions.

PLEASE NOTE: An APTA survey of schools found that more than 50% of PT programs require courses such as anatomy and physiology, chemistry, physics, statistics, psychology, and general biology. Other courses that may be required include English, social science, humanities, computers, medical terminology, exercise physiology, human development, kinesiology, organic chemistry, research methods, cell biology, and pathology. (www.apta.org)

Office of Pre-Professional Health Studies (OPPHS)

Pre-PT Advising

Advising offered by the Office of Pre-Professional Health Studies (OPPHS) supplements the academic advising (course registration, major requirements and graduation review) provided by the advising center in the student's primary college. Students planning to apply to physical therapy programs must initiate a **portfolio** with the OPPHS as early as their freshman year.

The Pre-PT Timeline / Application Process

Pre-PT students should map out an individualized academic timeline based on:

- the pre-PT course requirements for the physical therapy programs to which they will eventually apply;
- courses required by their major as well as University Gen Ed Requirements.
- Pre-requisite science courses *should not* be taken during summer sessions.

All Pre-PT students are required to:

- attend an orientation session to review the Temple Pre-Professional Health Evaluation Committee process as well as to consider or re-consider timeline possibilities.
- attend at least one workshop offered by the OPPHS during each semester
- schedule an advising appointment with OPPHS as questions arise.

Accelerated Program Option

Students considering a **3+3 Accelerated Program Option** must schedule an appointment with the OPPHS in order to sign an "Intent to Pursue" form during first semester of freshman year.

Letters of Recommendation

Begin requesting letters of recommendation as you are completing classes in the sciences and have performed well in the class (A or B+). As students are preparing to apply, they will be required to meet with a member of the Pre-Health Evaluation Committee before letters are released to professional schools of Physical Therapy on their behalf.

Temple University Graduate Program for Physical Therapy (DPT)

- Temple University will not consider an applicant who has not maintained a minimum 3.0 GPA.
- Temple University will not accept any prerequisites where a grade of C- or less has been earned.
- Temple's Program does not require volunteer hours, although it does require "exposure" to the field, which may be satisfied through volunteer hours. Most programs do require a set number of volunteer hours so the students should learn what the expectation is from some of their other choices.

Physical Therapy College Application Service (PTCAS)

Most Physical Therapy programs participate in a centralized application service. Applications begin to be processed in mid July. Applications will take from four to six weeks to be processed and sent to PT Programs.

Overall GPA and Combined Science GPA

(Combined Science GPA includes Math, and Anatomy, Physiology, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics)

An overall GPA and science GPA above a 3.2 level is preferred.

Note: The GPA includes both grades for a course that is repeated.

Additional Suggestions for Applicants

Admissions officers also look for volunteer experience as a physical therapy aide, involvement in school and community activities (e.g. sports, clubs, social organizations), a history of leadership, letters of recommendation from physical therapists or science teachers, and strong writing and interpersonal skills.

Types of Physical Therapy Degrees

Doctoral of Physical Therapy (DPT) –

(Number of applicants in 2006 totaled 700; number accepted 241 (34.4%))

The majority of DPT programs require students to enter with an undergraduate degree. Students are in the program between six and nine semesters. **Temple University offers the DPT degree.**

Master's degree (MPT, MSPT, MS) –

(Number of applicants in 2006 totaled 808; number accepted 354 (44%))

On average, these programs require that students have at least three years of undergraduate work. However, some require students to enter with an undergraduate degree. Like the DPT programs, the students are in the program between six and nine semesters. This program is not offered at Temple University.

Office Contact Information:

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healthadvising@temple.edu

American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) (www.apta.org)

Visit the *OPPHS* website for updates on workshops and other opportunities.

www.temple.edu/healthadvising

Information on these pages was taken from the APTA website (www.apta.org)