

Transfer Guide for Career Planning

Physical Therapy

Prerequisite Courses:

CHE 151 – Principles of Chemistry I
CHE 152 – Principles of Chemistry II
MTH 210*– Calculus I

PHY 145** - College Physics I
PHY 146 – College Physics II

or

PHY 154 – General Physics I **Advised**
PHY 155 – General Physics II **Sequence**

or

PHY 161 – University Physics I
PHY 251 – University Physics II

BIO 126*** – Intro.to the Biology of Cells

BIO 160 – General Botany

BIO 165 – General Zoology
and/or

BIO 142*** - Human Anatomy

BIO 143 – Human Physiology

PSY 101 – Introductory Psychology

PSY 201 - Developmental Psychology,
Child

* Many, but not all, physical therapy programs require this level of math. Additionally, SUNY Upstate Medical University and SUNY University at Buffalo require MTH 160 (Statistics). SUNY University at Buffalo will accept MTH 200, Applied Calculus and any two psychology courses except those dealing with research or statistics.

** Minimum acceptable level of Physics.

*** Different colleges require one or both of these sequences: Nazareth College requires BIO 126, 142 and 143; SUNY Upstate Medical University requires both sequences; Ithaca College requires BIO 126, 142 and 165; SUNY University at Buffalo requires the BIO 142, 143 sequence.

Note: Some programs may require Organic Chemistry as a prerequisite.

Recommended Courses:

HED 220 - Advanced First Aid & CPR (as a PE/HED elective).

Other criteria of importance for acceptance into physical therapy programs include recent work or volunteer experience in a direct patient care environment, GRE results and/or a personal interview.

Physical Therapists work to improve mobility, relieve pain and prevent or limit the permanent disability of patients suffering from injuries or disease. They evaluate an individual's ability level, plan and implement a program for treatment, and observe and assess a patient's progress as treatment progresses. Physical Therapists should have strong interpersonal skills to successfully educate patients about their physical therapy treatments. Some Physical Therapists may choose to specialize in areas such as pediatrics, geriatrics, orthopedics, sports medicine, neurology and cardiopulmonary physical therapy. All States require Physical Therapists to pass a licensure exam after graduating from an accredited physical therapy educational program. Most Physical Therapy programs are moving toward offering a Doctorate in Physical Therapy, which will require, in most cases, a baccalaureate degree for acceptance and then an additional two years of study.

Partial List of Colleges in NYS Offering a program in Physical Therapy:

Clarkson University (MPT)
Columbia University (MPT)
Daemen College (DPT)

D'Youville College (MPT)
Ithaca College (MPT)
Nazareth College (MPT)

SUNY Univ. at Buffalo (DPT)
SUNY H. S. Ctr. at Stony Brook (DPT)
SUNY Upstate Med. Univ. (MPT)