

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Building 3, Room 108, Brighton Campus • www.monroecc.edu/go/careercenter • 585.292.2248

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 may choose to specialize in areas such as pediatrics, geriatrics, orthopedics, sports medicine, neurology or cardiopulmonary physical therapy.

Degree: The degree required for licensure is the Doctorate in Physical Therapy (DPT). Some programs are direct freshman entry, with limited seats for transfer students. All states require Physical Therapists to pass a licensure exam after graduating from an accredited physical therapy educational program. **Note:** As of 2015 all accredited PT programs will be required to award the DPT.

Admission to Physical Therapy Programs: Criteria of importance for acceptance into physical therapy programs may include grade point average, recent work or documented volunteer experience in a direct patient care environment (a specific number of hours may be required), Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores, a personal interview, and letters of recommendation. Ability to perform physical tasks may also be assessed. Colleges may have students apply online using the Physical Therapy Centralized Application Service (PTCAS) application: www.ptcas.org.

Typical Minimum Prerequisite Courses for Physical Therapy Programs: One year of biology with laboratories; one year of physics with laboratories; one year of chemistry with laboratories; one to three semesters of psychology; one semester statistics, two semesters of anatomy and physiology; one year of English. Additional courses may be required by some programs (ex. microbiology, medical terminology).

Examples of MCC courses include:

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|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| PSY 101 - Introductory Psychology | BIO 142 - Human Anatomy | CHE 151 - General College Chemistry I |
| PSY 206 - Abnormal Psychology | BIO 143 - Human Physiology | CHE 152 - General College Chemistry II |
| PSY 212 - Developmental Psy: Lifespan | BIO 155 - General Biology I | PHY 145 & 146 - College Physics I & II or |
| MTH 160 - Statistics I | BIO 156 - General Biology II | PHY 154 & 155 - General Physics I & II or |
| ENG 101/200 - English Comp | | PHY 161 & 261 - University Physics I & II |

Please note that all courses listed above may not be required to be completed at MCC prior to transfer.

Prerequisite requirements vary: Research each institution for specific information and to verify course transferability (See www.apta.org for a chart with all prerequisites listed - select **Prospective Student** link).

Colleges in New York State Offering an Accredited Program in Physical Therapy:

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|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| SUNY University at Buffalo | New York University | Hunter College (CUNY) |
| Clarkson University | SUNY Downstate Medical Center | Ithaca College |
| College of Staten Island (CUNY) | SUNY Stony Brook University | Long Island University - Brooklyn Campus |
| Columbia University | The Sage Colleges | Mercy College |
| D'Youville College | Touro College | Nazareth College |
| Daemen College | SUNY Upstate Medical University | New York Institute of Technology |
| Dominican College | Utica College | New York Medical College |

Additional Information:

USDL, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Physical Therapist - www.bls.gov/oco/ocos080.htm

American Physical Therapy Association - www.apta.org

Accredited Program Search - www.apta.org/ProspectiveStudents

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Note: While every effort is made to ensure that the information in this guide is accurate, students are advised to meet with a counselor in the MCC Career and Transfer Center and to contact transfer institutions for specific course requirements and the most up-to-date information.