

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.

Degree: Most Physical Therapy programs offer a Doctorate in Physical Therapy, which often requires a bachelor's degree for acceptance and an additional two to three years of study. (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. Physical Therapists may choose to specialize in areas such as pediatrics, geriatrics, orthopedics, sports medicine, neurology and cardiopulmonary physical therapy.

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.

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; 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 are below:

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

Prerequisite requirements vary. Research each institution for specific information and to verify course transferability. (See <http://www.apta.org> for a chart with all prerequisites listed). Please note that all courses listed above may not be required to be completed at MCC prior to transfer.

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

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

Please 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 Center and to contact transfer institutions for specific course requirements and the most up-to-date information.