



DES MOINES
UNIVERSITY
MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES

DOCTOR OF
PHYSICAL THERAPY

TOP-NOTCH TRAINING FOR GREAT PATIENT CARE

Des Moines University's Doctor of Physical Therapy Program offers a distinctive, evidence-based curriculum focused on patient-centered care. Classroom and clinical instruction emphasize problem solving, critical thinking and strong manual therapy skills. **The combination of our expert faculty, state-of-the-art facilities and an onsite clinic make DMU a powerful place to learn.**

The program is **accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).**

The **D.P.T. program is 34 months in length.** The curriculum is focused on movement science, with case-based learning experiences that provide the knowledge and skills needed for the practice of physical therapy. **The results: consistently high student outcomes and rewarding careers for graduates.**



Graduate employment rate

100%

400+

clinical internship sites
located in 39 states

Faculty : student ratio

<1:13

EARLY CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

A hallmark of the DMU D.P.T. program is the opportunity to work in the clinic early on in the program. **Four clinical internships, scheduled at more than 400 sites across the country,** are spaced throughout the curriculum, which allows you to apply, practice and perfect the techniques you're learning.

INNOVATIVE TOOLS FOSTER LEARNING

- DMU's **Human Performance Lab** combines diagnostics and biotechnology to evaluate and treat human movement deficits and physical conditions.
- You will hone your clinical and communication skills and teamwork in DMU's **Iowa Simulation Center.** It combines clinical scenarios with lifelike high-fidelity mannequins and equipment, allowing students to perform hands-on assessments and interact with the mannequins as though they were human patients.
- In the **anatomy lab,** students dissect and analyze cadavers at 43 stations, each equipped with a 40-inch flat screen monitor, connected to an iPad that offers instructions linked to anatomical images online.



STELLAR PREPARATION FOR LICENSURE

While licensure requirements vary by state, all states require physical therapists to achieve a passing score on the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) in order to practice.

You will be ready for the exam: DMU's D.P.T. program administers a comprehensive examination during the final didactic term. Structured in the same format as the NPTE, this exam allows students to assess their knowledge and identify strategies to prepare for the national exam. In addition, you can participate in an NPTE preparation course while on campus.

GAIN PREPARATION FOR PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Des Moines University's physical therapy program **emphasizes strong skills in manual therapy**. Its hands-on focus, class and clinical instruction and promotion of compassionate care will prepare you to be a successful health care provider.

YOU'RE PART OF A GREAT PROFESSION

DMU D.P.T. students are members of **both the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) and the Iowa Physical Therapy Association (IPTA), and faculty have held leadership positions in both organizations**. Students routinely attend the Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) of the APTA and serve as liaisons to the IPTA board of directors.

LEARN FROM THE BEST

The diverse clinical experiences and practice interests of DMU's physical therapy faculty mean **you will learn from exceptional teachers**. They are experts in movement science, neuroscience, pain science, orthopedics, pediatrics and geriatrics. They actively maintain relationships with other health care providers and offer innovative therapies, such as the University's annual "camp" for patients who've suffered stroke and exercise classes for older adults.

DISCOVER NEW KNOWLEDGE

In state-of-the-art laboratories on campus, **physical therapy faculty involve students in research on a wide variety of topics**, including the effects of manual therapy in patients with spinal pain, gait rehabilitation, and interventions for individuals with neurological impairments. Participating in research exposes students to scientific literature, lets them interact with expert faculty and patients, and in some cases, present and publish their work.

GRADUATE AMONG THE TOP IN YOUR PROFESSION

High student outcomes – in job placement, board exam pass rates and career satisfaction – demonstrate how the D.P.T. program at DMU will equip you with the knowledge and skills to treat patients of all ages with diverse needs in different health care settings.

A REWARDING CAREER AWAITS YOU. OBTAIN THE FINEST PREPARATION: VISIT WWW.DMU.EDU/PT TODAY.

HOW TO APPLY:

Apply through the Physical Therapy Centralized Application Service (PTCAS). Applications become available each year in July for the class that begins the following fall term. The application deadline is December 15; however, due to rolling admission, it is recommended to apply early. The program also participates in the PTCAS Early Decision option that allows applicants to apply to their first-choice program through a binding application process. Visit ptcas.org for more information.

D.P.T. PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ **Bachelor's degree** from a regionally accredited college or university
- ✓ **Science GPA and cumulative GPA of 3.0** and higher are recommended
- ✓ **Completion of the following courses** prior to matriculation:
 - One course in **anatomy** with lab*
 - One course in **physiology** with lab*
 - Two courses in **biological sciences**; labs required when available
 - Two courses in **general chemistry** with lab
 - Two courses in **general physics** with lab
 - Two courses in **psychology**
 - One course in **statistics**
- * *OR a two-course sequence in anatomy and physiology with lab*
- ✓ A total of 50 hours **observing licensed physical therapists** in both inpatient and outpatient settings
- ✓ **GRE score** submitted through PTCAS
- ✓ **Two letters of recommendation** – one from a U.S.-licensed physical therapist you have observed, and one from an academic instructor whose course you have taken
- ✓ **U.S. citizenship or permanent resident status**

DES MOINES UNIVERSITY

MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES

3200 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa
50312-4198

dmuadmit@dmu.edu

515-271-1499

www.dmu.edu/admission

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION: DMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, creed, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation or marital status in employment, admission or access to education programs, activities or health care. Education programs within the University also have professional accreditation within their respective fields. Information about professional accreditation is available from the colleges and degree programs. ACCREDITATION: The DMU Doctor of Physical Therapy Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-706-3245; www.captconline.org. Des Moines University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602-2504; 312-263-0456; 800-621-7440; fax, 312-263-7462; www.ncahlc.org; 09/18-1500



BECAUSE OF WHERE YOU WANT TO GO AFTERWARD

Your ultimate goal is to become an exceptionally well-prepared health care professional. At DMU, you will learn with faculty and students who all share a common focus on medicine and the health sciences. You will become ready for both autonomous and interprofessional practice in providing the highest quality of care.

As a student, you will enjoy the amenities and affordability of Iowa's capital, Des Moines. Learn more at www.catchdesmoines.com.

