



PHYSICAL THERAPY

Itasca Community College-College of St. Scholastica

The Program at St. Scholastica

The 3 + 3 program at St. Scholastica is unique in that it combines the liberal arts with a career-oriented curriculum. Students complete three years of pre-professional and liberal arts courses and three years of professional course work and internships. Students graduate with a B.A. degree after the first year in the professional program and upon successful completion of all professional courses receive a Master of Arts degree. Students with a Bachelor's degree may apply to the program. All of the professional courses are at the graduate level therefore, students pay on a per credit basis at the graduate rate for all three years of the program.

The College encourages students in health professions such as physical therapy to acquire a solid background in the humanities and the basic and social sciences. PT majors may choose to complete a minor in another academic discipline of their choice prior to graduation. The first three years of study may be completed at another accredited university or college. However, students completing their pre-physical therapy requirements at St. Scholastica are given priority in the admissions process.

The curriculum allows students to achieve entry-level skills. At the beginning of the second graduate year, students will be allowed to investigate an area of interest for further study. The goal of this process is to enhance the student's critical inquiry skills through an applied project. Critical inquiry skills can be gained through methods such as a clinical research project, outcome study, or program development. The areas for further study are determined by the individual track coordinators and may change from year to year.

Pre-Physical Therapy Requirements

To be eligible to apply for admission to the Department of Physical Therapy, individuals must meet the application requirements of the program. Details can be found on our Web site: www.css.edu/depts/grad/gradpt.html or by contacting the Physical Therapy Admissions office at (218) 723-6285. Each student is encouraged to seek academic advisement concerning a course of study that will enable him/her to make progress toward a four-year degree while completing the physical therapy prerequisite courses.

The following AA degree curriculum is designed to prepare students with the majority of pre-requisites required for the PT program:

FRESHMAN

<u>Fall</u>				<u>Spring</u>			
Biol	1201	Gen. Biology I	4	CSci	1120	Intro to Computers	3
Bus	1151	Medical Terminology	3	Humanities			3
Engl	1101	Expository Writing	4	Engl	1113	Research Writing	3
Phys	1101	Intro. to Physics	4	Math	1111	College Algebra	3
Psyc	1201	Human Growth/Dev.	3	Phys	1102	Intro. to Physics	4
				Spch	1105	Public Speaking	3

SOPHOMORE

<u>Fall</u>				<u>Spring</u>			
Biol	2101	Hum Anat/Phys I	4	Biol	2102	Hum Anat/Phys II	4
Chem	1201	General Chemistry I	4	Math	1105	Statistics	4
Humanities			3	Chem	1202	General Chemistry II	4
PE	1201	Wellness	2	Phil	1111	Ethics	3
Psyc	2106	Abnormal Psyc	3	PE Activity			1
				Social Science			3

Career Opportunities

As an integral part of the health care team, the physical therapist is concerned with the prevention and treatment of movement dysfunction. Evaluation and development of appropriate therapy programs make up a large part of the therapist's daily schedule of administering direct patient care. In addition, PT professionals are involved in teaching families proper procedures for patient home care, teaching and supervising supportive personnel and consulting with other health care professionals and facilities.

Physical therapists are employed in a variety of settings including: general and specialized hospitals, public school systems, private practices, skilled nursing facilities, retirement centers, community and government health agencies, home health agencies, medical research centers, industrial settings and the armed forces. The education field is also wide open to physical therapists, whether it means teaching classes in a professional program in physical therapy, in a clinical setting or getting involved in sports medicine and athletic training programs.

Admission Requirements

While students interested in physical therapy should be aware that enrollment in the program is competitive, our program accepts 36 qualified students each year. For the past two years, St. Scholastica accepted more than 60 percent of the applicant pool. Students must have at least a 2.7 cumulative GPA, all prerequisites completed, exposure to the profession of physical therapy, letters of recommendation, and interviews with two members of the admissions committee. Applicants are required to complete the GRE Writing Assessment and have scores forwarded to St. Scholastica before the deadline.

Transfer applicants need to review the document Physical Therapy Admission Requirements for Transfer Applicants for a detailed description of the admission process and requirements.

Students who have not completed all prerequisite courses must be able to project a reasonable course of study with proof of completion received by August 15 prior to the fall entry date.

St. Scholastica students' deadline for application is November 1. For students already holding a baccalaureate degree or for those applying from another undergraduate institution, the deadline for application is **December 1** for the following fall.

By this date the following items must be received by the Physical Therapy Admissions office:

- Application to the Physical Therapy program including a \$50 application fee
- Official college transcript from each college you previously attended
- Two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a physical therapist
- Completion of professional exploration through volunteer or paid experience
- Score from GRE Writing Assessment

Selection for admission is based on several predictors of success including academic record, interviews, a written essay, and professional exploration. Applicants are required to demonstrate awareness of the diversity and specificity of the physical therapy profession by performing volunteer work, observing, or working in physical therapy settings. Transfer students with and without degrees are encouraged to apply. A minimum of six and a maximum of 12 transfer students will be accepted each year.

ICC students transferring to The College of St. Scholastica with an Associate in Arts degree or the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum have fulfilled all CSS general education requirements. In addition, students are required to complete a College of St. Scholastica senior seminar. Also, courses in foreign language and cultural diversity are highly recommended.

Visit College of St. Scholastica on the world wide web at: www.css.edu