

Preparation for Admission to the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program at California State University, Fresno



Doctor of Physical Therapy at Fresno State by Fall 2012! Governor Schwarzenegger signed AB 2382 on [September 28, 2010](#). AB 2382 creates an exception to the Master Plan for Higher Education to allow California State Universities to confer the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) professional degree. This was needed to comply with a mandate from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), which requires that all U.S. physical therapist education programs be approved to offer the DPT by December of 2015. **Fresno State plans to implement the entry-level DPT by [August 2012](#) (pending the CSU Chancellor's Office and WASC approval).**

Students applying to the graduate PT program will now be applying to a post-baccalaureate, 3 year independent DPT program.

Eligibility for admission to the entry level DPT program will require the student to:

- Hold or be eligible to receive an acceptable bachelor's degree earned at a regionally accredited institution or institutions, or the applicant has completed equivalent academic preparation as determined by the appropriate campus authority, by the end of the spring semester prior to admission to the program.
- Have completed all lower-division prerequisite courses by the end of fall semester and upper-division prerequisite courses by the end of spring semester prior to admission to the DPT program.

Course (transfer student)	Fresno State course	Units (from Fresno State course)
Human Anatomy with lab* ∫ Human Physiology with lab*	BIOL 64 BIOL 65	3 5
Inorganic Chemistry with lab Organic or Biochemistry with lab	CHEM 3A or CHEM 1A CHEM 3B/3BL or CHEM 1B	4-5 4-5
General Psychology Upper Division Psychology** ∫ (Abnormal Psychology or Psychological Aspects of Disability recommended)	PSYCH 10 PSYCH 166 or 169	3 3
General Physics I and II with labs (including mechanics, heat, light, sound, and electricity)	PHYS 2A and PHYS 2B	8
Introduction to Statistics	PH 92 or MATH 11	3
Motor Development** ∫	PHTH 127 or KINES 110	3
∫: New additional pre-requisite course *Note: must be separate course; will not accept combined anatomy and physiology course with lab **Can be enrolled in upper-division coursework during spring semester prior to admission to DPT program; must have all other lower-division coursework completed by the end of the fall semester prior to admission to the DPT.		
<i>Total units prerequisite course:</i>		<i>36-38 units</i>

- Receive a grade of C or better in each prerequisite course and maintain a total prerequisite GPA of 3.0. An overall upper-division GPA at the end of the fall semester prior to the DPT program of 3.0 is also required. AP credit, CR/NC grades, correspondence courses, or independent study courses cannot be used for prerequisite requirements.¹
- Submit GRE test scores by the end of the fall semester prior to admission to the program. All three sections of the GRE must be submitted within five years of applying to the DPT program.
- The applicant must be in good standing at the last institution of higher education attended.
- Provide evidence of knowledge of physical therapy through employment, volunteer work, or observation under the supervision of, and verified by, a licensed physical therapist for a minimum of 100 hours. Fifty hours must be in a general in-patient setting; 50 hours may be in any other area(s) of practice.
- Submit three letters of recommendation, as specified in application instructions. These include at least one letter from a licensed physical therapist, employer or supervisor and professor (other than a physical therapy faculty member).
- Submit an application to the DPT program through PTCAS, a national physical therapy centralized admission service used by most physical therapy programs. Inclusive in this process is a personal statement that is submitted by the applicant.
- Submit an application to the University through CSU Mentor.
- Participate in a personal interview.
- Submit grades and final transcripts from institutions other than Fresno State as soon as grades are posted. Transcripts should be requested prior to the end of the term.

Meeting the foregoing criteria does not guarantee acceptance into the DPT program. Students transferring from community and other colleges or universities who meet the criteria are considered on the same basis as California State University, Fresno students applying for admission to the program.

¹: *No course may be repeated according to the university repeat policy unless a grade of D or less was given. In addition, the department maintains that a prerequisite class may be repeated only 1 time and no more than 3 prerequisite courses may be repeated/substituted.*