



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

Master of Physical Therapy

Application Packet • Department of Orthopaedics

Division of Physical Therapy



Overview of UNM's Program

The Health Sciences Center at the University of New Mexico cites as its primary mission, improvement and enhancement of the health of New Mexico's citizens through education, research, patient care, and partnering. The goal of the Health Sciences Center is to educate and train the next generation of talented healthcare professionals, facilitate faculty scholarship and research, conduct statewide outreach, and provide patients with the finest and most advanced medical care available through the partnership of research and patient care.

For more in-depth information about the University of New Mexico and the Health Sciences Center, please log on to our website at www.unm.edu. Additional information for the Physical Therapy Program is online at <http://hsc.unm/som/physther/> and the Office of Graduate Studies at www.unm.edu/-ogshmpg/index.html.

Physical Therapy is a health care profession whose primary purpose is the promotion of optimal human performance through the application of sound scientific principles to the prevention, evaluation, and treatment of acute and chronic movement dysfunction.

The Division of Physical Therapy as part of the UNM Health Sciences Center, is committed to providing an educational environment that provides the academic and clinical opportunities for individuals to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for the ethical and professionally competent

practice of physical therapy. These opportunities prepare students to function as autonomous professional practitioners and integral members of a health care team who are responsive to the health care needs of society. Inherent in this responsiveness is the ability to continually define the scope of practice of physical therapy within the health care delivery system and be able to adapt to meet delivery needs. The aim of the program is to foster an attitude of responsibility and conduct that is consistent with the ethical and legal standards within the profession. Inherent in this mission is the goal of educating leaders in physical therapy who are proficient in the areas of education, research, supervision, management, consultation, promotion of health, prevention of dysfunction and provision of care, in order to meet the needs of the citizens of New Mexico.

The program in the Division of Physical Therapy consists of a three year curriculum of professional course work and clinical training, which leads to a Master of Physical Therapy (MPT). The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

Admission

Students are admitted once a year, with classes beginning in the summer. The application deadline is January 15 of each year. Students may submit an application packet to the program while still enrolled in course work if all prerequisite courses and the baccalaureate degree will be completed before June of that year.

New Mexico residency is not required for application to our program. Only residents of Alaska, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon and Wyoming are eligible to apply to our program under the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). For more information on WICHE call 1-800-279-9777.

The program's selection process does not discriminate against any student on the basis of gender, marital or parental status, race, color, religion, age, national origin or physical handicap.

Application Check List

Individuals applying to the Division of Physical Therapy at UNM must also apply to the UNM Office of Graduate Studies. Application packets and complete instructions for applying to the Physical Therapy Program and the Office of Graduate Studies are available in the Physical Therapy Program Office.

Some application materials are sent directly to the Office of Graduate Studies and some to the Physical Therapy Program. Applicants are responsible for having materials sent (or delivered) to the appropriate location by **January 15**.

A: For the Office of Graduate Studies: (additional information on the Self Managed Application (SMA) Instruction sheet).

1. Application Form for the Office of Graduate Studies.
2. Registration Information Form;
3. Twenty-five dollar (\$25) application fee. **Checks made out to University of New Mexico.**
4. Two Official Transcripts for all college work taken. These must be official transcripts in sealed envelopes.
5. Letter of Intent: a short (less than one page) letter describing your reasons for applying to the physical therapy program.

The above 5 items must be sent to the Office of Graduate Studies in the large OSG envelope. This information will be forwarded to the Division of Physical Therapy when complete.

B: For the Division of Physical Therapy:

1. Application Form for the Division of Physical Therapy.
2. Autobiography on form provided.
3. Three letters of recommendation on forms

provided. Two must be from physical therapists, and one from someone else who knows you well enough to recommend you to physical therapy.

4. List of courses in progress
5. Scores for the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) and the separate GRE writing assessment
6. Twenty-five dollar (\$25) application processing fee. **Checks made out to the UNM Division of Physical Therapy.**

These six items must be sent directly to: UNM School of Medicine, Division of Physical Therapy, Attn: Kathy Dieruf, Ph.D., PT., Admissions Chairperson, HSSB 204 Albuquerque, NM 87131-5661. Applicants with incomplete or late files will not be considered for admission.

Applicants who appear to be best qualified will be invited for an interview in February. Final selection will be made from the group of candidates interviewed, and will be based on science GPA, written materials, (letters of reference, GRE Writing Assessment and autobiography), and interview.

An applicant must be accepted by the Dean of the Office of Graduate Studies as well as by the Division of Physical Therapy.

Accepted students are notified in writing by mid-April. The program start date is the first Tuesday following Memorial Day.

Baccalaureate degree and all prerequisite work must be completed by the program start date.

Tuition and Financial Aid

Students in the Physical Therapy Program pay tuition based on full-time graduate status at UNM. The total cost of books, supplies and laboratory fees while in the program is approximately \$5,000.00 (includes required personal computer). The additional costs associated with all clinical education experiences, including transportation, room and board (approximately \$1000/rotation), are borne by the student. Students are required to carry health and professional liability insurance. Both types are available through the university for a reasonable fee.

The Financial Aid Office for students interested in the Physical Therapy Program is located on our Health Sciences Center Campus in the Basic Medical Sciences Building, Room B-83. For information on tuition and room and board

rates for in-state graduate students and scholarship availability, please contact the Financial Aid Office at (505) 272-8008.

Pre-Professional Educational Requirements

Admission to the Master's program will require a baccalaureate degree in any field, a minimum GPA of 3.0, completion of all prerequisite course work listed below, and scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and GRE Writing Assessment.

SCIENCES:	55 Semester Hours	
	Sem Hrs.	Crs. Number*
General Biology	8 w lab	Bio 121L,122L
Gen Chemistry	8 w lab	Chem 121L, 122L
Gen Physics	8 w lab	Phys 151, 153L; 152,154L
Anatomy and Physiology	8 w lab	Bio, 237, 247L; 238, 248L
College Algebra		
Or above	3	Math 121
Statistics	3	Math 145
Microbiology	4	Bio, 239L
Organic/Biochemistry	4	Chem. 212 or 301 & 303L
Nutrition	3	Nutr. 244
Psychology	6	Psych. 105, Developmental Abnormal or others

*Course numbers are for UNM. Refer to the University Undergraduate Catalog for course descriptions in selecting equivalent courses. It is the student's responsibility to determine if transfer courses are equivalent.

Pass/Fail (CR/NC) options are NOT acceptable for any of the courses listed under SCIENCES. CLEP credits are only accepted for College Algebra.

Candidates with academic records with an overall or science grade point average of less than 3.0 on a four-point scale will not be considered. Grades of D or F are not acceptable towards fulfilling prerequisites. Grades from advanced level courses may be credited towards the science GPA if the basic requirements have been fulfilled (grade substitutions).

Professional Curriculum

FIRST YEAR

<i>Summer Session (10 weeks)</i>		Credits
PT 521L	Human Anatomy	6
PT 510	Introduction to Physical Therapy	2
Total:		8

<i>Fall Semester</i>		Credits
PT 501	Therapeutic Exercise I	3
PT 530	Introduction to Research	3
PT 541	Survey of Medical Sciences I	2
PT 551	Clinical Exercise Physiology	3
PT 570L	Kinesiology/Functional Anatomy	3
PT 571	Clinical Education I & Seminar	2
Total:		16

<i>Spring Semester</i>		Credits
PT 502L	Therapeutic Exercise II	3
PT 506L	Therapeutic Procedures	3
PT 522L	Neuroanatomy	3
PT 542	Survey of Medical Sciences II	2
PT 552L	Evaluative Procedures I	3
PT 572L	Clinical Education II	1
Total:		15

SECOND YEAR

<i>Fall Semester</i>		Credits
PT 600	Development Across the Lifespan	3
PT 601L	Therapeutic Exercise III	4
PT 641	Survey of Medical Sciences III	3
PT 671L	Clinical Education III	5
PT 631	Research Practicum2	
Total:		17

<i>Spring Semester</i>		Credits
PT 602L	Therapeutic Exercise IV	3
PT 622	Psychology of Disability	2
PT 662	Evaluative Procedures II	4
PT 672L	Clinical Education IV	5
PT 680	Administration & Supervision	2
PT 599	Master's Thesis	1
Total:		17

<i>Summer Session</i>		Credits
PT 675	Clinical Education V	6
PT 599	Master's Thesis	3
Total:		9

THIRD YEAR

<i>Fall Semester</i>		Credits
<i>Electives(s)</i>		
PT 695	(or other graduate courses as approved by faculty advisor)	6
PT 599	Master's Thesis	3
Total:		9

<i>Spring Semester</i>		Credits
PT 675	Clinical Education V	12
PT 599	Master's Thesis	2
Total:		14

TOTAL CREDITS 105

In addition to satisfactory completion of the didactic portion of the curriculum, students must successfully prepare and present a written and oral report of a Masters thesis, as well as pass a comprehensive examination. All students also must successfully complete a 24 week period of full-time clinical education before the degree may be conferred. Hospital and health care facilities throughout New Mexico and a limited number of facilities outside the state are utilized in the final clinical education experiences.

Following graduation students are qualified to sit for the National Licensure Examination.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a physical or learning disability, you are asked to self-report your educational needs prior to matriculation. Technical Standards for physical therapy students are defined by the program and are available upon request. Evaluation of the disability by a physician or other appropriate professional must be presented at the time of the report in order for accommodation to be arranged.

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, UNM provides this publication in alternative formats. If you have special needs and require an auxiliary aid and/or service, please contact the Supv. Admin Support Staff at 272-5755 (Press 0) to bypass the program information segment.

For Answers to Specific Questions and to check status of application:

- E-mail: dsmartinez@salud.unm.edu
or
- Phone: (505)-272-5755 and leave a message with a call back number.
- FAX: (505) 272-8079 Attn: Physical Therapy Program Admissions Chairperson

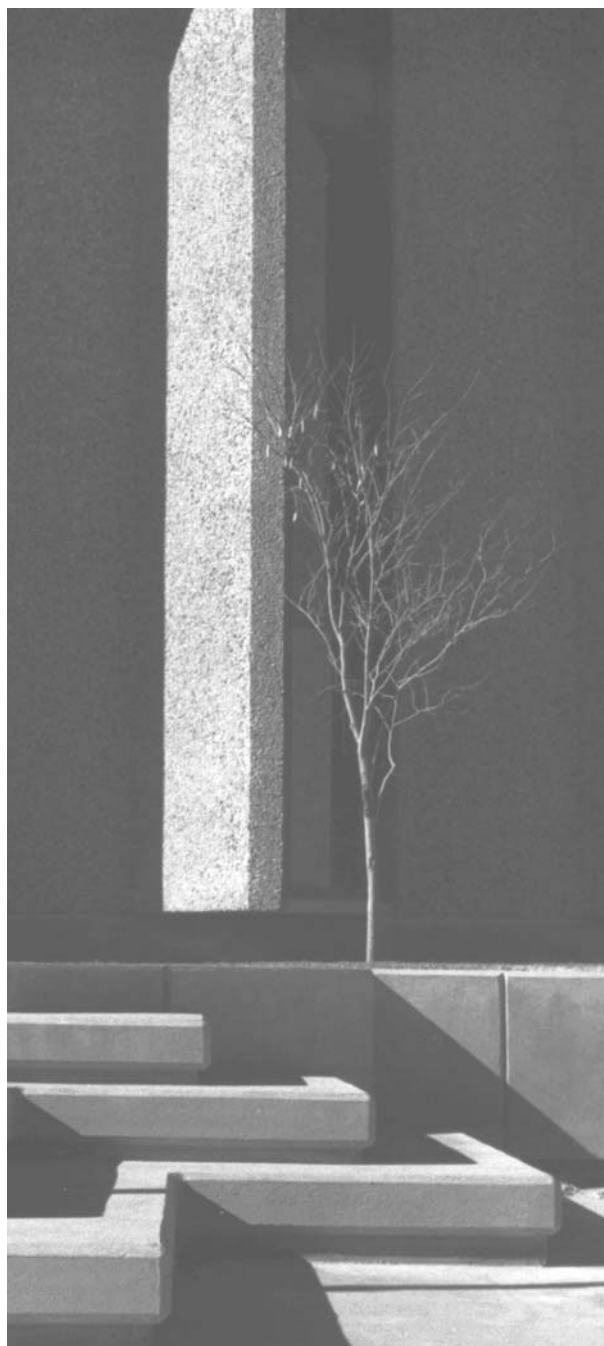
Additional Information:

Information about general student services at the University of New Mexico, including admissions and financial aid, can be obtained by calling

- 1-800-CALL-UNM (225-5866), or
accessing the UNM Website at www.unm.edu.

For General information about the professions in Physical Therapy and a list of accredited schools, contact the American Physical Therapy Association at 1-800-999-2782 or www.apta.org

This brochure contains pertinent information concerning the Physical Therapy Program and is subject to change without written notice or obligation. The Physical Therapy Program cannot be held responsible for students' misinterpretation of information.



INSTRUCTIONS

All prerequisite course work listed in the Division of Physical Therapy brochure must be completed with a grade of C or better by the time the program begins in June.

After completing the prerequisites, there are two mechanisms by which you may improve your GPA. These methods are "grade substitutions" and "course repeat".

Grade Substitution:

Only after completion of the required prerequisite with a grade of C or better, you may elect to substitute a grade from a higher level course in the same category. A higher level course must have the same classification (such as BIO) and have a higher course number than the original prerequisite taken.

Example: Applicant took Biology 121L and received a grade of C. Applicant takes Biology 221, (Introductory Genetics) and receives a grade of A. The A may be used in place of the C.

However, the same number of credits required by the original prerequisite must be maintained.

Example above: Biology 121L is a four credit course and Biology 221 is only a three credit course. Four credits must be used for the GPA calculation. Therefore, one credit of C would be used and three credits of A.

If the higher level course is of equal or greater credit value, then all of the credits required in the original prerequisite course may be replaced with the new grade.

There are two exceptions to this classification/grade substitution rule: Exercise Physiology grades may be substituted for Anatomy and Physiology grades **only**, and Kinesiology grades may be substituted for Biology grades or Anatomy and Physiology grades **only**.

Course Repeat:

If the **same course** is repeated within a five year period, both grades must be included in GPA calculations; therefore you must include all course information for both courses on the grid. If the time period between repeated courses has been longer than five years, then the new grade will be used alone. If the University attended removes the former grade from the official transcript, then you do not need to average the two courses. In this case, use the one grade listed on the transcript for the required course.



Prerequisite Course Work Grid:

Please complete the following page with your prerequisite course work, and determine your GPA (Grade Point Average). Official transcripts will also be checked.

To determine your GPA:

- 1: Multiply the semester hours of the course by the points for the grade received (include + or -) to get course points. If the school attended is on the quarter hour system, convert to semester hours by multiplying by .667.
- 2: At the bottom of the page, enter the total semester hours, and total points.
- 3: Divide total points by total semester hours to get GPA

Indicate courses in progress by writing in progress in the semester hours column and include proof of registration.

Overall GPA:

The cumulative GPA from the transcript on which you received your Bachelor's degree, or if this GPA is less than 3.0, you may average the grades from all college level course work taken to formulate a new overall GPA.

**UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO DIVISION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
PREREQUISITE COURSE WORK**

SCIENCES: Please list the science courses you wish to use for your science GPA calculation. List labs separately if they have a separate number. Indicate grade substitutions on the following grid and the original prerequisite on the grid at the bottom of the page. Only list courses for the number of semester hours requested.

<i>Prerequisite Course</i>	<i>Course Taken/ Substituted</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Term/Year</i>	<i>Semester Hours</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Course Points</i>
General Biology 8 Semester Hours, including lab eg. BIOL 121L, 122L						
Anatomy & Physiology 8 Semester Hours, including lab eg. BIOL 237,238,247L, 248L						
Microbiology 4 Semester Hours eg. BIOL 239L						
General Chemistry 8 Semester Hours including lab eg. CHEM 121L, 122L						
Organic/Biochemistry 4 Semester Hours eg. CHEM 212						
General Physics 8 Semester Hours including lab eg. PHYS 151, 152, 153L, 154L						
Mathematics 3 Semester Hours Above interim. Algebra						
Statistics eg. MATH 121 3 Semester Hours eg. MATH 145						
Nutrition 3 Semester Hours eg. NUTR 244						
Psychology 6 Semester Hours Any but statistics						

If you have substituted a course in the above grid for any of the Prerequisite courses, please complete the following Grade Substitution Grid:

_____ Total semester hours
 _____ Total Points
 Science GPA: _____

Required Prerequisite Course:

<i>Course and Number</i>	<i>University/ Institution</i>	<i>Term/Year</i>	<i>Semester Hours</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Above course and number use for substitution:</i>

Overall GPA: _____



NAME: _____

**UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO DIVISION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
AUTOBIOGRAPHY**

The Admissions committee for the Division of Physical Therapy is interested in learning more about you. Please type your answers to the following questions in the space provided. Do not attach extra pages.

1. What type of experience have you had related to health occupations? What specific physical therapy experience have you had?

<i>Location</i>	<i>Therapist</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Type(s) of Patient(s)</i>	<i>Type(s) of work, skills</i>

Any extra or special experiences you would like to tell us about:

2. To help us know you better as a person, please give us some information about your nonacademic self. (For example, hobbies, preferred activities, what kind of person you think you are, what you like about yourself, anything you would like to include that has not been included elsewhere).

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO DIVISION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
Autobiography - Page 2

3. Please give a brief explanation of why physical therapy is the profession for you and why you are a good match for physical therapy.

4. Please rate yourself in each of the following areas using the scale below. Give examples or comments for all areas.
1=Area most in need of improvement; 2=Needs work or improvement; 3=satisfactory; 4=above average/skilled; 5=outstanding/impressive

A. Commitment to Learning: The ability to self-assess, self-correct and self-direct; to identify needs and sources of learning; the behavior of continually seeking new knowledge and understanding. 1 2 3 4 5
Comments:

B. Interpersonal skills/communication skills: The ability to interact effectively with others; to deal effectively with cultural or ethnic diversity issues; and to communicate effectively for varied audiences and purposes. 1 2 3 4 5
Comments:

C. Use of constructive feedback: the ability to identify sources of and seek out feedback; to effectively use and provide feedback for improving interpersonal interactions. 1 2 3 4 5
Comments:

D. Professionalism: The ability to exhibit appropriate professional conduct and to represent the profession effectively. (Attitude, demeanor and appearance appropriate for setting). 1 2 3 4 5
Comments:

E. Responsibility: The ability to fulfill commitments and be accountable for actions and outcomes. (Dependable, punctual, follows through on commitments, recognizes own limits). 1 2 3 4 5
Comments:

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DIVISION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
ROOM 204 HEALTH SCIENCES AND SERVICES BUILDING
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87131-5661

TO THE STUDENT: Please fill out the information above the double line and give this reference form to someone who can comment on your potential as a physical therapist.

APPLICANT NAME: _____

Last

First

Middle

I am applying to: _____

WAIVER OPTION

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 opens many student records for the student's inspection. The law also permits the student to sign a waiver relinquishing his or her right to inspect letters of recommendation. The applicant's signature below constitutes a waiver: no signature means the student will have the right to read this reference.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

TO THE WRITER OF THE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION: The above named student is making application to the University of New Mexico Division of Physical Therapy. **Return this form to:**

**UNM School of Medicine
Physical Therapy Program
Attn: Kathy Dieruf, Ph.D., P.T., Admissions Chairperson
HSSB Room 204
Albuquerque, NM 87131-5661**

It is very important that you complete all sections of this form. Please confine answers to space provided, and do not attach extra sheets or letters. **This form must be received by January 15.**

I. We are particularly interested in obtaining an accurate profile of the applicant's capability for success as a student and as a professional. Please briefly express in your own words your assessment of this applicant's particular qualifications for physical therapy. Address the individual's mastery of fundamental knowledge of the field, their motivation, ability to think logically, emotional maturity, their self-reliance, independence, social skills and their oral expression. Please also comment on any weaknesses or concerns you have.

Concerns:

(Continued on reverse)

II. Please rate the individual in each of the following areas using the scale below **and give examples when possible**: 1=below average; 2=slightly below average; 3=average; 4=above average/skilled and 5=outstanding/impressive. Mark **Not Observed** if you have not observed the behavior and **NA** if you feel you do not know the applicant well enough to rate him/her in this category.

A. Commitment to Learning: The ability to self-assess, self-correct and self-direct; to identify needs and sources of learning; the behavior of continually seeking new knowledge and understanding.
1 2 3 4 5 Not Observed NA Comments/examples:

B. Interpersonal skills/communication skills: The ability to interact effectively with others; to deal effectively with cultural or ethnic diversity issues; and to communicate effectively and use appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication for varied audiences and purposes. 1 2 3 4 5 Not Observed NA
Comments/examples:

C. Use of Constructive feedback: The ability to identify sources of and seek out feedback; to effectively use and provide feedback for improving interpersonal interactions. 1 2 3 4 5 Not Observed NA
Comments/examples:

D. Professionalism: The ability to exhibit appropriate professional conduct and to represent the profession effectively. (Attitude, demeanor and appearance appropriate for setting) 1 2 3 4 5 Not Observed
NA Comments/examples:

E. Responsibility: The ability to fulfill commitments and be accountable for actions and outcomes. (Dependable, punctual, follows through on commitments, recognizes own limits) 1 2 3 4 5 Not Observed NA
Comments/examples:

III. Recommend Enthusiastically Recommend with Reservation
 Recommend with Confidence Do Not Recommend
 Recommend

NAME: _____

INSTITUTION: _____

POSITION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PROFESSION: PT: _____ OTHER: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DIVISION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
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APPLICANT NAME:

_____ Last _____ First _____ Middle

I am applying to: _____

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_____ Last

_____ First

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INSTITUTION: _____

POSITION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PROFESSION: PT: _____ OTHER: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____