Division of Physical Therapy Admission Requirements

There are two ways to be eligible for application to the Physical Therapy Education Program:

1. Complete a Bachelor’s Degree prior to the start of the PT program with a minimum GPA from all college course work of 2.75 or above. To be competitive, the overall GPA should be 3.2 or above.

2. Complete the junior year requirements in a declared major and meet the University of Kentucky's University Scholars Program criteria to include:
   - Ninety semester hours working toward a Bachelor’s degree. This means you are completing the major requirements and are on track to graduate within one year of the semester you are interviewed for the PT program.
   - Establish an overall GPA of > 3.2
   - Establish a science GPA and major course GPA of > 3.5
   - A combined verbal and quantitative GRE score of 290 or greater is recommended by the Physical Therapy Division. A combined verbal and quantitative score of 300 or higher will be more competitive

Completion of these junior year requirements must be fulfilled by the end of the spring semester in which you apply, if not before.

Specific Physical Therapy Academic Requirements:

1. Two semesters General Physics with labs – equal to that taken by Science majors (8-10 semester credits is required) (At UK: PHY 211 and 213)

2. Two semesters General Chemistry with labs – equal to that taken by Science majors (8-10 semester credits is required) (At UK: CHE 105, 111, 107, 113)

3. Two semesters general Biology, animal biology or zoology with laboratory - equal to that taken by Science majors (8-10 semester credits is required). Botany, ecology or entomology are not acceptable. One combined Anatomy/Physiology course is not acceptable. A two semester sequence of Anatomy and Physiology in the Kentucky Community & Technical College system or any other university is acceptable as ONE of the TWO required biology courses. (At UK: BIO 150 & 151, 152 & 153 or the new sequence of BIO 148,152,155 and one more upper level animal biology course with lab)

Note: The above Science courses must be Science major or pre-med level and be a minimum of four semester credits including the lab portion. Students should have five of the six science prerequisites (courses listed above) completed by the end of the fall semester during which the application is being submitted. Students with all six completed will be more competitive.

Required courses to be completed prior to starting the PT education program:

1. Two semesters of Psychology (general and developmental are preferred)
2. One semester of Statistics -minimum of three credits including:
   - Calculations of central tendency
• Measures of variability
• Hypothesis testing
• Business Statistics and Psychological Statistics are acceptable if they include the above.

3. One semester of Medical Terminology (minimum of two credits, three credits preferred).
4. Oral Communication (three credits)

Note: A grade of “C” or better is required in all the Pre-Professional courses listed above.

If you do not have a Bachelor’s degree and meet the University Scholars academic requirements, you may apply but must complete the following prior to the start of the PT program. This program allows a student to complete both the University of Kentucky General Education and specific professional program requirements in the first three years (about 90 hours) of their college career and then start the professional program. This can potentially reduce the length of education by one year. These may be completed at most universities. The UK writing requirement may need to be completed at UK prior to starting the PT program. If you have questions about whether a course will fulfill these requirements, contact the College of Health Sciences academic advisors (859-218-0546). See the website Advising page.

University of Kentucky UK Core Requirements:
UK changed the general education requirements in 2011. Interested students should check the website for updates. Please access this description of the University of Kentucky’s “general educational” requirements called the UK Core (http://www.uky.edu/UGE/curriculum.html).

If when you apply to the program you are concerned that you will not receive credit for a course, include a course description with your application for consideration of appropriate courses.

Recommended courses:
1. One semester of Comparative or Human anatomy. This is strongly recommended to help prepare you for Human Gross Anatomy in the PT program.
2. Courses in Mathematics and computer keyboarding are recommended among elective course work.
3. College algebra is a perquisite for most college Physics courses.
4. Upper Division Biology, chemistry and Physics courses are recommended to give students a strong science preparation for the PT program.
5. One semester of Exercise Physiology

Graduate Records Exam (GRE): The GRE is required for application and you should request scores be sent to PTCAS and the UK Physical Therapy Program (PT Department Code # 7753). The GRE has changed the exam and scoring system. Starting in 2012, the UK PT program will convert any score from an exam in the older version to the new scoring system. The minimum score for the GRE is 290 on the combined Verbal and Quantitative sections (a score of 305 is more competitive). See the GRE website for more information.

Certifications required:
• Certification in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation for adults, children, and infants by the American heart Association for the Health Professional or the American Red Cross for the Professional Rescuer is required to participate in clinical education which begins in the second year. The Community CPT Course offered by the American Red Cross is not acceptable. It is recommended that the applicant complete this requirement before entering the program.
• Certification in First Aid by the American Red Cross is required in clinical education which begins in the second year. This requirement must be completed before entry to the program.

Volunteer Requirement: Documentation of 50 work or volunteer hours in a physical therapy setting is required. A minimum of 25 hours should be completed in each of two different settings (acute hospital, outpatient clinic, rehabilitation hospital, pediatric setting, etc.). Although 50 is the required minimum, typical
applicants average approximately 100 hours depending on the year of application. A variety of different physical therapy experiences across the age continuum from child to adult and across a continuum of PT delivery models (acute care, rehab, outpatient) will strengthen an application.

Availability to attend a personal interview with the Admissions Committee is expected. Interviews are granted to those applicants determined most qualified by the Admissions Committee. **Interview dates for the admissions process for 2015-2016 are: Lexington campus – February 24 & 26, 2016 and Hazard campus – February 29, 2016.**

**International students** must meet the University of Kentucky graduate school International Teaching Assistant standards regarding English proficiency, have an awarded 4 year university level degree and submit all required application materials in addition to meeting the Physical Therapy Program requirements. This includes a written and spoken English language exam (either the TOEFL with a TOEFL iBT score of 26 or above or the IELTS with a speaking test score of 7 or above). Please see specific information on the web at: [http://www.uky.edu/IntlAffairs/](http://www.uky.edu/IntlAffairs/)

Students should be aware that admissions requirements for the PT Program are constantly being evaluated and may, at any time, be changed. Students preparing to apply to the program are advised to check regularly with the College of Health Sciences academic advisors (859-218-0546) or the program office regarding admission requirements.

**INTERVIEWS:** Students admitted to the professional program are selected on a competitive basis. A limited number of applicants will be invited for interviews prior to the final selection. The Admissions committee will consider the quality of the overall GPA, academic performance in Chemistry, Biology, and Physics (key GPA) and your Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores. The personal interview is evaluated in areas such as:

1. Experience and knowledge of the profession
2. Evidence of initiative and motivation
3. Evidence of leadership and responsibility
4. Communication skills, both verbal and written
5. Demonstrated service orientation
6. Professional potential