About the Program

The mission of the Rehabilitation Sciences Doctoral Program is to fulfill a leadership role in addressing the rehabilitation needs of individuals in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and beyond through research, education, and service. The program is designed to produce research and academic leaders in rehabilitation sciences for the professions of communication disorders, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and athletic training. The University of Kentucky College of Health Sciences offers the program in collaboration with Eastern Kentucky University, Murray State University, and Western Kentucky University.

Students in the program have the unique opportunity to study with professionals from all four disciplines and take courses from faculty from all four institutions. Distance technologies are used to deliver some portions of the program, thus making it more widely accessible.

Why choose a Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Sciences at UK?

The Rehabilitation Sciences Doctoral Program at the University of Kentucky is among the few of its kind in the nation to grant a Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Sciences and has one of the highest percentages of students graduating within five years at the university.

The program includes 38 faculty and 40 full- and part-time students from diverse backgrounds and a range of clinical and higher education experiences.
Application Process & Requirements

Athletic trainers, audiologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech-language pathologists who have a master’s degree and are eligible for certification or licensure in one of the disciplines may apply for admission to the program. Admission is limited to Fall semester. Personal interview is required. Students not eligible for licensure will be considered on an exceptional basis. Students must apply to the Graduate School of the University of Kentucky. Application information may be found on the Rehabilitation Sciences Doctoral Program website at www.uky.edu/chs/phd or by calling 859-218-0497.

Curriculum

The Rehabilitation Sciences Doctoral Program curriculum consists of a minimum of 44 hours of course work. The curriculum is composed of core courses in:

- rehabilitation theory and practice
- experimental research methodologies
- advanced areas of specialization consistent with the student’s discipline and clinical expertise
- a research apprenticeship and teaching apprenticeship