

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS AT WCU INTERESTED IN APPLYING TO  
THE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN PHYSICAL THERAPY**

**(For additional information: [www.wcu.edu/aps/pt](http://www.wcu.edu/aps/pt) - link for Prospective Students)**

1. The applicant must possess a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university. To qualify for Regular Admission to the Graduate School, a student must have earned an overall grade point average (GPA) 2.85. Admission to the program is highly competitive. The average GPA for students accepted into WCU's physical therapy programs has been in the 3.5-3.6 range for the past 5 years.
2. The applicant must have completed the following courses prior to enrollment in the program. No more than two pre-requisite courses may be outstanding at the time of application. All science courses must include a lab.
  - a. **HUMAN ANATOMY and HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY** (6-8 semester hours)  
The anatomy and physiology requirement may be met by a one-semester course in human anatomy and one-semester course in human physiology. A two-semester sequence of combined human anatomy and physiology courses is also acceptable.  
\*BIOL 291 – Human Anatomy (4 hours) AND \*BIOL 292 – Human Physiology (4 hours)
  - b. **CHEMISTRY** (6-8 semester hours)  
Acceptable courses include general chemistry, biochemistry, and organic or inorganic chemistry.  
\*CHEM 132 – Intro to Chemistry (4 hours) AND \*CHEM 133 – Survey of Organic and Biochemistry (4 hours)
  - c. **PHYSICS** (6-8 semester hours)  
Courses must include mechanics, electricity, heat, sound, and light.  
\*PHYS 130/131 (4,4) OR \*PHYS 230/231 – General Physics (4,4)
  - d. **STATISTICS** (3 semester hours)  
One lecture should include descriptive statistics and tests of hypotheses. Qualitative research methodology is recommended but not required. Satisfactory courses in statistics include those taught by departments of psychology, math, education, computer science, and sociology. Statistics courses in departments such as business and health professions services are also acceptable, if they include the content described above.  
\*MATH 170 – Applied Statistics (3 hours)
  - e. **SOCIAL SCIENCES** (6 semester hours)  
Acceptable social science courses can be from a variety of disciplines. Suggested courses include organizational behavior, urban or rural sociology, educational psychology, social psychology, medical history, history of technology, human growth and development, and introductory courses in political science, economics, sociology, history or psychology.
3. The applicant must have the Educational Testing Service ([www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org)) submit an official copy of scores on the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) General test. The Institutional Code for WCU is 5897. Average GRE scores for students accepted into the physical therapy program: 450-517 (Verbal) and 557-605 (Quantitative)
4. The applicant must submit three letters of recommendation. At least one letter is required from a physical therapist and another from an individual who can comment on the applicant's aptitude for graduate study.
5. The applicant must be able to demonstrate that s/he has chosen a career in physical therapy with thoughtful consideration and with a realistic understanding of the scope of physical therapy practice. Volunteer or paid experience with a physical therapist in at least two different clinical settings is strongly recommended.

All applicants to graduate studies at WCU are required to complete a self-managed application packet prior to admission. The application deadline for physical therapy is February 1. The program accepts up to 32 students.