

PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY

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There are two professional physical therapy DPT programs in Colorado and both are in Denver; one at the Colorado University Health Sciences Center www.uchsc.edu/pt/ and the other at Regis University www.regis.edu/rh.asp?page=study.dpt . Both programs require applicants to have a bachelor's degree (not necessarily in biology). CU starts and Regis programs start in fall semester of each year. Most PT professional schools nationally are masters or doctorate degree level and require a bachelor's degree for applicants. Only Master's and DPT programs receive accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). The requirements below are directed to the PT schools in Colorado: CU-Boulder and Regis Univ. If you plan to apply elsewhere, you should check the school's specific requirements.

Requirements for B.S. in Biology with Pre-Physical Therapy emphasis

Course	Course Name	Cr. (45)	√
BIOL 171	Career Planning I	1	
BIOL 191/191L	College Biology I-Botany/Lab	5	
BIOL 192/192L	College Biology II-Zoology/Lab	5	
BIOL 212/212L	Intro to Cellular Biology/Lab	3	
BIOL 301/301L	General Microbiology/Lab	5	
BIOL 350	Mendelian and Population Genetics	2	
BIOL 351	Molecular Biology and Genetics	2	
BIOL 352	Evolutionary Biology and Ecology	3	
BIOL 493	Senior Seminar	1	
BIOL 321/321L	Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy and Lab	5	
BIOL 414/414L	Vertebrate Physiology and Lab	4	
Biology Upper division electives	See Electives List (Cell Biology and Biochemistry recommended)	9	

Science and Math Support Course Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Cr.(35)	√
CHEM121/122/L	General Chemistry I& II with Labs	10	
CHEM 301/302/L	Organic Chemistry I & II with Labs	10	
PHYS 201/202/L	Principles of Physics I & II with Labs	8	
MATH 221	Applied Calculus	4	
MATH 156	Intro to Statistics	3	

Other Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Cr.	√
PSYCH 100	General Psychology	3	
PSYCH 151	Human Development	3	
PSYCH 362	Abnormal Psychology	3	
ENG 101/102	English Composition I & II	6	
SPCOM 103	Speaking and Listening	3	
General Education	History (3), Humanities (6)	9	
EXHP 242	Motor Learning (Recommended)	3	
EXHP 344	Exercise Physiology (Recommended)	3	
EXHP 364	Kinesiology (Recommended)	3	
CIS 100,103, 104	Computer competency (Recommended)	3	
	Total	27-39	

More Details:

For students starting out, biology major is a good choice since it satisfies the requirements for many health careers. For information about PT schools in the U. S., including admission requirements, see the American Physical Therapy Association website (www.apta.org).

A minimum of 45 hours of volunteer or paid clinical experience in 3 physical therapy settings (acute in-patient, out-patient, long term care) including some with hands-on work is required by CU (Regis doesn't specify a set number of hours but does stress that experience is very important.) Most applicants have a large number of field experience hours. See "Physical Therapists" in the yellow pages of the telephone directory for possible local sites.

A satisfactory score on the GRE is required (CU minimum is 1500). Students must maintain a B average in all course work. You also must have a very high-grade average to get into PT school. Most of their acceptances are granted to applicants with a 3.5 GPA or above. All qualified minorities are at least granted an interview. The interview is something you need to prepare for. It is designed to be somewhat stressful. Your writing skills and verbal skills, especially if you are granted an interview, are very important!

Application to PT schools is done through the central application service PTCAS: <http://www.ptcas.org/Overview.html>
See the web sites from each school (above) for specifics on application, supplements and deadlines!

Minimum Requirements for Pre Physical Therapy Preparation (Declared major other than Biology)

Be sure to check individual program requirements, as they vary. *If you plan on attending the University of Colorado (UC) then you must take BIOL 414/L.

Course	Course Name	Cr.	√
BIOL 191/L	College Biology I-Botany/Lab	5	
BIOL 192/L	College Biology II-Zoology/Lab	5	
BIOL 223/L or 321/L	Human Anatomy and Physiology I/Lab	4-5	
BIOL 224/L or 414/L	Human Anatomy and Physiology II/Lab or Vertebrate Physiology/Lab*	4	
BIOL 300/L+ or CHEM 300/L+	Upper Division Science Courses (Cell Bio or Organic/Biochemistry recommended)	3	
CHEM 121/L	General Chemistry I/Lab	5	
CHEM 122/L	General Chemistry II/Lab	5	
CHEM 301/L	Organic Chemistry/Lab (Recommended)	5	
CHEM 302/L	Organic Chemistry II/Lab (Recommended)	5	
CHEM 411	Biochemistry (Recommended)	3	
PHYS 201/L	Principles of Physics I/Lab	4	
PHYS 202/L	Principles of Physics II/Lab	4	
MATH 121	College Algebra	4	
MATH 156	Intro to Statistics (Required by Regis)	3	
PSYCH 100	General Psychology	3	
PSYCH 151	Human Development	3	
PSYCH 362	Abnormal Psychology	3	
ENG 101	English Composition I	3	
ENG 102	English Composition II	3	
EXHP 242	Motor Learning (Recommended)	3	
EXHP 344	Exercise Physiology (Recommended)	3	
EXHP 364	Kinesiology (Recommended)	3	
TOTAL		55-67	

Revised: 7/22/09 hc