

# Winston-Salem State University Doctor of Physical Therapy

## How to Apply



**WINSTON-SALEM**  
STATE UNIVERSITY



# Admission Requirements



Complete a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university prior to the January state date



Submit official GRE scores through PTCAS

No minimum score required

Avg score of successful applicants is a 300



Earned minimum cumulative AND prerequisite GPAs of 3.0

Average GPA of successful applicants is >3.4



Complete 10 of 12 prerequisite courses prior to the priority application deadline

**The CASper Assessment is no longer required.**

# Important Prerequisite Information

- All prerequisites must have been completed in the last 10 years.
- 10/12 prerequisites must be completed by the priority application deadline.
- Must have 11/12 pre-requisite courses completed by May 2025 with ALL pre-requisite courses completed by August 2025.
- All pre-requisite courses **MUST** be earned as a C or better to be accepted toward admission. Grades of C- or below are not accepted.
- A pre-requisite course completed after acceptance must be at or above the B level, or the acceptance will be rescinded.

# Prerequisites

Subject	Required Courses
<b>Biology</b>	General Biology with Lab <b>(3-4 CH)</b>
<b>Upper-level biology</b>	Example Courses: Comparative anatomy, Embryology, Histology, Cell Biology, Biochemistry, Kinesiology, Organic Chemistry, Immunology, Genetics, Exercise Physiology. <b>(3-4 CH)</b>
<b>Chemistry</b>	General Chemistry I with Lab <b>(3-4 CH)</b> General Chemistry II with Lab <b>(3-4 CH)</b>
<b>Physics</b>	General Physical I with Lab <b>(3-4 CH)</b> General Physical II with Lab <b>(3-4 CH)</b>
<b>Human Anatomy and Physiology</b>	Anatomy (human or mammalian) & Physiology I with Lab <b>(3-4 CH)</b> Anatomy (human or mammalian) & Physiology II with Lab <b>(3-4 CH)</b>
<b>Statistics</b>	Must include topics on common statistical measures, descriptive, parametric and non-parametric testing <b>(3 CH)</b>
<b>Behavioral and social sciences</b>	General Psychology <b>(3 CH)</b> <b>Additional (6 CH)</b> from the following: Abnormal Psychology, Development Psychology, Sports Psychology, Ethics, Sociology, Cultural Anthropology, Philosophy, Social Psychology

# Application Deadlines

- **Applicants are encouraged to apply early!**
- **Priority Application Deadline: 1/2/25**
  - **Applications received and verified by this date will be reviewed for priority admissions**
- **Final Application Deadline/Close of Application Cycle: 5/1/25**
  - **Early application is strongly encouraged.**
  - **Verified applications will be continue to be reviewed throughout the spring semester.**
  - **Final seat offers will be sent out between 3/1 and 5/15/2025.**
  - **Qualified applicants who are not offered a seat will be placed on our waitlist.**

# What is a Priority Application Deadline?

- Individuals who have their completed application (including GRE) verified prior to the January 2, 2025, priority deadline will be considered for a first round of offers around January 31, 2025.
- A completed application means that:
  - Official GRE scores have been sent to the University or submitted in PTCAS
  - Application is verified through PTCAS
  - \$50 supplemental fee is submitted
- Individuals who do not receive an offer at that time will be considered with second and third round of offers in the spring.

**The CASper Assessment is no longer required.**

# Where do I apply?

- **PTCAS** = Physical Therapy Centralized Application Service
  - [www.ptcas.org](http://www.ptcas.org)
- **All** applications **must** be submitted through PTCAS
  - **No** application materials can be submitted directly to WSSU
- There is a PowerPoint available on the PTCAS website with detailed application instructions

# Submit the following to PTCAS for verification:

- PTCAS application itself
- All official U.S. Transcripts
- PTCAS Fee
- **Your application cannot be reviewed without all these items!**



# Please be prepared for the following fees:

- **PTCAS** has a **\$155 base fee** for one program designation.
  - When applying to multiple schools, please plan for an **additional fee of \$60 per school**
- **WSSU** also has a **\$50 supplemental fee** paid to the University for application processing
  - Applicants with verified applications will receive instructions from WSSU Graduate Admission on how to submit your supplemental fee.

# Academic Update Period

- You need to update your transcript in PTCAS as you complete additional coursework!
  - Update your pending Fall 2024 grades when complete
- You will receive an email from PTCAS when you are eligible to begin entering your fall courses.
- Send Fall 2024 transcripts to PTCAS ASAP. The academic update is only open for 60 days. After this date, you cannot update transcripts in PTCAS.
- PTCAS will send an updated course history and GPAs to your designated PT programs.

# PTCAS Deadline

- Arrange for your application, transcripts and fee to arrive at PTCAS by the program's deadline AT THE LATEST
- Once received, your file will be in the queue for verification. Processing may take up to 4-5 weeks (6-8 weeks during peak time) once your file is complete (i.e., everything is submitted).

**SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

# Observation Hours

- **25** observation hours are required in at least **one settings**
  - Unique settings include:  
Outpatient Orthopedics, Work Hardening,  
Outpatient Neuro, Inpatient Rehab, Acute Care  
(ie Hospital PT), Pediatrics, Home Health,  
Skilled Nursing
  - However, we **highly encourage** applicants to observe in more than one setting to ensure that you have exposure to the breadth of work performed by physical therapists.

# Letters of Recommendation

- **3 letters of recommendation are required**
  - One must be from a professor (preferably in your major)
  - Two should be from other individuals such as:
    - A physical therapist
    - Another professor
    - Supervisor
    - Employer
    - Health care professional
    - College band director
    - College athletic coach
- **Not accepted: letters from co-workers, family/friends, or others you know only socially**
- **ASK EARLY:** Give these individuals at least 30 days to write and submit your letter.

# Essay

- Start early and answer the writing prompt well.
- **Highlight your WHY.**
  - Communicate well why you want to be a PT and how WSSU DPT can help you get there
  - This may mean that your essay looks a little different at each program to which you apply
- Have someone else proofread your essay **at least 1 time** for grammar, spelling, and clarity **before** submitting (i.e., a writing center or a mentor)

**“Every applicant is unique in their own way, possessing individual qualities, abilities, and backgrounds. What unique traits will you bring to the physical therapy profession that**

# Helpful Tips

- Make sure you meet the minimum requirements prior to applying. We will not review your application if you don't meet the minimum requirements.
- Don't leave sections blank!
- Highlight curricular and extracurricular activities and experiences that show your community involvement, leadership, commitment, and service
  - Examples on the next slide...
- **Do not count experiences twice.**
  - If you shadowed a PT for observation hours, do not count this as community service/volunteering

# Helpful Tips: Experiences to Highlight

- Community service (both within PT and outside of PT)
- Leadership experience within clubs, collegiate athletics, band/choir, church, sorority/fraternity, charitable organization
- Prior military experience
- Collegiate extracurricular activities (band, choir, sports)
- Bilingualism
- Teaching assistantship and/or research activities
- Master's degree work
- Involvement with clubs at school
- Awards and scholarships received
- Work in physical therapy
- Work outside of physical therapy. If you worked to support yourself in undergrad find a way to highlight that.



# For more information on WSSU DPT:

**Chair, Admissions  
Committee**  
Jennifer Martin, PT, DPT, MS  
[martinjg@wssu.edu](mailto:martinjg@wssu.edu)

- Contact:
  - WSSU DPT Admissions  
[dptadmissions@wssu.edu](mailto:dptadmissions@wssu.edu)
  - Or, visit our info page at [PTCAS](#)