

# 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 stated 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- A pre-requisite course completed after acceptance must be at or above the B level, or the acceptance will be rescinded.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 continue to be reviewed throughout the spring semester.**
  - **Final seat offers will be sent out within two weeks following the final application deadline (5/1/25 - 5/15/25)**
  - **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 **(ETS Code: 7635)**
  - 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 via the Graduate Application
- 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
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- **Your application cannot be reviewed without all these items!**



# Please be prepared for the following fees:

- **PTCAS** has a **\$170 base fee** for one program designation.
  - When applying to multiple schools, please plan for an **additional fee of \$70 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 will help you to be successful?"**

# 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

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- Contact:
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  - Or, visit our info page at [PTCAS](#)