

INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR FALL 2010 ADMISSION

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Department of Physical Therapy offers a professional Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) education program and is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). The Department seeks applicants who will contribute to the profession and society, and particularly encourages applicants who will increase the cultural and ethnic diversity of physical therapy practitioners. The prerequisites and admission requirements described apply to the 2009-2010 application cycle for Fall 2010 admission (to the Class of 2013) and are subject to change for later admission dates. Application forms and documents are valid for the year of issue only.

The application deadline is October 15, 2009.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY

- To be considered for acceptance into the physical therapy program, the applicant, **by October 15, 2009**, must complete the application online at www.ptcas.org, submit the required supplemental materials detailed under **Application Instructions** and submit evidence of the following: **Completion of the GRE General Test** after January 1, 2004, and before October 15, 2009. The GRE reporting codes are: Institution code 1851 and Department code 619. See **GRE Scores under Application Instructions** for full information.
- Bachelor's degree** or reasonable plan for completion before entering the program
- Three physical therapy clinical experiences.** These experiences must be complete and documented by October 15, 2009, for an application to be eligible. See **Clinical Experiences under Application Instructions** for full information.
- Successful completion of course prerequisites** as follows: a *grade of C or better*, at the time of application, or by the end of Fall 2009 semester, in a minimum of five of the science prerequisites, or four semester courses in science prerequisites and the calculus course.
- A reasonable **plan for completion of remaining course prerequisites.** (*All course prerequisites must be complete before entering the program.*)

Course Prerequisites: Prerequisites are expressed in terms of semester courses. Three quarter courses are regarded as the equivalent of two semester courses. Ideally, required science and math courses will have been taken within five years of application. Science and math courses taken before that time will be considered as meeting requirements for prerequisites but may weaken an applicant's potential for admission. Counseling is available; see **Advising**.

Science prerequisites	(must have lab components and qualify for majoring in the sciences)	Other prerequisites
general biology		applied statistics
human anatomy*		calculus**
human physiology*		introductory psychology
two semester courses of chemistry		developmental or abnormal psychology
two semester sequence of general physics		

* Or a year of human anatomy/physiology combined.

** Pre-calculus does not satisfy this prerequisite. Calculus for mathematics, engineering, or natural science is preferred, but business calculus is accepted.

Advanced Placement credit courses must appear on a college transcript to be considered for satisfaction of a prerequisite.

For more information and descriptions of the prerequisite courses, please go to www.ahs.uic.edu/pt, click on Doctor of Physical Therapy Program, click on Applying (in left column), and click on Prerequisites.

OTHER INFORMATION

Criteria for Application Evaluation: Applicants are evaluated according to a set of criteria predictive of ability to succeed in the physical therapy program and become licensed physical therapists. The criteria include grade point averages, writing ability, academic preparation, and the applicant's profile (work history, talents and abilities, honors received, community service, etc.). Claims of extenuating circumstances, as noted in the PTCAS application, and efforts since your last application (if you are a re-applicant) will be considered. The Department of Physical Therapy seeks academically well-qualified students whose talents and background bring diversity to the program. Any applicant who submits a complete application by the deadline date showing evidence of minimum requirements will be considered. Due to the large number of applicants, however, not all will be offered admission into the program.

Application Status Notification: Letters advising students of their acceptance status are issued by the Department of Physical Therapy. The target date for notification of the admissions decision is January 15th. Later notification is possible.

Advising and Information Session: Advising seminars are held in the Department of Physical Therapy, 1919 W. Taylor, 4th floor, the first Friday of every month at 1:00 pm. Seminars are also scheduled at 5:00 pm generally on one Monday each month. Dates are available on our website www.ahs.uic.edu/pt (click on Doctor of Physical Therapy Program, click on Applying in left column, and click on >> More under Pre-Admissions Advising). No appointment is required. The application process, evaluation criteria, and prerequisite course information are discussed at these sessions. Individual counseling is available at the conclusion of the seminar for those who have attended. Individual application status information is not available at these sessions.

Urban Health Program: UIC's Urban Health Program (UHP) represents a major effort to increase minority student enrollment and to improve health care services in Chicago's under served communities. As one of its services, the College of Applied Health Sciences' UHP staff offers prospective students assistance in planning for the completion of prerequisite courses or in the completion of the application for admission. For further information: Urban Health Program, College of Applied Health Sciences (M/C 528), University of Illinois at Chicago, 1919 W. Taylor, Chicago, IL 60612. Phone 312-355-3011.

Immunizations: Illinois law requires incoming new students to document immunity to measles, rubella, mumps, and tetanus/diphtheria. In addition to this requirement, as a health professions student, additional documentation of polio immunity and tuberculosis status is also required. Documentation of immunity to Hepatitis B or a signed waiver of liability for contracting Hepatitis B is required. Additional immunizations may be required by physical therapy internship sites before students are allowed access to patients. The costs for these immunizations are the responsibility of the student and may not be covered by the student's health plan.

CPR and First Aid certification: Since applicants must have current Health Care Provider CPR and First Aid certification before performing field work, it is recommended that initial certification be obtained before entering the program.

Students with Disabilities: The College of Applied Health Sciences encourages and accommodates the participation of persons with disabilities in all its programs. Please advise the Department of your specific needs upon admission.

Tuition and Fees: Tuition and fees will be set by the University of Illinois Board of Trustees. The schedule of Professional Tuition and Fees is available at www.uic.edu/depts/oar/rr/tuition.shtml. Tuition and fees are adjusted annually.

Additional program costs: The cost of required text books, course materials, and supplies is estimated at \$3,000 for the three academic years, in addition to tuition and fees. Students may be assigned to physical therapy internships which require additional transportation or housing costs. These costs are the responsibility of the student. (Students' input is considered regarding out of town assignments.)

Financial Aid: The Office of Financial Aid Office (OFSA) accepts applications for Financial Aid after January 1. Priority consideration is given to those applications received by March 1, and aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications for financial aid may be submitted prior to notice of acceptance in the program. Contact OSFA at 312-996-3126.

Housing: Contact Campus Housing 312-355-6400 for information. The Physical Therapy program is on the west campus. The west campus dorms are SSR, SRH, and WRH. A housing option available for health profession students is the Wellness Floor in SRH. Information on this is available by calling 312-355-6300.

Change of Mailing Address, Email Address or Phone Number: Notify, in writing or by email, both the University of Illinois at Chicago Office of Admissions and Records and the Department of Physical Therapy of any change in your address, email address or phone number.

Licensing: Physical Therapy is a licensed profession. Successful completion of the professional physical therapy program is required to apply for licensure. The following questions appear on the Illinois application for the licensing exam and are provided for your information. These questions are not a part of this application and are not to be answered here.

- 1) Have you been convicted of any criminal offense in any state or in federal court (other than minor traffic violations)? *If yes, attach a certified copy of the court records regarding your conviction, the nature of the offense and date of discharge, if applicable, as well as a statement from the probation of parole office.*
- 2) Have you ever had or do you now have any disease or condition that interferes with your ability to perform the essential functions of your profession, including any disease or condition generally regarded as chronic by the medical community, i.e. (1) mental or emotional disease or condition; (2) alcohol or other substance abuse; (3) physical disease or condition that interferes with your ability to practice your profession? *If yes, attach a detailed statement, including an explanation whether or not you are currently under treatment.*
- 3) Have you been denied a professional license or permit, or privilege of taking an examination, or had a professional license or permit disciplined in any way by any licensing authority in Illinois or elsewhere? *If yes, attach a detailed explanation.*
- 4) Have you ever been discharged other than honorably from the armed service or from a city, county, state or federal position? *If yes, attach a detailed explanation.*

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The following elements comprise a complete application. Enclose all materials in a single envelope addressed to:

Department of Physical Therapy Admissions (M/C 516)
College of Applied Health Sciences
University of Illinois at Chicago
1919 W. Taylor, Chicago, IL 60612

Electronically submitted applications made to PTCAS (www.ptcas.org) on or before **October 15, 2008**, in combination with complete supplemental materials postmarked on or before **October 15, 2009**, or hand-delivered by 4:00 p.m. on **October 15, 2009**, will be considered for admission.

Professional Application: Complete the application at www.ptcas.org.

Application fee: Complete UIC Application Fee submission form and submit the fee in a check or money order in U.S. currency made payable to the University of Illinois. The application fee for admission to the University is \$40 for a domestic or immigrant applicant and \$50 for an international applicant. The fee is nonrefundable.

Course Outline: List prerequisite courses taken, a plan for completing remaining prerequisites, and the requested degree information.

Letters of Recommendation: Submit at least two and no more than four letters of recommendation on PTCAS. Do not send any as supplemental materials; only letters submitted through PTCAS will be accepted.

The letter of recommendation should attest to the character, personal qualities or life experiences that make the applicant suitable for a career in physical therapy. Letters from fellow students or family members are not accepted. Letters from physical therapists and from persons with knowledge of the applicant's academic and interpersonal capabilities are particularly desirable.

Clinical Experiences: You will be required to complete verification on PTCAS that you have completed three physical therapy experiences. The three required physical therapy experiences may be observation, volunteer, or work experiences. The

experiences must be at least 15 hours each and be documented by different physical therapists licensed in the United States and practicing in differently-owned facilities. A lengthy experience at one or two facilities does not waive the requirement for the other experience(s).

In prior years, three Documentation of Clinical Experience forms were to be included in the supplemental application package. However this year all verification will be handled through PTCAS. Please read and follow the "PT Observation hours" instructions on PTCAS thoroughly. If you have previously had our UIC clinical documentation forms signed, PTCAS will accept these if you staple them to the PTCAS form for that experience and mail them to PTCAS. **Do not mail an these forms to UIC.**

For re-applicants, documentations of Clinical Experience from previous applications are retained for one application cycle. Please check with DPT Admissions Director, Demetra John by e-mail at demetra@uic.edu if you wish to re-use your documentations from a previous application. If the documentations are no longer available, your clinical experiences will need to be re-documented. If re-documentation cannot be obtained, the experience will have to be replaced with another.

GRE Scores: The GRE General Test which includes Verbal, Quantitative, and Analytical Writing scores, must be taken after January 1, 2004, and before October 15, 2009. The reporting codes are: Institution code 1851 and Department code 619.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL, IMMIGRANT, NON CITIZEN APPLICANTS:

College level course work completed outside of the United States may be documented with a subject analysis evaluation from Educational Credentials Evaluators (ECE) for advising purposes. UIC does not use World Education Services (WES). You may include an official evaluation in a sealed envelope from ECE in the application packet. ECE applications are available online at: www.ece.org. **However, we do not guarantee that the UIC Office of Admissions will accept the ECE as an acceptable equivalency. UIC will conduct its own evaluation.** International applicants have to provide an original transcript in the native language AND a translated copy in English. They DO NOT have to provide an evaluation of the transcript. They can use a translation agency (such as ATA) for a referral to a certified translator if their institution doesn't provide an English translation, but UIC requires a verbatim, literal translation, NOT an evaluation of equivalencies, even if an ECE evaluation is included.

Course work completed outside the United States as part of a study abroad program and that appears on the transcript of a U.S.-based college does not require the evaluation described above.

Evidence of Immigration and Naturalization Service Documentation: Applicants granted immigrant, permanent resident, temporary resident, refugee, parolee or conditional entrant status must attach a clear photocopy (front and back) of their Alien Registration Card and/or other appropriate INS documentation with the Professional Application. Submission of these documents does not guarantee their acceptability. Additional documentation and/or review of original documents may be required.

Evidence of English Competency: Students who have completed the majority of their education in a country where English is not the native language or the language of instruction must submit to the Office of Admissions and Records official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) administered by the Educational Testing Service, Princeton, NJ 08540 or the Michigan English Language Battery (MELAB) offered by the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109. Minimum scores: TOEFL 550 (paper based test) or 213 (computer based test), MELAB 84. Test scores may not be more than two years old. If a student has completed at least two years of full-time transferable study at the secondary or collegiate level in the United States, the Office of Admission may waive this requirement.

Evidence of Financial Support: Students who require an F-1/J-1 visa must submit evidence with the Professional Application Leaflet of financial support through (a) a notarized Declaration of Finances Form (available from the Office of Admissions and Records); (b) Immigration and Naturalization Services Affidavit of Support Form (1-134) executed by the sponsor; or (c) a notarized affidavit of support executed by the sponsor. All forms must be notarized and accompanied by a copy of a bank statement showing proof of sufficient funds in US dollars (checking accounts are unacceptable).

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Enclose the materials listed below in a single envelope addressed to:
Department of Physical Therapy Admissions (M/C 516)
College of Applied Health Sciences
University of Illinois at Chicago
1919 W. Taylor, Chicago, IL 60612

Please do not submit these materials until you have e-submitted your PTCAS application.

Complete application packets **postmarked** on or before **October 15, 2009**,
or hand delivered by 4:00 pm on October 15th, 2009,
will be considered for admission.

	Complete PTCAS application by October 15, 2009
	Submit the following according to the instructions above:
	Application Fee and UIC Application fee submission form
	Course Outline
	Evidence of Immigration and Naturalization Service Documentation, Evidence of English Competency, and Evidence of Financial Support, <i>required of International, Immigrant or Non Citizen Applicants</i>