Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in our Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program at Temple University. We are located on urban campus in the heart of Philadelphia! We are currently on the dynamic health science campus, but will be moving to a new, state-of-the-art building on the main campus in 2017.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at Temple University offers:

- A nationally ranked, entry-level, 2 and ¾ year DPT degree,
- A recently opened library and clinical simulation laboratory,
- Dual degree programs including:
  - DPT/PhD with a concentration in Neuromotor Science
  - DPT/Masters in Urban Bioethics
- A student-focused curriculum which includes international service opportunities, didactic classroom experience, laboratories, clinical internships, case studies, community service opportunities, and research opportunities,
- Nationally and internationally known research and clinical faculty,
- Opportunities for students to partner in research,
- The North Broad PT Center which is a free physical therapy center designed to assist the community of North Philadelphia,
- An annual International Service Trip opportunity occurs in July/August and allows interested students to provide service to underserved populations in Guatemala,
- Additional opportunities to provide charitable service to the local poor,
- Clinical experiences at top-rated U.S. hospitals and medical facilities.
Application Process:

- Two-Step Process:
  1. Submit all application materials through the Physical Therapy Centralized Application Service (PTCAS).
  2. Complete the Temple Graduate School supplemental application.
     - Your application for admission will not be considered if this step is omitted.

Timing of application:

PTCAS application cycle opens in July each year. The current admissions cycle begins July. We encourage you to apply early. Temple uses a rolling admissions process; we review applications as they are received. Applications received after our class is filled are only considered for the wait list. Early Decision candidates need to have all application materials submitted by mid-August (check PTCAS website for specific date). The general deadline for applications is November 1.

- It is strongly recommended applications be submitted to PTCAS no later than October 1 so the verification process can be completed by November 1.

Additional Information:

The 3-year full-time DPT Program has been recently (2015) received the maximum 10-year accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). Admission to the doctoral program is based on many factors including:

- academic performance,
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores,
- knowledge of the profession,
- professional behavior,
- written essay and personal statements,
- letters of reference.

- The admissions committee will review the applications and invite the most qualified applicants are invited for an interview.
**Academic Metrics (GPA and GRE scores):**

Applicants are encouraged to ensure their academic metrics – GPAs and GRE scores – are near the averages for admitted students. Those averages can be obtained [here](#). A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required for consideration. GPAs of admitted students range from a 3.0 to a 4.0.

Additional consideration will be given to applicants that have completed post-baccalaureate education.

**GRE information:** Applicants must take the [GRE](#) and submit GRE scores to PTCAS directly. This process is completed by supplying ETS (the parent company of the GRE) with the Temple University code number (7581) that allows GRE scores to be sent directly to PTCAS. PTCAS will verify your scores and update your application.

Temple University receives your GRE scores with your PTCAS application. If the PTCAS application is submitted prior to the applicant sitting for the GRE, a revised application will be sent to Temple from PTCAS containing the GRE results. GRE now permits applicants who have taken the GRE multiple times to choose which past scores they wish to send to which school. GRE’s have a 7 year currency window.

**Additional Information:**

Temple University adheres to the philosophy of diversity and equal opportunity for all in its academic programs and activities. Consequently, Temple prohibits discrimination based on race, religion, color, sex, disability, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, age and veteran status. Any concerns about the admissions process should be forwarded to Dr. Emily Keshner, Department Chair, at ekeshner@temple.edu

Please note the physical therapy program requires students to complete clinical/field education experiences at facilities both on and off the University campus. These placements will require criminal background checks, Act 33/34 clearances and perhaps a drug screen. The results of these requirements may limit and potentially eliminate placement options which can, in turn, result in an inability to meet graduation requirements. Additionally, conviction of a misdemeanor, felony, or felonious or illegal act may prevent you from becoming credentialed and/or licensed to practice physical therapy.

You can learn more about us, and check for changes and news at [Temple University Department of Physical Therapy](#). We can also be found on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Additional useful information can be found at these links:

- [Overview of the Admissions Process](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Description of Required Courses for Admission](#)
- [Link to the Temple University Supplemental Application](#)
Below you will find a brief summarization bullet list of materials that you will be required to complete and submit as part of your application, who should receive those materials, and how the materials should be submitted.

- **PTCAS (Electronic Completion)**
  - PTCAS Application and Fee
  - GRE results through Temple University code (7581)

- **PTCAS (Regular Mail Submission)**
  - Copies of Official Transcripts of all Colleges and Universities attended

- **Temple University (Electronic Submission)**
  - Temple University Supplemental Application and Fee

**Summary:** The PTCAS Application is completed online. Prior to submitting the application you will be assessed a charge which is dependent on how many programs you are applying to. PTCAS will prompt you to mail (regular mail) a copy of your official transcripts their offices. Applicants are also required to electronically complete the Temple University Supplemental Application and Fee. The fee is $60.00. Lastly, GRE results must be forwarded to PTCAS. Each school has a unique reference number. Temple’s is 7581. Questions about the PTCAS process should be directed to ptcasinfo@ptcas.org

Again, please do not hesitate to call or email me with questions. Thank you for considering Temple University for your professional education. We look forward to reviewing your application through PTCAS.

Warmest Regards,

**Scott A. Burns, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT**
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OVERVIEW OF THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

The Doctor of Physical Therapy admissions process involves several steps.

- Students should submit all application materials through PTCAS with the exception of the Temple University Supplemental Application Form and Fee.

- Students should be aware that application fees exist for both PTCAS and Temple University. PTCAS fees are submitted electronically at the time of application; however, Temple University also requires a separate $60 application fee submitted electronically.

- Once fully completed, all application materials received by PTCAS may be electronically accessed by Temple University. The Temple University Supplemental Application Form and Fee must be submitted for the application to be considered fully completed.

- Members of the Departmental Admissions Committee then review files of all applications to make a decision as to whether an offer to be interviewed will be extended.

- The Temple University Doctor of Physical Therapy Program does not require a “minimal” GRE score in order to apply. Accepted applicants must have earned a 3.0 cumulative GPA by the start of doctoral classes.

- Members of the Departmental Admissions Committee will read and score essays and references. All required admissions data will be evaluated and well-rounded, well-qualified applicants will be invited for an interview. Please note that interviews are not automatic but by invitation only.

- Interviews will be conducted in a group format. The interview will begin in September for early decision applicants and November/December for other applicants. The interview affords an opportunity for the applicant to ask questions of the faculty and students, as well as an opportunity for the faculty to get to know the applicant. On interview days, current PT students in the professional program will be available to give tours for the interviewees and to answer questions from a student’s perspective. Scores from interviews are then added to the composite information to obtain a final rank of all candidates. The process is usually completed within three weeks following the interview.
The most highly qualified individuals are then recommended to the Dean of the College of Public Health for acceptance into the program or for placement on the wait list. This recommendation by the Department will be shared with the applicant. The Dean will then formally accept the applicant into the program, invite him or her to join the waiting list, or notify the individual of rejection.

To hold a place in the class, individuals accepted into the program must submit a $500 non-refundable deposit (credited to the tuition) as soon as possible following the Letter of Acceptance but no later than January 15th. Failure to communicate intentions in a timely manner regarding accepting a position in the class may result in forfeiting your seat to another qualified applicant. The deposit will be utilized to offset first-semester tuition.

Coursework in the DPT Program begins each year during the summer II session of the Temple University academic calendar that begins approximately the last week of June of each year. Students will take 6 credits during this initial summer II session and will then take a total of 16 credits during the subsequent fall semester.

In order to be eligible for any type of federal financial aid during your summer II enrollment that begins in July, you MUST complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by June 30 of the year coursework begins.

You can do so at www.fafsa.ed.gov.
ADDITIONAL MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR A COMPLETE APPLICATION

- All applicants are required to provide scores from the general test of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). All applicants are required to take the GREs. For more information please write to:

  Graduate Record Examinations
  Education Testing Service
  P.O. Box 6000
  Princeton, NJ 08541-6000

  Website:  http://www.ets.org

When reporting scores please use the following codes:

  Temple University Health Sciences Center
  Institutional Code: 7581

Please note: Effective April, 2011 the GRE scores are part of the PTCAS application; scores will no longer be sent directly to Temple. Applicant GRE’s will be forwarded directly to PTCAS and scanned into the application. GRE’s taken prior to April or submitted with the older code will be forwarded to Temple.

- Along with the PTCAS application and the GRE’s, Temple University also requires every applicant to complete the Supplemental Application Form. The Supplemental Application and fee should be completed at or prior to the time of the completion of the PTCAS application. Once the University receives the PTCAS application, the supplemental application is attached and the packet is sent to the Admission’s Committee for review.
The Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Temple University is dedicated to providing education and professional development for students as they become competent physical therapists. Graduates are expected to function as autonomous practitioners and to provide a full range of physical therapy services. Individuals who complete the program are eligible to sit for the National Physical Therapy Examination and enter into the profession of physical therapy. Therefore, all students admitted to the program MUST be able to demonstrate the following essential functions with or without reasonable accommodations**.

**Professionalism**
Students must demonstrate the ability to act professionally in any environment, including stressful environments or during impending deadlines. Acting professionally includes, but is not limited to, practicing safely, ethically and legally, demonstrating responsibility for lifelong professional growth and development, advocating for the health and health care needs of patients/clients, coping in difficult situations, appropriate hygiene, and appropriate affective behaviors.

**Cognition**
Students must demonstrate the cognitive abilities to appropriately communicate their understanding of their academic knowledge and preparation, identify cause-effect relationships in the clinic, develop and progress patient goals/plans, respond appropriately to emergency situations, apply universal precautions, and apply teaching and learning theories in health care.

**Judgment**
Students must demonstrate sound judgment with an understanding of the rationale and justification, by listening and responding with appropriate verbal and nonverbal responses, in classroom, laboratory and clinical settings.

**Communication**
Students must demonstrate the clear, effective and efficient ability to understand and utilize the written and oral English language as well as listening and responding appropriately to verbal and nonverbal forms of communication.

**Mobility**
Students must demonstrate the physical ability to sufficiently and safely move between and within clinical environments and maneuver under conditions of environmental constraints.
**Sensorimotor**
Students must demonstrate adequate sensorimotor skills to provide safe and effective physical therapy examinations (e.g. palpation, auscultation, etc.), physical therapy interventions (e.g. range of motion activities, patient/client guarding, assisting with ambulation and transfers, etc.) and emergency treatment to patients (e.g. monitor alarms, monitor vital signs, perform CPR, etc.) efficiently and reliably.

**Anyone requiring accommodations must contact Disability Resources and Services at: (215) 204-1280 in 100 Ritter Annex (Main Campus).**