College of Public Health

Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)

Recommended Timeline for Applying
RECOMMENDED TIMELINE FOR APPLICATION TO TEMPLE UNIVERSITY
DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM

The PTCAS begins accepting applications in July of each year. To facilitate the application process, below is a recommended timeline of Temple University DPT program applicant activities:

**February- April:**

- Identify 5-7 DPT programs you wish to apply to. The typical applicant applies to ~ 6 schools. Information about the requirements of each program may be found at PTCAS or at their individual websites. Please be aware that pre-requisite course requirements vary from program to program.

- Research each program and their requirements including observation hours, service, essays, references.

**CHOOSING THE RIGHT DPT PROGRAM FOR YOU:**

*What are some of the criteria I should use to determine if a particular DPT program is right for me?*

- Undergraduate programs are chosen based upon location, reputation, cost, friendships and so forth. Graduate programs are chosen primarily based upon two criteria: the curriculum and the faculty. All DPT programs are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education but are free to concentrate and order content in a way that fits the individual program's mission. Examine the curricula of programs you are considering and match this against your long-term clinical goals. Also, visit the faculty websites. Carefully read each faculty member's clinical, research, teaching and volunteer interests. Identify potential mentors and role models. Visit schools and talk with the faculty. You will be investing much time and resources over the next three years; you want to make the correct choice.

- Other criteria to evaluate include the number and scheduling of clinical internships, the number of adjuvant learning experiences (clinical laboratories, anatomy laboratory, and clinical simulation laboratory) available to the student therapist, a clinical and research faculty model, residencies, the number of faculty who are board certified clinical specialists, the availability of elective classes, recidivism (program failure rate) and board passing rates.

- Register for and take the Graduate Record Examination and direct the scores to Temple University/PTCAS Institutional Code 7581
• Compare your scores to the average scores of admitted applicants that is located on the specific program pages on PTCAS.

**June:**

• Identify two references: a professor who instructed you and a physical therapist with whom you have worked or volunteered. Notify the references to expect an online reference form from PTCAS in July.

• Request two (2) official copies of your transcripts from all the undergraduate institutions you have attended. Have these mailed to your home.

• Retake the Graduate Record Examination if needed.

**July:**

• Log onto PTCAS and begin the application process. You will need to open one copy of each university transcript to enter your course information and grades into the application. The unopened transcripts will be mailed by the applicant to PTCAS (the address is on the application) to verify the validity of your application. Since Temple University has rolling admissions for the DPT program, submit your application as soon as possible. Do not forget to complete the Temple University Supplemental Application. Applications will not be reviewed unless both the PTCAS and Supplemental applications are complete.

• Re-inform your reference persons that they will receive a request from PTCAS to submit their references on line. PTCAS will email them a reference form.

**August - September:**

• Interviews begin with early decision candidates. Early decision candidates must have their applications complete by August. The DPT program will interview qualified applicants and render a decision by late September.

• If you have not yet completed your Bachelor’s degree, continue to work hard and maintain good grades. These grades will eventually become part of the application. PTCAS will cue applicants via email when to submit these grades electronically (as an application addendum).

• Once your application to PTCAS is complete, it will be electronically sent to Temple University. The Admissions Department will mate the PTCAS application and the supplemental application and fee. You will receive an email with a TUID number that will allow you to follow the process of your application online.

**November**

• Application deadline in November
• Additional interviews will be in late November or early December

**December - January:**

• Decisions regarding acceptance, waitlist or denial are rendered.

• Deposit is required by January 15 for accepted applicants. If deposit is not received by this date, the offer of admissions will be rescinded and the seat will be offered to another qualified applicant.

**June:**

• Classes begin.