



## HEALTH AND REHABILITATION SCIENCES

# Physical Therapy Program Director

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Inequities and health disparities are a major public health threat and demand a concerted, interdisciplinary effort. At the College of Public Health, we dedicate ourselves to public health in all its parameters, from epidemiology to nursing, from social work to rehabilitation sciences. Social justice has always driven our work: This understanding that individual outcomes are intricately tied to the larger systems we inhabit is the foundation of our college.

Temple University College of Public Health's interprofessional culture fosters collaboration both within and outside the college. We value differences among our faculty and believe that we can better serve and understand our Philadelphia community through the diversity of our individual faculty and our disciplines. Join us in our mission to develop progressive, compassionate researchers, practitioners, and clinicians to build a better tomorrow, grounded in creating the environments and health infrastructure that will make us the healthiest nation.

**POSITION AND RESPONSIBILITIES.** The program director (PD) for physical therapy is responsible for setting the vision for the program to support the dynamic nature and needs of the field. The PD is responsible for the integrity and day-to-day maintenance of the program; program assessments and performance monitoring; periodic reporting; and adherence to college, university, and CAPTE policies and procedures. They serve as the point of contact for questions and concerns from applicants and prospective, admitted, current, and graduated students; they also address any issues with retention, grade grievances, disciplinary action, and satisfaction. PDs attend monthly graduate council meetings hosted by the associate dean for academic affairs; work in conjunction with the department's student service coordinators for course scheduling, room assignments, graduation clearances, and verification of course completion; and support the program's admissions committee for recruitment activities, application processes, and orientation. The PD provides recommendations to the department chair on faculty assignments, workload, annual performance, adjunct faculty appointments, staff hiring, and contract renewals. The PD should be prepared to lead with innovative strategies that meet the changing demands of the field, workforce, and accrediting body, developing collaborative relationships across departments, disciplines, and external partners that advance the program's and College of Public Health's mission.

**QUALIFICATIONS.** Candidates will have a doctor of physical therapy degree and an active unrestricted physical therapy license in Pennsylvania (or will be eligible for Pennsylvania licensure). Candidates must also have an academic doctoral degree (e.g., PhD, ScD, DSc, EdD) or be a candidate for completion by September 2024. A minimum of at least five years of higher education experience full-time as a core faculty member in a CAPTE-accredited entry level physical therapy program is also required. Candidates for the program director position should demonstrate a successful record of leadership with academic administrative responsibility, interprofessional collaboration, course or program enhancements, faculty mentorship, program assessment experience, and external recognition for service to the profession. As faculty, candidates are expected to have demonstrated excellence in teaching and contributions to both scholarship and service. As a position of leadership, we would prefer that candidates' achievements to date would be at a level that warrants consideration for the rank of associate or full professor of instruction at Temple University. We seek a passionate professional committed to academic leadership in training the next generation of practitioners and leaders in physical therapy. We value diversity and seek individuals committed to inclusivity in collaboration and interdisciplinary research.

**THE DEPARTMENT.** The Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (HRS) is unlike any other similar department in the country. Located on a single urban campus in Philadelphia, the department's faculty provide instruction in 13 degree programs including clinical doctorates in athletic training (post-professional), occupational therapy (entry-level and post-professional), and physical therapy; a doctor of philosophy in neuromotor science; master of science degrees in athletic training, recreational therapy, and neuromotor science; and undergraduate degrees in health professions, health studies, recreational therapy, kinesiology, and exercise and sport science. HRS also works closely with disciplines in other departments including public health, nursing, social work, and communication sciences and disorders. The department is at the forefront of developing innovative academics and research aimed at promoting overall health and well-being; preventing injury and disability; and helping those with illness, injuries, physical, psychological, intellectual, or cognitive disabilities lead full, satisfying, and meaningful lives.

**THE COLLEGE.** Devoted to an interprofessional environment for education, research, and practice, the CEPH-accredited College of Public Health consists of academic units in the public health disciplines, health professions, and the School of Social Work, enrolling approximately 4,200 students. The college's research aims to understand the fundamental factors that affect the health and well-being of individuals and populations by examining health problems through foundational research, policy and practice, and the development and dissemination of evidence-based interventions. We focus on social determinants of health and social justice with strengths in cancer, obesity, HIV, substance abuse, mental illness, mobility research, cognition and language, developmental disabilities, organ transplantation and aging. College research is funded by the National Institutes of Health, Department of Defense, National Science Foundation, Gates Foundation, other major private foundations, and state and federal agencies. The college is home to the Center for Obesity Research and Education and the Collaborative on Community Inclusion. The Office of Clinical Affairs and Interprofessional Education leads our clinical activities, including the COVID-19 RapidVax effort and forward-looking interprofessional education within the college and throughout the university. The college is staffed by a robust complement of seasoned professionals including Offices of Communications and Marketing, Information Technology, Sponsored Research, and Academic Affairs. Temple's Center for the Advancement of Teaching provides outstanding programs and one-on-one mentoring to instructors to promote and support excellent teaching.

**THE UNIVERSITY.** Temple University is an urban, research-intensive Carnegie R1 university located in historic and culturally rich Philadelphia, the nation's sixth largest city. The city was ranked third by The New York Times as a world tourist destination. The National Science Foundation ranks Temple among the top 100 universities in the country for research expenditures. Temple is the sixth largest provider of professional education in the nation and includes Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, Podiatry, Law, and Dentistry, as well as research centers. It is also home to Fox Chase Comprehensive Cancer Center.

*Applicants should submit their questions and the following application materials to **Wendy Cheesman**, program director for the BS in health professions and BA in health studies, at [bshp@temple.edu](mailto:bshp@temple.edu): a detailed CV; a cover letter explaining your qualifications and experiences; a philosophy of leadership statement; a diversity, equity, and inclusion statement; and a list of three references. The review of applications will commence immediately and continue until the position is filled.*