

Our Approach to Admissions and Evaluation

What we mean by holistic, or mission-aligned, admissions

Our PT Program uses a holistic admissions process, meaning we evaluate each applicant as a whole person rather than relying on any single metric, experience, or characteristic.

Holistic review recognizes that success in physical therapy education and practice is shaped by a combination of academic preparation, professional readiness, and personal attributes. As a result, our admissions decisions are informed by multiple dimensions of an applicant's background and potential including - but not limited to - their experiences, attributes and metrics.

Equal Consideration of Academic and Non-Academic Criteria

While both academic and non-academic components are considered in admissions outcomes, GPA is highly predictive of PT school and National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) success. If an applicant's GPA is below the published requirement, they will not move forward with our admissions process.

For applicants who meet that minimum GPA requirement, we are committed to evaluating academic and non-academic factors with equal weight.

Academic preparation helps us assess an applicant's readiness for the rigor of a doctoral-level curriculum and includes, but is not limited to:

- GPA
 - Overall
 - last-60
 - science GPA
- Performance in key prerequisite coursework
- Evidence of academic growth or resilience over time

Non-academic attributes help us understand how applicants may contribute to the profession, the learning environment, and the communities they will serve. These may include:

- Commitment to the profession of physical therapy
- Commitment to academic opportunities such as research, teaching assistantships, etc.
- Clinical, volunteer, or service experiences

- Communication and interpersonal skills
- Professionalism
- Self-reflection, resilience, and adaptability
- Alignment with the program's mission and values

For applicants who meet the minimum GPA requirement, no single component, academic or non-academic, automatically determines an admissions outcome.

How Our Rubric Is Used

Our admissions rubric is a tool that helps ensure:

- Consistency across reviewers
- Equity in how applicants are evaluated
- Intentional balance between multiple areas of importance

Each application is reviewed by trained holistic reviewers, and scores are used to guide decision making.

We appreciate the openness, time, and vulnerability required to apply to a Doctor of Physical Therapy program, and we take seriously our responsibility to evaluate every applicant thoughtfully and fairly.

Rubric Components:

- ***Intellectual Curiosity:***
 - Reflects an applicant's demonstrated commitment to learning beyond minimum academic requirements and engagement in activities that deepen understanding, generate new knowledge, or contribute to the academic community
- ***Commitment to the Physical Therapy profession and interdisciplinary approach to healthcare:***
 - Reflects an applicant's intentional exploration of physical therapy, alignment with the profession's core values, and understanding of collaborative, patient-centered care
- ***Community Engagement and Leadership***
 - Reflects an applicant's demonstrated commitment to contributing beyond themselves through service, leadership, and meaningful involvement in their communities, along with thoughtful reflection on the impact of these experiences on both self and others
- ***Alignment with the program's mission and values***

- Reflects an applicant's ability to thoughtfully connect their past experiences, personal growth, and future goals to the values that guide our program and the profession of physical therapy