

## **Traffic Rules for applying & being admitted to DPT Programs**

The American Council of Academic Physical Therapy (ACAPT) is a component of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). *ACAPT recommends the following traffic rules to ensure DPT applicants are afforded timely notification of the outcome of their applications in order to facilitate the ability of applicants applying to multiple programs to make informed deposit decisions. Furthermore, the rules seek to improve the efficiency of the admissions process for physical therapist education programs by reducing the number of applicants who hold multiple acceptances, submit multiple deposits, or withdraw from one program after the start of classes to attend another program. These recommendations are distributed for the information of prospective DPT students, their advisors, and personnel at the physical therapist education programs to which they have applied. Approved: ACAPT Membership, October 2015*

### **ADMISSIONS TRAFFIC RULES FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

These traffic rules are limited to entry-level PT education programs and exclude early assurance pathways to the entry-level DPT degree, dual-degree (ie, DPT/MPH or DPT/PhD), post-professional degree programs, and early decision applicants. These rules apply to both PTCAS and non-PTCAS programs, unless otherwise stated.

1. Programs may begin extending offers of admission on applications deemed complete by the program at any time during the admissions cycle.
2. Programs cannot require a deposit prior to January 15 of the year of enrollment or January 15 of year prior to enrollment for January and February start programs
3. Programs must indicate to applicants whether deposits are non-refundable, including those voluntarily paid before the deposit deadline.
4. The maximum, cumulative deposit amount an entry-level PT education program may require accepted applicants to pay as a commitment to enroll is \$1,500.
5. Programs should not knowingly accept or enroll applicants who have started classes at another program.

### **ADMISSIONS TRAFFIC RULES FOR APPLICANTS**

To help ensure that all physical therapist applicants to PTCAS and non-PTCAS institutions are provided timely notification of the outcome of their application and to ensure programs are protected from having unfilled positions in their entering classes, the following traffic rules for applicants applying to PT education programs are recommended.

1. Each applicant shall comply with the application, acceptance, and admission procedures at each physical therapist education program to which the applicant has applied, including PTCAS rules and requirements, as appropriate.
2. Each applicant shall provide accurate and truthful information in all aspects of the application, acceptance, and admission processes for each physical therapist education program to which the applicant has applied.
3. Each applicant is responsible for the collection and timely submission of all application requirements to each physical therapist education program and PTCAS, as appropriate, by or prior to the established deadline dates.
4. Each applicant shall promptly notify the physical therapist education program and PTCAS, as appropriate, of any changes, permanent or temporary, in contact information.
5. Each applicant shall respond promptly to a physical therapist education program's invitation for interview, as required. Any applicant who cannot appear for a previously scheduled interview should notify the physical therapist education program immediately of the cancellation of the appointment in the manner requested by the program.
6. Applicants holding multiple acceptances are expected to immediately withdraw their application from those programs they are no longer considering attending.
7. Following the start of classes, each student should immediately withdraw his or her application from all other programs at which he or she remains under consideration.