

New York Physical Therapy Program Course Requirements

This an overview and should in NO WAY substitute for personally reviewing the requirements of each school

Courses At Hunter	Hunter College	Touro College	Columbia University	Long Island University	New York Institute of Technology	New York Medical College	New York University	Stony Brook
BIOL 100	X ¹	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
BIOL 102	X ¹	X	X	X ¹	X	X ¹	X	X
BIOL 120	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
BIOL 122	X	X	X	X ⁴	X ⁴	X	X ⁴	X
CHEM 102	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
CHEM 104	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
CHEM 106	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
STAT 213	X	X	X ²	X	X	X	X	X
CHEM 222							RECOMMENDED OR BIOL 300	
CHEM 223							X if CHEM 222 is taken	
BIOL 300 (BioChem) ⁵			X ³				RECOMMENDED OR CHEM 222	
PHYS 110	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
PHYS 120	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
PSYCH 100⁶	X	X	X		X	X	X	

¹ Some Physical Therapy Programs do not require general biology or only require one semester of general biology with lab. The majority of programs do require it though and it makes for a better application so students should plan on taking it so they are qualified to apply to more schools. BIOL 102 is also the pre-requisite for upper level biology courses, which are recommended by some schools.

² Columbia University will accept a statistics course that is taken through a behavioral science department such as Psychology.

³ Columbia University requires that students take an upper level biology course (300-400 level). They are not specific as to what course to take but BIOL 300 is marked on this sheet as a recommendation. Please see the Columbia University Physical Therapy program website for more information.

⁴ These schools only require one semester of physiology with lab. Hunter College only offers Anatomy and Physiology, with lab, over two semesters. In order to meet the physiology requirement students must complete both BIOL 120 and BIOL 122.

⁵ At Hunter College CHEM 222 and 223 are pre-requisites for BIOL 300.

⁶ Many of the programs require two semesters of psychology. Some specify that Introduction to Psychology is a requirement while others do not. However, at Hunter, Psychology 100 is a pre-requisite to all other Psychology courses, so it has been marked as a requirement. Some schools recommend child or developmental psychology as an additional course.

All of the schools mentioned above require scores for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).

PLEASE NOTE: If you are planning on applying to Physical Therapy programs, you do not need to open a file with the Pre-Health Professions Advising Office. If you are unsure if you want to pursue medical school or physical therapy than you should open a file with the office and start collecting the appropriate evaluations and letters of recommendation. You can do this by going to:

<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/prehealth/links-resources>.

Students applying to Physical Therapy programs do not receive Committee Letters.

Each school has additional requirements regarding social sciences, humanities, math, and writing. **This is only an overview of the science pre-requisites. Check the websites of individual programs for a full description of the required coursework.**

Physical Therapy programs prefer that students complete courses at 4-year institutions with rigorous science programs. Most schools also require applicants to be CPR and/or Standard First Aid certified. Some schools will take students who have only 90 credits but most require students to have a bachelor's degree. The most competitive candidates will have completed a bachelor's degree prior to starting a Physical Therapy program.

Physical Therapy programs also require experience under the supervision of a licensed Physical Therapist. While every school has their own minimum requirement, most schools require between 50-100 documented hours experience. Each school also has a different policy related to volunteering versus getting paid. Some programs specify that students need to have experience in both in-patient and out-patient physical therapy settings, so it is important that you check with each school for their preferences. Generally, the more hours of experience you have, the better candidate you become; completing at least 100 hours split evenly between two different settings is highly recommended. All of the above programs require at least one letter of recommendation from a licensed Physical Therapist.

These are doctoral level programs that accept between 30-80 students a year making admissions very competitive. Remember, the information above only applies to New York Physical Therapy programs but there are many other programs throughout the country.

Helpful Websites:

Physical Therapy Centralized Application Service

www.ptcas.org

American Physical Therapy Association

www.apta.org