

Pacific Union College

Pre-Physical Therapy Assisting for Admission to Loma Linda University

INFORMATION ABOUT THIS DEGREE

About This Profession:

The physical therapist assisting curriculum leads to the associate in science degree and professional certification. The program begins with the sophomore year and is based on the Loma Linda campus. Instruction begins in June; graduation is the following June, upon the completion of all course work and clinical affiliations completed during summer quarter following graduation.

General Areas of Service:

The physical therapy assistant is a skilled technical health worker who, under the supervision of the physical therapist, assists in the patient treatment program. The extent to which the assistant is involved in treatment depends upon the policies of the health facility, the supervising therapist, and the patient. Physical therapy assistants are in demand; graduates have a wide choice of opportunities with medical groups, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, outpatient clinics, national and state agencies, and schools of physical therapy.

Professional Training:

Successful completion of one year of pre-professional training and 15 months of professional training allows the candidate to write state board licensing examinations as required.

Job Outlook:

Employment opportunities are expected to grow in the foreseeable future.

Earnings:

Starting salaries average about \$23,000 a year.

Clinical experience

Supervised clinical experience is obtained in a variety of settings during the program. In the winter, students complete a two-week clinical practicum. The major clinical assignments are one, six-week clinical affiliation completed in the spring and two six-week affiliations completed in the summer following graduation.

All clinical assignments will be made by the department chairman or the program director. Due to the limited number of local facilities available, assignments cannot always be made on the basis of the student's marital status or personal preference. Although the department makes an effort to accommodate the student's preference, the student agrees to accept the clinical assignment made by the department at any of the affiliated facilities.

For physical therapy assistants who may wish to go on for a masters degree in physical therapy, a P.M.P.T. (Progression MPT) program is available after 2 years of work experience as a PTA.

For More Information

Department of Physical Therapy
School of Allied Health Professions
Loma Linda University
Loma Linda, CA 92350
(909) 824-4966 or 800 422-4556

American Physical Therapy Association

1111 N. Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 2231

Courses with a grade of C- or lower will not transfer to Loma Linda University.

The applicant is advised to contact the LLU office of Physical Therapist Assistant early in the fall quarter of the freshman year.

Application for admission should be completed by September 1.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR
ADMISSION**

To be eligible for admission, the applicant must have completed a minimum of 48 quarter units at an accredited college or university. The minimum subject requirements in quarter units are:

Communication

COMM 105	Speech Communication	3
	<i>(or COMM 226 Public Speaking)</i>	
ENGL 101	College English	4
ENGL 102	College English	4

Cultural Heritage

4
Selected from history, philosophy, literature, language, or other humanities. English as a foreign language may not be included.
Recommended: ART 105; ENGL 355, 356; MUHL 105; PHIL 101; HIST 101, 102, 134, 135; any foreign language)

Natural Sciences and Mathematics

BIOL 101	Human Anatomy	5
BIOL 102	Human Physiology	5
MATH 096	Intermediate Algebra (if needed)	4
	<i>(or high school equivalent with C grade or better)</i>	
	<i>This course will not transfer to LLU.</i>	
PHYS 105,106	Introductory Physics and Lab	6

Social Sciences

PSYC 121	General Psychology	4
PSYC 234	Human Development	4

Religion

4

Health and Wellness

2

Select one of the following options:

- Option 1: HLED 162 Fitness for Life (2)
- Option 2: HLED 166 Health Education (2)
- Option 3: Two PE activity courses (1-1)

Electives to meet the minimum of 48 quarter units.

Work Experience

A minimum of 80 hours work experience (volunteer/employee) in a physical therapy department, including 20 hours in a general, acute-care hospital.

SAMPLE ONE-YEAR PROGRAM

This sample curriculum is designed to show you how a program may be constructed and to help you select a proper sequence of courses in the major. It is not likely that these courses can always be taken in the order given. Your advisor will help you design a personalized program of studies.

First Year

	A	W	S
College English	4	4	-
General Psychology	-	4	-
Religion	2	-	2
Cultural Heritage*	4	-	-
Speech Communication	-	-	3
Human Development	-	-	4
Intro to Physics & Lab	-	-	6
Human Anatomy	5	-	-
Human Physiology	-	5	-
Health and Wellness Option*	2	-	-
Electives*	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
	16	16	16

Second Year

(at Loma Linda University)

Note: *See course requirements as listed above.

NOTE: The Physical Therapist Assistant program begins in June.