

Office of Graduate Admissions

109 University Square • Erie, PA 16541-0001
(814) 871-7474 • Toll Free 1-800-GANNON-U • Fax (814) 871-5827
graduate@gannon.edu • www.gannon.edu

Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

Application and Information Packet

This application packet is for
Gannon undergraduate students.



Gannon University

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Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

Introduction

Physical Therapy is a health care profession that primarily focuses on the preservation, development, and restoration of optimal function. Physical therapists provide evaluative, rehabilitative, and preventive health care services designed to alleviate pain; prevent the onset and progression of impairment, functional limitation, disability resulting from injury, disease, or other causes; and restore, maintain and promote overall fitness, health and optimal quality of life. Physical therapists work with individuals of all ages who demonstrate movement dysfunction, or the potential for such dysfunction, of the neurological, musculoskeletal, sensorimotor, and cardiopulmonary systems.

Physical therapists practice in a hospital setting, or provide services in out-of-hospital settings through home health agencies, in nursing homes, in industrial settings, through public health agencies, in private physical therapy clinics, in public schools and in a variety of other nontraditional settings.

Mission

The mission of the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at Gannon University is to graduate knowledgeable, service-oriented, self-assured, adaptable, reflective practitioners who, by virtue of critical and integrative thinking, commitment to lifelong learning, and ethical values, render independent judgments concerning patient/client needs that are supported by evidence. Graduates possess the intellectual capacity and psychomotor proficiency to meet the current and future needs of the profession and health care system through the provision of culturally sensitive patient/client-centered care for the diagnosis of, intervention for, and prevention of impairments, functional limitations, and disabilities related to movement, function, and health.

Curriculum

The Gannon University DPT program is a 32 month program. Building on the study of normal structure and function, the problem-oriented curriculum presents the clinical art and science of physical therapy in an integrated manner organized around body systems. Practical clinical experiences are integrated into the academic program at the completion of major areas of study on a nontraditional schedule. The academic clinical coordinator assigns students, based on student learning needs, to clinical sites. In addition to sites located in the Erie and western Pennsylvania areas, the program offers clinical experiences at sites throughout the United States and Canada. Students must be prepared to go out of the Western Pennsylvania area for at least three of the four clinical experiences.

Accreditation

The physical therapy educational program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association.

Strengths

Only a small percentage of physical therapists in the American Physical Therapy Association are board-certified clinical specialists. Gannon physical therapy instructors boast certified clinical specialization in orthopedics, neurology, pediatrics, and geriatrics.

The Physical Therapy program has over 200 clinical affiliations with physical therapy facilities in the country. This enables the student to have the opportunity to practice with a culturally diverse client population and learn various physical therapy approaches from experienced clinicians.

Gannon University's DPT problem-oriented curriculum is designed to allow immediate application of didactic material by integrating practical clinical experiences throughout the program. Clinical exposure starts with the first full-time clinical experience occurring after only two semesters of classroom work.

Since the program's inception, Gannon PT graduates have passed their state's licensure exam at a rate equal to or higher than the national average.

Graduate Assistantships

Gannon University has several graduate assistantships including positions for certified athletic trainers, anatomy assistants, and administrative assistants. **Graduate assistants receive a partial tuition waiver and a stipend.**

Admission Requirements

- ▶ Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university.
- ▶ Cumulative prerequisite course Quality Point Average (QPA) of 3.0 or better (4.0 scale). Grades of D not acceptable.
- ▶ Overall undergraduate QPA of 3.00 or better (4.0 scale).
- ▶ Demonstration of the ethical, personal and professional qualities to fulfill the role of the physical therapist as determined by review of the applicant's references and the interview process.
- ▶ TOEFL - Minimum score of 550 for all applicants from non-English speaking countries.
- ▶ The application review process begins on **November 1**. All applications must be postmarked by **January 15**. Applications postmarked after **January 15** will be processed on a space available basis.
- ▶ Meet Essential Functions.

Admission

Prerequisite Course Requirements for entry into the DPT program include the following:

Psychology (200 level or above)	1 semester
Statistics	1 semester
Human Anatomy with Lab <i>(cadaver dissection recommended; 200 or 300 level course required at 4 year degree granting institution)</i>	1 semester
Human Physiology with Lab	1 semester
Exercise Physiology (lab recommended)	1 semester
Physics with Lab	2 semesters

Important Notes Regarding Prerequisites:

- ▶ The foregoing requirements cannot be waived.
- ▶ Prerequisites must be completed within the five years preceding entrance to the graduate program.
- ▶ Prerequisites must be completed by June 30 of year of expected start date.

Recommended Courses:

- ▶ Social Science - at least two additional semesters in social sciences (i.e., sociology, social psychology)
- ▶ Word Processing
- ▶ Kinesiology with lab

Communication:

Practice as a health care professional requires the ability to communicate both orally and in writing. The Physical Therapy program stresses communication and expects enrolled students to demonstrate graduate level competence in written as well as verbal communication.

Class Profile

(Class Entering in 2009)

- ▶ **Overall** Grade Point Average 3.40
- ▶ **Prerequisite** Grade Point Average 3.40

GANNON
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ADVOCATE FOR CAMPUS ACCESSIBILITY — Mr. Gerard M. Miele, Director of New Student Services, is the 504/ADA coordinator for students who are impaired in ways requiring accommodation of facilities, programs, or services of the University. Students seeking information or assistance in any matter regarding accessibility or accommodations should contact him at the Office of New Student Services, Phone (814) 871-7597 promptly upon admission to the University.

POLICY OF NON-DISCRIMINATION — Gannon University pursues a policy of non-discrimination in all activities and programs under its sponsorship. Gannon University makes all decisions regarding selection for admission, financial assistance to students, application for employment, and all other personnel actions without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex or disability as defined by law. Questions or inquiries regarding the University's non-discrimination policy should be directed to the Director of Human Resources, Gannon University, 109 University Square, Erie, Pennsylvania 16541-0001; phone (814) 871-5615.

Graduate Course Requirements *

1ST SEMESTER – FALL

	CREDITS
Health Care System & Policy I	2
Applied Anatomy	2
Foundations in Human Movement with Lab	6
Research Applications: Evidence-Based Practice I	2
Basic Physical Therapy Practice and Interventions	3
Community Health Initiative I	1
Total	16

2ND SEMESTER – SPRING

Examination, Evaluation, and Intervention for Musculoskeletal Movement Dysfunction of the Extremities	9
Examination, Evaluation, and Intervention for Musculoskeletal Movement Dysfunction of the Spine	4
Community Health Initiative II	1
Pharmacology	1
Total	15

3RD SEMESTER – SUMMER

Health Care System & Policy II	2
Foundations in Geriatrics	2
Clinical Practicum I (10 weeks)	5
Total	9

4TH SEMESTER – FALL

Foundations in Pediatrics	4
Examination, Evaluation, and Intervention for Neuromuscular Movement Dysfunction I with Lab	4
Neuroscience with Lab	4
Clinical Synthesis I	1
Research Applications: Evidence-Based Practice II	1
Examination, Evaluation, and Intervention for Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Dysfunction with Lab	3
Total	17

5TH SEMESTER – SPRING

Health Care System & Policy III	2
Examination, Evaluation, and Intervention for Neuromuscular Movement Dysfunction II with Lab	9
Research Applications: Evidence-Based Practice III & Guidance	2
Community Health Initiative III	1
Elective I	2-3
Total	16-17

6TH SEMESTER – SUMMER

Clinical Practicum II (10 weeks)	5
Clinical Synthesis II	1
Research Guidance	1
Health Care System & Policy IV	1
Community Health Initiative IV	1
Total	9

7TH SEMESTER – FALL

Examination, Evaluation, and Intervention for Integumentary & Multi-System Movement Dysfunction with Lab	4
Research Applications: Evidence-Based Practice IV & Research Guidance	2
Health Care System & Policy V	2
Clinical Practicum III (8 weeks)	4
Elective II	2-3
Total	14-15

8TH SEMESTER – SPRING

Clinical Practicum IV (12 weeks)	6
Clinical Synthesis III	1
Research Applications: Evidence-Based Practice V & Research Guidance	2
Community Health Initiative V	1
Total	10

Total Program Credits

107-108

* Subject to change

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Doctor of Physical Therapy Admissions Application

Instructions

1. The application review process begins on **November 1**. All applications must be postmarked by **January 15**. Applications postmarked after **January 15** will be processed on a space available basis.
2. Return the completed application with the **\$50.00 application fee** in the envelope provided. Make check payable to **Gannon University**.
3. Three letters of recommendation must be forwarded to the Admissions Office for all applicants. Please use the recommendation forms enclosed.
4. Complete and return the Self-Reporting Transcript Evaluation Form with the application.
5. Please note that Gannon University does **NOT** require the GRE nor volunteer hours as part of the admissions criteria.
6. Please note that the program begins in late August.
7. Students for whom English is not the native language are required to take the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) and achieve a satisfactory score.

Please Print or Type

Name _____ Social Security No. _____
(Last, First, Middle)

Please indicate any other name(s) under which your transcripts may be submitted: _____

Mailing Address _____ Home Address _____

Home Telephone Number (_____) _____ Date of Birth _____

Home Fax Number (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Work or School Telephone Number (_____) _____ Male Female

What is your citizenship? U.S. Citizen Immigrant - Permanent Resident Non-Resident Alien

If not a U.S. Citizen, do you need the I-20 Form? Yes No

Start Term Fall 20__

Colleges Attended (Include ALL Colleges attended):

NAME OF INSTITUTION	STATE	DATES ATTENDED (FROM/TO)	MAJOR	DEGREE AWARDED
1. _____				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
5. _____				
6. _____				

Work Experience

Position	Dates	Employer	Employer Address
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____

References

List the names and positions of the three persons from whom you will request letters of recommendation. One should be an academic reference, one a health professional reference, and one a character reference.

1. Academic Reference _____

2. Health Professional Reference _____

3. Character Reference _____

Current Employer Information

Name _____ Position _____

Address _____ Phone (_____) _____

Will you receive tuition reimbursement from your employer? Yes No

*Religious Affiliation (Optional)

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Roman Catholic | <input type="checkbox"/> Greek Catholic | <input type="checkbox"/> Greek Orthodox | <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish | <input type="checkbox"/> Baptist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Episcopal | <input type="checkbox"/> Presbyterian | <input type="checkbox"/> Methodist | <input type="checkbox"/> Lutheran | <input type="checkbox"/> Islamic |

*Ethnicity/Race (Optional)

Are you Hispanic/Latino? Yes No

Check the following race(s) that apply to you:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> White | |

*This information is for statistical purposes only and has no bearing on admission to the University.

I certify that the information provided by me is accurate to the best of my knowledge and understand that all records become the property of Gannon University and cannot be returned to the applicant nor forwarded to a third party.

Signature _____ Date _____



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Doctor of Physical Therapy Self-Report Transcript Evaluation

Name _____ Social Security Number _____

Institution _____ Degree _____ Graduation Date _____

Please indicate when and where you have taken or are taking each prerequisite, the number of credits (CR) for the course, grade (GR) received and quality points (QP) received. All prerequisites taken to date must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 to be considered for the DPT Program. No grade of D will be accepted. **Prerequisites must be completed within the five years preceding entrance to the graduate program. Prerequisites taken prior to that time will not be accepted and must be repeated for credit. Please leave grade and quality point columns blank for courses that have not been completed.**

PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK: *See other side for course descriptions.*

COURSE NUMBER & TITLE	SEMESTER TAKEN OR TAKING	NAME OF INSTITUTION	CR	GR	QP	COMMENTS
Statistics						
Psychology						
Human Anatomy						
Anatomy Lab						
Human Physiology						
Physiology Lab						
Exercise Physiology						
(Include lab if taken)						
Physics I						
Physics Lab I						
Physics II						
Physics Lab II						

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	OVERALL OPA	<input type="text"/>	PREREQUISITE OPA	<input type="text"/>
	Verified: _____			
Office of Admissions				

Listed below are sample course descriptions for the prerequisites required for physical therapy.

Prerequisites must be completed within five years preceding entrance to the graduate program. Courses taken prior to that time need to be repeated for credit.

Human Anatomy (Gross Anatomy)

This course, along with Human Anatomy Lab, is designed for students in the Medical and/or Health Programs. The course takes a functional approach to the anatomy of all the systems of the human body. This is an **upper level course** requiring prerequisites in the biological sciences.

The physical therapy faculty recommend that Human Anatomy be taken within one year preceding entrance into the graduate program. The physical therapy faculty have an expectation that students entering the graduate program will have a working knowledge of human anatomy, particularly of the neuromusculoskeletal and cardiopulmonary systems, as the system courses taken during the graduate program are structured around the students having a strong foundation in anatomy.

Human Anatomy Lab

This lab course complements and enhances the Human Anatomy lecture course through the study of the human cadaver (either dissected or prosected parts). **Models and computer programs are accepted; however, a human cadaver is preferred.**

Human Physiology

This course is designed for students in the Medical and/or Health Programs, dealing primarily with the function (physiology) of the human body with special emphasis placed on the circulatory, endocrine, and nervous systems. This is an upper level course requiring prerequisites in biology and chemistry.

Human Physiology Lab

Statistics

An introduction to frequency distributions, sampling distributions, T-tests, analysis of correlation, and linear regression. Please note that the Admissions Committee does not recommend a Business Statistics course.

Psychology

Behavioral or social science courses at the 200 or 300 level meet this requirement.

Physiology of Exercise and Sport

An examination of the human physiological function as it relates to stresses created by various sport and other physical activities. Acute and chronic effects of various training programs are examined for their contribution to the improvement of performance in sport and physical activity.

Physics I and II

An introduction to mechanics, sound, fluids, electricity and magnetism, heat and optics with experimental verification of the fundamental laws of physics, an introduction to basic laboratory methods, including an introduction to error analysis. (2 semesters)

Physics Lab I and II

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Doctor of Physical Therapy Recommendation Form

Please use full name:

Name of Applicant _____ Social Security No. _____

Address _____

Applicant's Degree Granting School _____

Applicant should complete the following:

Waiver of Access

I have requested that this report be filed by school officials for use in the admissions process by officials of Gannon University. In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, I have indicated my intention regarding access to these reports by checking one of the following options:

- I waive access to this report which shall therefore be considered confidential.
- I do not waive access to this report.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Note to Person Providing Reference: If the student has agreed to the waiver printed above, we will preserve the strict confidentiality of this document and it will be made available only to University officials. If the student has not agreed, this report will be made available to the student upon request, if the student matriculates at Gannon University.

To the Applicant

We ask that you provide three references according to the following guidelines:

1. A health care professional reference (i.e., therapist, nurse, or other licensed health care professional)
2. An academic reference (professor who has taught you one or more upper level courses, or advisor)
3. A character reference

To the Person Providing Reference

Please complete and return this form to:

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The information that you supply concerning this applicant will be used in the screening and final ranking of applications. No application will be considered without this information. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Your Name: _____ Title: _____

Place of Employment: _____ Telephone Number: (_____) _____

How long have you known the applicant? _____

In what capacity do you know the applicant? _____

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Financial Facts and Policies for Graduate Students in Physical Therapy 2009-2010 Academic Year

Graduate Assistantships

Gannon University has several graduate assistantship positions for certified athletic trainers and for students interested in assisting with the laboratory courses in anatomy. Students receive a partial tuition waiver and stipend. Students must be pursuing a graduate degree in Physical Therapy at Gannon. The graduate assistantships provide a unique opportunity to earn a degree in Physical Therapy while gaining experience in athletic training or laboratory assistance.

Federal Stafford Student Loan (FSSL)

Full and part-time (6 credits or more) graduate students are eligible to apply for the student loan. Students must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid as well as the loan application. The applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. Loan applications may be obtained from most lending institutions (banks, credit unions, etc.).

Students may be eligible to borrow up to \$8,500 per academic year, depending on the number of credits and financial need. Students must successfully complete 18 credits in order to apply for the next increment of \$8,500.

► **PLEASE NOTE:** Graduate students are not eligible for the PHEAA/PELL grant.

Unsubsidized Student Loan

Full- and part-time students (6 credits or more) can borrow up to \$12,000 per academic year. This is in addition to the \$8,500 available through the Federal Stafford Loan program. Unlike the Federal Stafford Loan, the interest on the Unsubsidized Student Loan starts the day this loan is disbursed. More information on this loan and the Federal Stafford loan is available in the Financial Aid Office or from private lenders.

Other Aid

The Financial Aid Office also acts as a resource center for other forms of financial aid. Listings of outside scholarships, sponsorships and loans are available. We also have listings of private sector part-time employment opportunities. These resources fluctuate and vary based on the time of year and the needs of the sponsors and employers. Contact the Gannon Financial Aid Office at (814) 871-7337, or toll free at (800) GANNON-U, for additional information.

Veterans Benefits

Information regarding Veterans benefits may be obtained by calling the Veterans Affairs Office at (814) 871-7483, or toll free at 800-GANNON-U, ext. 7483.

Tuition and Fees

2009-2010 Academic Year

Tuition for Physical Therapy	
(10 credits or more).....	\$ 12,570/term
(less than 10 credits).....	\$ 6,995/term
Application Fee.....	\$ 50
University Fee (full-time).....	\$ 206/term
(part-time).....	\$ 17/credit
Graduation Fee.....	\$ 80
Late Registration Fee.....	\$ 50-100

Please refer to the semester schedule or your tuition bill for the late fee policy. A late fee will be charged to all students, including those receiving employee reimbursement, regardless of when the first class is held, if payment is not made by the due date. Your bill must be returned to the Cashier's Office to finalize your enrollment and confirm your intention to attend, even if no payment is required or credit is due. This process lets Gannon know you will attend!

Deferred Payment Policy

- The maximum amount considered for deferment is \$2,500 (no less than \$100.00 may be deferred per semester).
- A down payment of 25% or more of the unpaid balance is due at the time of registration.
- A \$30.00 processing fee will be charged.
- Payments are due in three equal installments as follows:

FALL:	September 20	October 20	November 20
SPRING:	February 20	March 20	April 20
- Deferred payments may be arranged for Fall and Spring semesters only.
- Deferred payments may be arranged by using the form on the reverse side of the bill, or in person in the Cashier's Office or the Center for Adult Learning.

Academic Scholarships

Twenty academic scholarships will be awarded to the applicants with the highest grade point averages. Each scholarship is \$500 per semester for six of the eight semesters of the program. Students must earn a minimum grade point average of 3.30 in the DPT program to continue receiving the award. The scholarship is not awarded for the summer semesters.