

Winston-Salem State University **Doctor of Physical Therapy**

How to Apply



WINSTON-SALEM
STATE UNIVERSITY



Admission Requirements



Complete a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university prior to the January state date



Submit official GRE scores through PTCAS

No minimum score required

Avg. score of successful applicants is ~300



Earned minimum cumulative AND prerequisite GPAs of 3.0

Avg. GPA of successful applicants is >3.4



Complete 10 of 12 prerequisite courses prior to the priority application deadline

The Casper Assessment is no longer required.

Important Prerequisite Information

- All prerequisite courses must have been completed in the last 10 years.
- At least 10 of the 12 prerequisite courses **MUST** be completed by the end of the **2025 Fall Semester**.
- A minimum of 11 of the 12 prerequisite courses **MUST** be completed by the end of the **2026 Spring Semester**, with ALL prerequisite coursework completed by the end of the **2026 Summer Semester**.
- All prerequisite courses **MUST** be earned as a C or better to be accepted toward admission, however cumulative prerequisite course GPA must remain at least 3.0.
- Any grade of C- or below is not accepted as a prerequisite and must be repeated. The higher of grades from repeated will be used in prerequisite GPA calculation.

Prerequisites

Subject	Required Courses
Biology	General Biology with Lab (3-4 CH)
Upper-level biology	Example Courses: Comparative anatomy, Embryology, Histology, Cell Biology, Biochemistry, Kinesiology, Organic Chemistry, Immunology, Genetics, Exercise Physiology. (3-4 CH)
Chemistry	General Chemistry I with Lab (3-4 CH) General Chemistry II with Lab (3-4 CH)
Physics	General Physical I with Lab (3-4 CH) General Physical II with Lab (3-4 CH)
Human Anatomy and Physiology	Anatomy (human or mammalian) & Physiology I with Lab (3-4 CH) Anatomy (human or mammalian) & Physiology II with Lab (3-4 CH)
Statistics	Must include topics on common statistical measures, descriptive, parametric and non-parametric testing (3 CH)
Behavioral and social sciences	General Psychology (3 CH) Additional (6 CH) from the following: Abnormal Psychology, Development Psychology, Sports Psychology, Ethics, Sociology, Cultural Anthropology, Philosophy, Social Psychology

Application Deadlines

- **Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply as EARLY as possible!**
- Priority Application Deadline: 11/3/2025
 - **Priority consideration for admission is given to applicants who have submitted their complete application by the Priority Deadline.**
 - First round of offers will be extended to the top applicants who submit a complete and verified application by the priority deadline.
 - Priority applicants will be notified by approx. Dec. 15, 2025.
- Final Application Deadline (Close of Application Cycle): 2/16/2026
 - Applicants who apply by the priority deadline but are not selected in first phase will be re-considered in subsequent rounds of application reviews.
 - All completed and verified applications received by the Final Deadline will also be reviewed in these subsequent rounds.
 - Final notifications will be sent out by approx. March 15, 2026.

Qualified applicants who are not offered a seat will be placed on our waitlist.

What is a “Complete” Application?

- A “Completed” Application means that:
 - Application is fully verified through PTCAS
 - Official GRE scores have been submitted and verified in PTCAS
 - **For WSSU DPT Program, use Code: 7635**
 - \$50 Supplemental fee is submitted to the Office of Graduate Admissions

The Casper Assessment is no longer required.

****We recommend that you submit your application as soon as possible if you would like to be considered for the priority deadline to ensure that all items are completed in time for the initial reviews**

Where do I apply?

- **PTCAS** = Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service
 - [PTCAS Applicant Login Page](#)
- **All** applications **must** be submitted through PTCAS
 - **No** application materials can be submitted directly to WSSU
- There is a PowerPoint available on the PTCAS website with detailed application instructions

Submit the following to PTCAS for verification:

- PTCAS Application itself
 - All official U.S. Transcripts
 - PTCAS Fee
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- **Your application cannot be reviewed without all these items!**

Please be prepared for the following fees:

- **PTCAS** has a **\$175 base fee** for one program designation.
 - When applying to multiple schools, please plan for an **additional fee of \$75 per school**
- **WSSU** also has a **\$50 Supplemental fee** paid to the University for application processing
 - Applicants with verified applications will receive instructions from WSSU Graduate Admissions on how to submit your supplemental fee.

Academic Update Period

- You need to update your transcript in PTCAS as you complete additional coursework!
 - Update your pending Fall 2025 grades when complete
- You will receive an email from PTCAS when you are eligible to begin entering your Fall courses.
- Send Fall 2025 transcripts to PTCAS ASAP! The academic update is only open for 60 days. After this date, you cannot update transcripts in PTCAS.
- PTCAS will send an updated course history and GPAs to your designated PT programs.

PTCAS Deadline

- Arrange for your application, transcripts and fee to arrive at PTCAS by the program's deadline AT THE LATEST
- Once received, your file will be in the queue for verification. Processing may take up to 4-5 weeks (6-8 weeks during peak time) once your file is complete (i.e., everything is submitted).

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!

Observation Hours

- **25** observation hours are required in at least **one clinical setting**
 - Unique settings include:
Outpatient Orthopedics, Work Hardening,
Outpatient Neuro, Inpatient Rehab, Acute Care
(ie Hospital PT), Pediatrics, Home Health,
Skilled Nursing
 - However, we **highly encourage** applicants to
observe in more than one setting to ensure that
you have exposure to the breadth of work
performed by physical therapists.

Letters of Recommendation

- **3 letters of recommendation are required**
 - **One must be from a Professor (preferably in your major)**
 - Two should be from other individuals such as:
 - A physical therapist
 - Another professor
 - Supervisor
 - Employer
 - Health care professional
 - College band director
 - College athletic coach
- **Not accepted: letters from co-workers, family/friends, or others you know only socially**
- **ASK EARLY:** Give these individuals at least 30 days to write and submit your letter.

Essay

- Start early and answer the writing prompt well.
- **Highlight your WHY.**
 - Communicate well why you want to be a PT and how WSSU DPT can help you get there
 - This may mean that your essay looks a little different at each program to which you apply
- Have someone else proofread your essay ***at least 1 time*** for grammar, spelling, and clarity **before** submitting (i.e., a writing center or a mentor)

“Every applicant is unique in their own way, possessing individual qualities, abilities, and backgrounds. What unique traits will you bring to the physical therapy profession that will help you to be successful?”

Helpful Tips

- Make sure you meet the minimum requirements prior to applying. We will not review your application if you don't meet the minimum requirements.
- Don't leave sections blank!
- Highlight curricular and extracurricular activities and experiences that show your community involvement, leadership, commitment, and service
 - Examples on the next slide...
- **Do not count experiences twice.**
 - If you shadowed a PT for observation hours, do not count this as community service/volunteering

Helpful Tips: Experiences to Highlight

- Community service (both within PT and outside of PT)
- Leadership experience within clubs, collegiate athletics, band/choir, church, sorority/fraternity, charitable organization
- Prior military experience
- Collegiate extracurricular activities (band, choir, sports)
- Bilingualism
- Teaching assistantship and/or research activities
- Master's degree work
- Involvement with clubs at school
- Awards and scholarships received
- Work in physical therapy
- Work outside of physical therapy. If you worked to support yourself in undergrad find a way to highlight that.

Still Have Questions?

**For more information on the
Admissions Process, or about the
WSSU DPT Program, in general:**

- Email the WSSU DPT Admissions Committee at:
dptadmissions@wssu.edu

Or

- Click the following link to visit the:
[WSSU Physical Therapist Centralized
Application Service \(PTCAS\) Program page](#)

Chair, Admissions Committee

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