

t-DPT

Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy

The purpose of the t-DPT program is to allow the working clinician to gain the additional knowledge necessary to transition them academically to the entry-level DPT. The program utilizes a combination of short course format, independent study and distance learning to minimize time away from home while providing necessary didactic contact. The graduate should leave the program with greater skills in the area of medical screening, differential diagnosis, education and research. Attaining this degree sets the clinician on the path envisioned by the APTA to have all physical therapy provided by “doctors of physical therapy” by 2020!

A. PROGRAM COMPOSITION

Demonstrated competency or completion of a minimum of 34 credits of course work from the following areas:

- Doctoral Colloquium
- Advanced Clinical Physiology
- Clinical Screening and Differential Diagnosis
- Medical Diagnostics
- Clinical Pharmacology
- Educational Techniques for Healthcare Professionals
- Spirituality in Healthcare
- Comparative Religion
- Principles of Contemporary Leadership
- Professional Communication and Consulting
- Clinical Research
- Advanced Topics in Clinical Research
- Applications in Clinical Research
- Capstone Experience

B. CREDITS FOR COMPETENCY DETERMINATION

As a part of the application process and the Doctoral Colloquium course requirements, students are required to submit a portfolio. The portfolio review will then determine if qualifications for competency credit in any of the core areas has been met.

C. PROGRAM FORMAT

1. Bachelor's or master's degree students who have met all of the competencies up to but not beyond the entry-level masters degree, will attend classes on the following schedule:

YEAR 1: Attend two 4-6 day sessions on campus
1 Home study Session
YEAR 2: 3 Home study Sessions
Capstone Project Completion
2. Clinicians with an entry-level bachelor's degree may be required to complete more than the minimum of 34 credits depending upon the review of their PTET scores.
3. The schedule for a student who has been awarded competency credit will vary depending upon which course work towards the degree remains to be completed. Students are given a maximum of 6 years from entrance into the program to complete all of the degree requirements.

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D. COSTS

1. Tuition for a semester credit is \$467. For credits awarded through the competency review process, the rate is \$185 per semester credit. Rates are subject to change at the beginning of each new fiscal year.

Using these figures, the total cost for the student with an entry-level master's degree student with no competency credits will be approximately \$15,878. The total tuition for students who have been awarded competency credits may be significantly less depending upon the amount of competency credit awarded. Bachelor's trained students whose PTET scores are not adequate may require additional course work to elevate them to entry-level master's degree status and may incur additional costs for the added credits needed for their degree. Tuition covers the course and/or semester credits, course outlines and course syllabi. Additional expenses may include required textbooks or other resource materials, travel, and lodging.

2. Students will be assessed tuition for the courses taken in each semester. Competency credits will also be billed during the semester in which the course is normally offered. Students who have finished all required coursework and who are not registered for any other credits in a given semester, will be required to register for a project continuation fee of \$175 to remain on active student status within the University

F. STARTING THE PROGRAM

Currently we have one entry-point a year into this program in August. Once a student begins the program he/she is required to complete their course work in sequential fashion with their classmates. A schedule will be published in a timely fashion to allow the student to plan for the times that he/she is required to be on the Andrews campus for courses.