



The College of Health Sciences
Welcomes the Future DPT Class of 2027



INTERVIEW DAY AGENDA

Interviewee Check-in
Welcome & Overview
Writing Sample
Interview
Student Logic & Problem-Solving Activity
Student Q&A

Western University of Health Sciences Overview

Western University of Health Sciences (WesternU) is a non-profit, independent, academic health center, founded as the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (COMP) in 1977. Located on 22 acres in Pomona, California, 35 miles east of downtown Los Angeles in the Pomona Valley, the founding mission of the institution was to educate primary care osteopathic physicians for the western United States. Over the past three decades, Western University has preserved and enhanced its

We embrace **innovation** in education, clinical practice concepts, scholarship and healthcare. We promote **humanistic** values of caring, respect, empathy and trust through intentional interactions across diverse cultural groups and among health-care professionals. We endeavor to cultivate a **diversity** of graduates united as experts in **optimizing movement** that transform lives across the lifespan.

Program Vision

The WesternU Department of Physical Therapy Education will be nationally respected and recognized as an innovative and transformational leader in physical therapy education, clinical practice, and research. As humanistic change agents, our graduates will guide the profession in providing better care for individuals, better health for populations and communities, and lowered cost of health care through continuous quality improvement.

Program Goals

The graduate of the DPT program will be a mature individual whose professional education is based on a foundation of the requisite preparation in the biological, behavioral sciences, social sciences and humanities. The graduate will have the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes to function as a clinician generalist; will have an appreciation for the value of the research process; and will be a

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seat elsewhere, please notify us as soon as possible in writing so that we may remove you from the alternate list (an e-mail is fine).

IF YOU ARE NOT OFFERED AN ACCEPTANCE

If you are not offered an acceptance, and you would like suggestions on how to improve your application for the next application cycle, we recommend that you review the competitive candidate profile on the prospective student website to identify opportunities to strengthen your application. In addition, suggestions on how to improve your application do not guarantee an interview and/or acceptance to the DPT Program.

Candidates who are unsuccessful in gaining admission will be notified in writing by the end of August. Remember to check our website for new application deadline dates and any changes in program prerequisites.

WESTERN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES CATALOG

The [University Catalog](#) is available online. It is presented as a pdf file, and you will need to download Acrobat Reader to access the catalog.

To ease download times for viewing,

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY (DPT) CLASS OF 2023

Year 1 – Fall Semester		
PT 5000	Psychosocial and Ethnical Aspects of Health Care (3 Units)	
PT 5030	Anatomy I (4 Units)	
PT 5050	Kinesiology I (3 Units)	
PT 5070	Patient Care Skills I (3 Units)	
PT 5100	Physiology & Pathophysiology (5 Units)	
PT 5130	Research Methodology in Health Care (3 Units)	
IPE 5000	Patient Centered Cases I – An Interprofessional Approach (1 Unit)	<i>total 22 units</i>
Year 1 – Spring Semester		
IPE 5100	Patient Centered Cases II (1 Unit)	
PT 7100	Clinical Education (1 Unit)	
PT 5035	Anatomy II (4 Units)	
PT 5055	Kinesiology II (5 Units)	
PT 5075	Physical Agents and Procedures (4 Units)	
PT 5140	Evidence Based Practice: Application of Research to Clinical Practice (3 Unit)	
PT 5141	Professional Development and Reflective Practice (1 Unit)	
PT 5230	Screening for Medical Referral I (2 Units)	
PT 8100	Introductio	
PT 5015		

Year 2 – Spring Semester

PT 5142	Professional Development & Clinical Education (1 Unit)	
PT 5210	Examination & Management of Musculoskeletal Dysfunction II (5 Units)	
PT 5220	Principles of Teaching, Learning & Communication (2 Units)	
PT 6010	Examination & Management of Neurological Disorders I (5 Units)	
PT 6045	Differential Diagnosis Integumentary System/Wound Care (2 Units)	
PT 6075	Prevention & Management of Problems in Pediatric Population (4 Units)	
PT 6065	PT Care Skills II (2 Units)	
IPE 6100	Team Training in Health Care II (1 Unit)	<i>total 22 units</i>

Year 2 – Summer Semester

PT 7020	Clinical Education II (6 Units)	<i>total 6 units</i>
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Year 3 – Fall Semester

PT 5143	Professional Development & Clinical Practice (1 Unit)	
PT 6020	Electrotherapeutic Principles (2	

Personal Competencies for Admission and Matriculation

A candidate for admission to the DPT program must possess, or be able to achieve through a reasonable accommodation, certain sensory and motor functions, that would enable the individual to carry out the activities described in the sections that follow. Upon matriculation to the program, the student must continue to possess, or be able to achieve through a reasonable accommodation, the personal competencies outlined below throughout their progression in the DPT program. Graduation from the program signifies that the individual is prepared for entry into clinical practice. Therefore, it follows that graduates must have the knowledge and skills needed to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and to render a wide spectrum of physical therapy evaluation and treatment techniques. The candidate and student must be able to integrate all information received consistently, quickly and accurately by whatever sense(s) are employed. In addition, they must have the intellectual ability to learn, integrate, analyze, and synthesize data.

Essential Functions are the aptitudes and abilities that allow physical therapy students (and physical therapists) to complete the professional curriculum and to perform the clinical skills consistent with Patient/Client Management as detailed in the Guide to Physical Therapist Practice. Therefore, there are essential functions or abilities necessary for admission and progression in the Department of Physical Therapy Education Program at Western University of Health Sciences.

This practice requires the performance of specific essential functions that include but are not limited to the areas below. For candidates or students who require a reasonable accommodation in order to meet the competencies outlined below, please contact the Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy/Accommodation and Resource Center (CDHP/AARC) at (909) 469-5297.

Under all circumstances, a candidate or student should be able to perform the following in a reasonably independent manner, with or without a reasonable accommodation:

Observation (includes functional use of vision, hearing and somatic sensations)

Candidates and students must have sufficient vision to be able to observe patients and demonstrations accurately, close up and at a distance, to learn skills and to gather patient data (e.g., observe a patient's gait, appearance, posture, etc.). Candidates and students also must possess functional use of the sense of vision and somatic sensation. Observation is enhanced by the functional use of the sense of smell.

Communication

Candidates and students must have the ability to communicate orally and in writing with patients, families, groups and other members of the health care team, as well as faculty and peers. Candidates and students must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively in English with other students, faculty, staff, patients, family and other professionals, in both oral and written formats, and must be able to read, write, and communicate verbally in English. Candidates and students must be able to interpret communication of others effectively. Candidates and students must be able to read and comprehend written material and communicate clearly and audibly during interactions with classmates, professors, patients, and members of the health care team. Candidates and students must also be able to recognize and respond to soft voices or voices under protective garb, auditory timers, equipment/emergency alarms, joint noises, prostheses, and effectively use devices for the measurement of vital signs and breathe sounds. Candidates and students must be able to hear patients and respond to patient critical needs when not in direct line of site.

Psychomotor Skills

Candidates and students must have sufficient motor function to be able to execute movements commonly required to provide assessment and physical therapy treatment procedures to patients/clients, as well as respond quickly to emergencies by lifting/pushing/pulling patients, applying force to perform

CPR, and assisting with transporting patients. These actions require both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium and functional use of the senses of touch, hearing, and vision.

Mobility and Stamina

Candidates and students must possess sufficient gross and fine motor skills and endurance to provide safe and effective physical therapy care in all health care settings. Candidates and students must have the ability to: perform basic life support, including CPR; function in an emergency situation; safely transfer a patient (e.g., from wheelchair to commode, from chair to bed, lift and transfer from floor); calibrate and use equipment; perform treatments and procedures; apply pressure to stop bleeding; and/or manipulate diagnostic instruments to adequately perform all aspects of an assessment. Candidates and students must demonstrate strong bilateral grasp during joint mobilization/manipulation and manually resisted exercise, bilateral gross and fine motor control, and strength to perform therapeutic massage, and fine motor control to manipulate testing instruments/equipment/ writing instruments/computers.

Candidates and students must be able to maintain and assume a variety of positions including sitting for up to 2 hours continuously, frequent standing, walking, bending, squatting, kneeling, stair climbing, reaching forward, reaching overhead, and turning and movement of the trunk and neck in all directions. Candidates and students must have sufficient endurance to continue performing a variety of exertional activities for up to 8-12 hours with occasional rest breaks. Candidates and students must also perform manual material handling and manipulation of various sizes and weights including lifting and transferring patients, guarding patients during gait training on level surfaces/uneven surfaces/ramps/stairs, pushing and pulling to provide resistance and to assist in maneuvering patients. Specific requirements include:

Safely lift up to 50 lbs. independently

Safely lift up to 200+ lbs. with assistance; and sit, stand, and move about in patient environments.

Safely push and pull up to 200 lbs.

Candidates and students must be able to balance self and provide support and balance to patients on a variety of surfaces including level and uneven ground, ramps, curbs, and stairs.

Tactile

Candidates and students must have sufficient tactile ability to perform a physical assessment of a patient and to perform procedures necessary for physical therapy care. Candidates and students must have the ability to perform palpation, manual muscle testing, joint mobilization, percussion, massage, and other functions necessary for a physical exam; assess texture, shape, size, and vibration; note temperature changes in skin and equipment; and perform therapeutic functions associated with wound care. Candidates and students must be able to manipulate dials, sensors, and switches on all examination and therapeutic equipment.

Intellectual, Conceptual, Integrative, and Quantitative Abilities

Candidates and students must be able to measure, calculate reason, analyze, synthesize, integrate, and apply information in making critical judgments. Problem solving, a clinical skill necessary in physical therapy practice, requires all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, candidates must be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures.

Overview of WesternU Financial Aid Process

The information below is to provide you with a quick overview on how financial aid is processed at the Financial Aid office. Please visit our website at <https://www.westernu.edu/financial/>, which has a lot of useful information.

If you have any questions or feedback, please contact our office at (909) 469-5353 or via email at finaid@westernu.edu. We look forward to assisting you!

Applying for Aid –

THE PROCESS

Step 1: Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is open for submission annually each October 1st.

Create a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID

This FSA ID is used to sign your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online.

If you have an existing FSA ID, you are not required to create another one.

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) - <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>
Western University of Health Sciences (WesternU) school code is 024827

When completing the FAFSA application, transfer your federal tax information from two years ago (Prior-Prior Year).

Step 2: Review Student Budget/Cost of Attendance

Student Budgets/Cost of Attendance are subject to change and costs vary each year.

See page 3 for details

Step 3: Requirements

Once admitted to the university, an email from our office will be sent to your WesternU email account. This email will instruct you to login to your Student Portal to complete the listed requirements prior to disbursement of loan funds. Once requirements are completed, your financial aid offer will be emailed to your WesternU email account.

Step 4: Financial Aid Offer

Packaging and Award Policy

Students at WesternU are packaged and awarded as independent graduate students. There are no Grants available to graduate students. Resources such as gift aid, scholarships, Military and the National Health Service Corps will be taken into consideration first when packaging and awarding students.

All eligible students are then awarded in the unsubsidized loan and the balance in the Grad PLUS loan to meet the maximum of their budget. Students are awarded the maximum allowable in the Federal Direct Loan program's as per their program and the Department of Education.

Outside scholarships are available! Please visit

<https://www.westernu.edu/financial/scholarships/> for more details.

Loans

UNIVERSITY STUDENT AFFAIRS – SUPPORT SERVICES ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024

Learning Enhancement and Academic Development (LEAD) <http://www.westernu.edu/lead/lead-about/>

The LEAD office is student-oriented. It serves as an important resource, partnership and support system for students. LEAD counselors are dedicated to assist students in developing their academic, professional and personal skills.

Tutorial Assistance Program (TAP)

This program offers supplemental group academic instruction for **students**. Instruction is facilitated by trained competent peer tutors.

Academic Counseling

In one-on-one academic counseling sessions, students can improve their competencies in a range of areas, including: study strategies, test taking, focus and retention, time management, stress management, academic writing skills and more. Each session is designed to address the student's particular learning style, with the help of basic assessments. Students can schedule as many sessions as needed.

Wellbeing

The initiative consists of Wellbeing workshops with topics that focus on student wellness, Wellbeing activities around exams, and other activities focused on enriching the humanistic side of the student experience.

Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy (CDHP) <http://www.westernu.edu/cdhp/cdhp-about/>

The ^{HF}CDHP embraces the spirit of providing services to all students with permanent or temporary disabilities or medical conditions, ensuring that all University programs and activities are accessible. The ^{HF}CDHP understands your educational needs and is flexible in its accommodations. Please keep in mind, there are no charges to you for services that are needed to support your educational program. We are here to help you succeed!

If you have a disability and/or medical condition, there are several support services available to you. To learn additional information about the services we offer or to start the interactive process, please view our webpage at www.westernu.edu/cdhp. Here you will find information on how to register for accommodations, required documentation, and other helpful information about our center.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact our office at (909) 469-5441 or disabilityaccommodations@westernu.edu.

Fitness – Pomona, CA Campus | <http://www.westernu.edu/students/students-services-fitness/>
<https://www.westernu.edu/stude>

Counseling

<https://www.westernu.edu/students/students-services/students-services-counseling/>

We are pleased to provide all full-time students access to an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for Students through Optum. Under the EAP for Students, you and any member of your immediate household are eligible for up to six free counseling sessions for each “incident” or situation. Counseling includes but is not limited to emotional well-being, financial planning, work, and school issues. Counseling services may be accessed by video counseling, telecounseling, or face-to-face. An on-campus counselor is also available by appointment.

Identification Badges

Student identification badges must be worn at all times while on campus, and entry into buildings may be denied without proper ID.

Health Insurance

Annual parking permits and semester parking permits are available for purchase allowing you to park in designated WesternU parking places. These permits may be purchased during online registration. You may instead choose to park in City Public Metered Parking. Wh

