DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

SACRAMENTO STATE

In Workflow

1. PT Committee Chair (erin.green@csus.edu)
2. PT Chair (irwin.thompson@csus.edu)
3. HHS College Committee Chair (irwin.thompson@csus.edu)
4. HHS Dean (patterson@csus.edu)
5. Academic Services (catalog@csus.edu)
6. Senate Curriculum Subcommittee Chair (curriculum@csus.edu)
7. Faculty Senate Executive Committee Chair (kathy.honeychurch@csus.edu)
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Approval Path

1. 2026-09-08T20:36:21Z
   William Garcia (william.garcia): Approved for PT Committee Chair
2. 2026-09-08T20:46:30Z
   Scott Thompson (irwin.thompson): Approved for PT Chair
3. 2026-09-16T00:32:57Z
   Scott Thompson (irwin.thompson): Rollback to PT Chair for HHS College Committee Chair
4. 2026-09-16T00:44:11Z
   Scott Thompson (irwin.thompson): Approved for PT Chair
5. 2026-09-16T00:45:05Z
   Scott Thompson (irwin.thompson): Approved for HHS College Committee Chair
6. 2026-10-13T01:21:19Z
   Aishah Patterson (patterson): Approved for HHS Dean

History

1. May 2, 2018 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. May 2, 2018 by clmig-jwehrheim
3. Sep 25, 2018 by Janett Torset (torsetj)
4. Dec 9, 2019 by Rolando Lazaro (rolando.lazaro)
5. Apr 6, 2021 by Janett Torset (torsetj)
6. Apr 11, 2022 by Katie Dickson (katiedickson)
7. Mar 7, 2023 by 212408496
8. Mar 15, 2023 by Katie Dickson (katiedickson)
9. Jan 29, 2025 by Scott Thompson (irwin.thompson)
10. May 20, 2025 by Scott Thompson (irwin.thompson)

Date Submitted: 2026-09-08T01:38:51Z

Viewing: Doctor of Physical Therapy

Last approved: Tue, 20 May 2025 16:21:43 GMT

Last edit: 2026-09-16T00:43:52Z

Changes proposed by: Scott Thompson (223005614)

Academic Group: (College)
Health & Human Services

Academic Organization: (Department)
Physical Therapy

Catalog Year Effective:
2027-2028 Catalog

Individual(s) primarily responsible for drafting the proposed degree major program:

Name (First Last)	Email	Phone 999-999-9999
Scott Thompson	irwin.thompson@csus.edu	916-278-5055

Program Snapshot

Type of Program:
Major

Program Change Type:
Substantive

Title of the Program:
Doctor of Physical Therapy

Designation: (degree terminology)
Doctor of Physical Therapy

Delivery Mode:
Fully Face to Face

Support Mode:
Self Support

Please see the CSU/CIP Code Crosswalk: https://www.csus.edu/academic-affairs/curriculum-workflow/_internal/_documents/csu_codes_to_cip.pdf

Proposed Transfer Model Curriculum Code (if applicable):
NA

TMC Templates: https://c-idsystem.org/transfer-efforts/

Will this program require accreditation?
Yes

Anticipated date of accreditation request:
2036

Provide a clear, concise overview of the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification. For NEW programs describe the purpose and focus of the program, identify the target student population(s), and highlight key strengths and distinguishing features of the program.
The Doctor of Physical Therapy Program seeks to update the Program Learning Outcomes to be consonant with Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) standards and required elements and to better reflect contemporary physical therapy practice and education. Specifically, the proposed PLOs are based upon Competency Based Education for Practice and Communication and align with the American Council of Academic Physical Therapy recommendations for entry-level physical therapy practice.

University Learning Goals

Doctorate Learning Goal(s):
Disciplinary knowledge
Communication
Critical thinking/analysis
Information literacy
Professionalism

Intercultural/Global perspectives
Research

Will this program be required as part of a teaching credential program, a single subject, or multiple subject waiver program (e.g., Liberal Studies, Biology) or other school personnel preparation program (e.g., School of Nursing)?

No

Curriculum Alignment and Assessment

Program Learning Outcomes

Provide measurable, program-specific learning outcomes that reflect the most important competencies students will demonstrate upon completion of the program. Programs are expected to assess and use PLOs for continuous improvement.

Program Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcome
PLO 1: Students will integrate foundational knowledge from the biological, physical, and behavioral sciences to support clinical decision-making and the delivery of physical therapy services.
PLO 2: Students will apply principles of evidence-informed practice and clinical reasoning to the Patient/Client Management Model.
PLO 3: Students will effectively communicate with and teach patients/clients, caregivers, colleagues, students, and communities.
PLO 4: Students will exhibit professional behaviors consistent with the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Guide for Professional Conduct and adherence to the APTA Code of Ethics, engage in reflection on their clinical practice and outcomes, and demonstrate commitment to lifelong learning and professional development.
PLO 5: Students will manage resources in alignment with legal, ethical, and organizational requirements.
PLO 6: Students will promote health and wellness, community service, advocate for patients and the profession, and engage in quality improvement to provide care and services that provide optimal value.

Learning Outcomes Display

Course Code	PLO 1	PLO 2	PLO 3	PLO 4	PLO 5	PLO 6
BIO 633	✓					
PT 600	✓		✓			
PT 602	✓	✓			✓	✓
PT 608	✓		✓	✓		
PT 630	✓					
PT 646	✓	✓	✓	✓		
PT 604	✓	✓	✓			
PT 606	✓	✓	✓			
PT 614	✓	✓				
PT 620	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓

PT 622	✓	✓			✓	✓
PT 618	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 632	✓	✓			✓	✓
PT 634	✓	✓			✓	✓
PT 638	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 624	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 625	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 626	✓	✓	✓	✓		
PT 636	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 640	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 660A		✓				
PT 627	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
PT 644	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 645	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 648				✓	✓	✓
PT 660B		✓				
PT 660D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 660G	✓	✓				✓
PT 662	✓	✓			✓	✓
PT 669	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

PT 689	✓	✓			✓	✓
PT 695A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 660C		✓				
PT 660E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 660F	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 663	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 664	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 665	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 668				✓	✓	✓
PT 690	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 695B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PT 680				✓		✓
PT 695C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Please attach a Comprehensive Program Assessment Plan
Doctor of Physical Therapy Program Assessment.pdf

Please attach a Curriculum Map Matrix
Doctor of Physical Therapy Curriculum Matrix.pdf

Please attach a Five-Year Budget Projection. For NEW programs, also attach a Budget Narrative.
Doctor of Physical Therapy 5-Year Budget.pdf

Do these changes impact the degree roadmap?
No

Catalog Description (catalog copy):
Units required for the DPT degree: 104
Available program units (including electives): 113

Program Description

Physical Therapy at Sacramento State is one of several professional curricula in the College of Health and Human Services. The program complements others in the College and provides opportunities for scholarship, instructional collaboration, and interaction.

The doctoral curriculum of 3 years, including summers, encompasses didactic instruction, laboratory experience, and clinical education. The clinical component is thirty-six weeks of full-time, off-campus clinical internships.

Admission and Continuation Requirements (catalog copy): minimum GPA and prerequisites (if applicable), required coursework or preparation, portfolio, test scores, and/or letters of recommendation. For graduate programs: expectations for a relevant bachelor's degree (required or preferred disciplines, prerequisite knowledge, or equivalent experience), include evidence that program requirements conform to the minimum requirements for the culminating experience, as specified in Title 5 Section 40510 The Master's Degree and Section 40511 The Doctoral Degree.

Admission Requirements

To be eligible for admission consideration, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Attain a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university prior to enrollment in the program;
- Eligible for admissions as a graduate student in good standing;
- Complete 6 of the 10 prerequisite courses by the application deadline. The four remaining courses must be completed in the Fall or Spring of the application year.
- Complete at least 50 hours of observation or work experience under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist. Experiences across diverse practice settings, such as outpatient and inpatient care, are strongly encouraged to support a well-informed understanding of the profession, though inpatient setting not required.
- Three letters of recommendation, one from a college professor and two from licensed physical therapists;
- GRE taken within five years of application.

Admission Procedures

Submit the following applications:

1. Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service (PTCAS) online application by the listed deadline;
2. CSU, Sacramento's Department of Physical Therapy (DPT) Supplemental Application, by the listed deadline.

Both applications are accessible via the department website. Following the initial screening, the top 100 applicants will be invited to interview and to submit a Cal State Apply application.

Applicants will submit the following requirements with their PTCAS application:

- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities that you have attended.
- Verification of completing a minimum 50 total hours of work/volunteer experience in at least one "Inpatient" and one "Outpatient" setting. Each setting must have at least sixteen (16) hours of exposure. All PT experience hours must be completed and verified by the deadline.
- Three letters of recommendation, two from U.S. licensed physical therapists and one from a college professor.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores taken within five years of applying to the DPT program using code: 7588.
- Applicants who do not possess a baccalaureate degree from a post-secondary institution where English is a principal language must take the TEST of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Submit TOEFL scores with your PTCAS application.
- Applicants who previously attended another professional entry-level physical therapy program must submit a letter from the director of the previous physical therapy program designating their academic standing *(if applicable).*

Admission is granted on a competitive basis. Meeting the admission requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the DPT program.

Selection Procedures

Application materials are reviewed by the DPT Admissions Committee. During the first screening applications are reviewed for the prerequisite coursework GPA, recommendation forms from two licensed physical therapists and one academic professional, GRE scores, volunteer hours, and additional background criteria. Based on the results of this first screening, the top applicants will be invited for a panel interview. The top thirty-two applicants along with alternates will be notified of their status within two weeks of the final interviews.

Additional Information

Health Requirements

Students admitted to the graduate program in the Department of Physical Therapy are required to have specified immunizations by the Student Health Center or a private physician prior to any clinical participation. Complete information on health requirements will be provided to incoming students.

Costs and Fees

In addition to University tuition and fees, students can be expected to incur costs of approximately $1,800 per year for books, and supplies. Students are required to assume responsibility for transportation and housing costs for clinical internships which may be anywhere in a contracted site in California.

Health Insurance, Transportation Schedules, CPR Certification, and Background Screens

All students accepted into the graduate program in the Department of Physical Therapy must provide their own health insurance and transportation to clinical facilities. Major medical health insurance is mandatory prior to beginning clinical experiences. CPR certification (Basic Adult and Pediatric for healthcare providers) must be maintained according to the requirements of the American Heart Association or American Red Cross. Students will be required to complete a criminal background check prior to clinical placements. A positive criminal history may limit or preclude student participation in the clinical courses.

Required Prerequisite Courses (38-39 units)

Prerequisite coursework must have been completed at an accredited college or university with a minimum grade of "C" or better.

Code	Title	Units
Prerequisite Courses Required for enrollment consideration (38-39 Units)		
Human Anatomy with Lab [1]		
Select one of the following:		4
BIO 22	Introductory Human Anatomy	
or BIO 122	Advanced Human Anatomy	
BIO 25 & BIO 26	Human Anatomy and Physiology I Human Anatomy and Physiology II	
Human Physiology with Lab [1]		
Select one of the following:		4
BIO 25 & BIO 26	Human Anatomy and Physiology I Human Anatomy and Physiology II	
BIO 131	Systemic Physiology	
Psychology		
PSYC 2	Introductory Psychology	3
Select one additional Psychology course similar to:		3
PSYC 148	Child Psychology	
PSYC 150	Psychological Aspects of Aging	
PSYC 151	Psychological Aspects of Death and Dying	
PSYC 168	Abnormal Psychology	
Statistics		
STAT 1	Introduction to Statistics	3 - 4
or STAT 50	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	
Chemistry I with Lab		
CHEM 1A	General Chemistry I	5
or CHEM 6A	Introduction to General Chemistry	
Chemistry II with Lab		
CHEM 1B	General Chemistry II	5
or CHEM 6B	Introduction to Organic and Biological Chemistry	
Physics I with Lab		
PHYS 5A	General Physics: Mechanics, Heat, Sound	4
Physics II with Lab		
PHYS 5B	General Physics: Light, Electricity and Magnetism, Modern Physics	4
Physiology of Exercise (with lab preferred) [1]		
KINS 150	Exercise and Sport Physiology	3
or KINS 152	Physiology Of Exercise	
Total Units		**38-39**

[1] Anatomy, Physiology, and Exercise Physiology must have been completed within the last ten (10) years of the application deadline for the DPT program.

Minimum Units and Grade Requirement for the Degree

Units Required for the DPT: 104-113

Minimum Cumulative GPA: 3.0; students must earn a grade of "B" in all courses taken in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

Advancement to Candidacy

Each student must file an application for Advancement to Candidacy indicating a proposed program of graduate study. This procedure may begin as soon as the classified graduate student has:

- removed any deficiencies in admission requirements and achieved classified status;
- successfully completed all courses with a grade of "B" or higher in the first 4 terms with a minimum of 3.0 ("B") overall grade point average in all DPT graduate level coursework;
- passed (with a grade of "B" or higher) a Graduate Writing Intensive (GWI) course (PT 608) and
- passed the faculty candidacy assessment.

Program Requirements (catalog copy):

Units required for the DPT degree: 104

Available program units (including electives): 113

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Units
First Fall Semester (16 Units)		
BIO 633	Human Gross Anatomy for Physical Therapists	3
PT 600	Pathokinesiology	5
PT 602	Evidence Informed Practice I	3
PT 608	PT/Patient/Professional Interactions	2
PT 630	Pathophysiology	3
First Spring Semester (17 Units)		
PT 646	Acute Care and Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy	2
PT 604	Principles of Human Movement	2
PT 606	Therapeutic Measurements and Techniques	4
PT 614	Neuroscience for Physical Therapy	3
PT 620	Physical Therapy Interventions I	3
PT 622	Evidence Informed Practice II	3
First Summer Semester (7 Units)		
PT 618	Foundations for Patient Management	1
PT 632	Pharmacology for Physical Therapists	2
PT 634	Diagnostic Imaging for Physical Therapy	2
PT 638	Health, Wellness and Ergonomics in Physical Therapy	2
Second Fall Semester (16 Units)		
PT 624	Adult Neuromuscular Patient Management I	4
PT 625	Musculoskeletal Patient Management I	4
PT 626	Clinical Agents	2
PT 636	Geriatrics/Gerontology for Physical Therapists	2
PT 640	Physical Therapy Interventions II	3
PT 660A	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar A: Research [1]	1
Second Spring Semester (21 Units)		
PT 627	Physical Therapy Educator	1
PT 644	Adult Neuromuscular Patient Management II	4
PT 645	Musculoskeletal Patient Management II	4
PT 648	Health Care Delivery in Physical Therapy I	2
PT 660B	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar B: Research [1]	1
PT 660D	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar ID: Electrotherapeutics [1]	2
PT 660G	Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) [1]	2
PT 662	Differential Diagnosis in Physical Therapy	3
PT 669	Psychosocial Issues in Physical Therapy	1
PT 689	Doctoral Project Proposal	1
Second Summer Semester (6 Units)		
PT 695A	Clinical Experience I	6
Third Fall Semester (17 Units)		
PT 660C	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar C: Research [1]	1
PT 660E	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar IE: NeuroPediatric Laboratory [1]	2
PT 660F	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar IF: Adult Neuromuscular Laboratory [1]	2
PT 663	Integumentary Patient Management	2
PT 664	Neuropediatric Patient Management	2
PT 665	Musculoskeletal Patient Management III	3
PT 668	Health Care Delivery in Physical Therapy II	2
PT 690	Doctoral Project/Culminating Experience	3
Third Spring Semester (6 Units)		
PT 695B	Clinical Experience II	6
Third Summer Semester (7 Units)		
PT 680	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar II	1

PT 695C	Clinical Experience III	6
Total Units		**113**

[1] Elective Course. A minimum of 2 elective units is required.

Fiscal Impact to Change an Existing Program

Indicate programmatic or fiscal impact which this change will have on other academic units' programs, and describe the consultation that has occurred with affected units:

The proposed Program Learning Outcomes should not impact any other academic unit programs. Consequently, consultation with other academic units is not indicated. The proposed updated PLOs will simply align the program's curriculum with contemporary physical therapy practice and with the revised CAPTE accreditation standards.

Provide a fiscal analysis of the proposed changes:

There are no anticipated fiscal implications for the proposed changes.

How will the above changes be accommodated within the department/College existing fiscal resources?

The above changes will not impact fiscal resources, so no accommodations are required.

Will the proposed changes require additional resources?

No

What additional space, equipment, operating expenses, library, computer, or media resources, clerical/technical support, or other resources will be needed?

No additional resources are required for the proposed changes.

Estimate the cost and indicate how these resource needs will be accommodated:

There is no cost associated with the proposed changes.

Reviewer Comments:

Scott Thompson (irwin.thompson) (Wed, 16 Sep 2026 00:32:57 GMT): Rollback: Admissions edits

Key: 194