

Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy (tDPT) Program

Why It's For You

Sage Graduate School offers a transitional program for practicing physical therapists who wish to earn a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree. The transitional program enables licensed physical therapists to obtain degree parity with therapists who hold the professional (entry-level) DPT by filling in any gaps between their physical therapy education and the current academic standards for the profession. Completion of the tDPT Program will allow practicing physical therapists to demonstrate continued competence and current knowledge of the discipline, and more strongly position them in the current practice environment and the future health care marketplace.

The tDPT Program is offered primarily online, allowing clinicians to work full-time while pursuing the advanced degree part-time. The program can be completed in one to two years with one weekend each semester on campus. Clinicians who demonstrate equivalency in formal graduate coursework or advanced clinical professional development courses or activities may be granted equivalency credit or have some required courses waived.

Program Mission

The mission of the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program is consistent with the vision of the American Physical Therapy Association that states: "By 2020, physical therapy will be provided by physical therapists who are doctors of physical therapy, recognized by consumers and other health professionals as practitioners of choice to whom consumers have direct access for the diagnosis of, interventions for, and prevention of impairments, functional limitations, and disabilities related to movement, function, and health."

Faculty

Our faculty members are experienced teachers, clinical specialists and scholars. All faculty members are engaged in research in areas that are important to the quality of contemporary health care. Faculty members teaching in the tDPT Program have advanced training and experience in their content areas.

tDPT Curriculum

The tDPT curriculum is designed to augment the professional body of knowledge and practice of physical therapy of the past decade. A maximum of eight core courses bridge any gaps between bachelor's and master's programs in physical therapy and current professional DPT programs.

The curriculum is based on the APTA's *Preferred Curricular Guide for the tDPT Program* and the *Guide to Physical Therapist Practice*, and is consistent with current standards for physical therapy professional education and practice. All students complete a culminating critical inquiry capstone project with a faculty mentor. At the completion of the program, tDPT students present the results of their critical inquiry capstone project at the annual Sage Graduate School Research Symposium.

Degree Requirements

		Credit hours
PTY 615	Clinical Research Methods for Physical Therapists	3
PTY 647	Analysis of Professional Literature in Physical Therapy	3
PTY 720	Administration, Leadership & Business Management for Physical Therapists	3
PTY 722	Educational Strategies for Clinical Practice	3
PTY 723	Medical Imaging for Physical Therapists	



- PTY 724 Pharmacotherapeutics for Physical Therapists
- PTY 725 Differential Diagnosis for Physical Therapists
- PTY 768 Capstone Experience: Evidence-Based Practice and Case Report

Students may also elect to take courses from the Institute for Palliative Care and can simultaneously earn a graduate certificate or concentration in Palliative Care or Gerontology.

Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's, master's, or combined degree in physical therapy from an accredited program
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended
- Current license to practice physical therapy in the United States
- Current resume
- Two professional letters of recommendation
- A career goals statement/personal essay

Applicants who demonstrate equivalency in formal graduate-level academic coursework or through advanced clinical professional development courses or activities may request equivalency credit or waiver of required courses. If you are requesting a waiver, a cover letter and detailed portfolio of professional development courses and activities should be submitted in addition to the above admission requirements.

Accreditation

The Sage Colleges tDPT Program is registered by the New York State Education Department. Sage also offers a professional DPT program,

which is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) of the American Physical Therapy Association. Sage is the only accredited physical therapy program in New York's Capital Region.

The Professional Connection

Sage Graduate School offers distinctive advanced degree programs that address a spectrum of human concerns and reflect a sensitivity and responsiveness to the local community and the broader society. At Sage Graduate School, the emphasis is on applying research and theory to practical, professional situations. Sage's diverse and talented faculty are practitioners themselves, and are committed to helping students acquire the professional skills and the connections to manage and change the workplaces of tomorrow.

For more information contact:

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