

**DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
COLLEGE OF APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO
Fall 2015**

Policies related to the Physical Therapy GPPA program

In order to maintain guaranteed professional program admission status, you must:

- Maintain a cumulative 3.50 GPA. This cumulative GPA will be assessed at the end of each semester (which includes the summer session) and again at the conclusion of the fall semester prior to the anticipated entrance into the professional program. Only non-recalculated GPA's will be used for grade review for GPPA purposes.
- Complete all UIC DPT Program prerequisite courses with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5. This is your cumulative GPA after completing all prerequisite courses. In addition, your grades for the Anatomy and Physiology courses must be a "B" or better.
- Complete volunteer experience requirements.
- Maintain a full-time course load of 12 or more graded (A - F) credits each semester, in addition to any pass/fail or satisfactory/unsatisfactory credits.
- Meet with an advisor in the Department of Physical Therapy once a semester to review your academic progress.
- Take all prerequisite course work for physical therapy at UIC. A semester or year abroad educational program is allowed as long as it is sponsored by UIC and the above criteria are satisfied. *(Please see Policy on Advanced Placement Credit and Credit for College Courses Taken While in High School, for exceptions to this rule.)*

Membership in the UIC Honors College is strongly recommended by UIC, but not required.

In order to be admitted into the professional program through the GPPA you must:

- Have GPPA status at the time of entry (see above)
- Earn a baccalaureate degree at UIC prior to entry into the program with a minimum cumulative 3.50 GPA. You must provide official transcripts from all universities attended.
- Provide official GRE scores to the UIC DPT Program. Attain a score of at least 151 on the verbal portion, 144 on the quantitative portion, and 4.0 on the writing portion of the GRE.
- Complete a minimum of 40 hours of physical therapy clinical volunteer experiences.
- Complete a minimum of three years of academic work at UIC
- Declare your intention to enter the professional Physical Therapy Program by submitting the appropriate physical therapy declaration materials by **November 1** of the calendar year prior to the year you hope to enter.
- Meet all physical therapy program course prerequisites and any additional admissions prerequisites that are in place for the year of entry into the professional program by December 15 of the calendar year prior to the year of desired entry. *(This includes but is not limited to course prerequisites and volunteer experience requirements. Professional admission requirements may change after you enter UIC. You are responsible for consulting with your Department of Physical Therapy advisor in one of your regular semester meetings to be apprised of any changes which may occur. Please read the following section on requirements concerning Advanced Placement credit.)*
- Enter into the DPT program at the next occurring Fall Semester following graduation unless a formal request for a one year deferral has been made to the DPT Admissions Coordinator

- The PTCAS application and letters of recommendation are waived for GPPA DPT applicants in good standing. You are automatically admitted if you meet all of the above requirements.
- Successfully pass a background check, as required of all applicants admitted to the UIC DPT Program.

Entry into the Program is in Fall term only. Professional program declaration materials for GPPA students are obtained from the Department of Physical Therapy. Declaration packets are available in the Department of Physical Therapy.

Advanced Placement Credit and Credit for College Courses Taken *While in High School* for GPPA students

This policy applies to any Advanced Placement credit awarded by UIC based upon examinations administered by the Educational Testing Service for the College Board or any college courses taken while in high school that have been transferred to UIC and are exceptions to the policy that all prerequisites for the physical therapy program must be taken at UIC (from Conditions of Maintenance of GPPA Status for Physical Therapy).

- This transfer or AP credit may be used to satisfy any psychology, physics, or calculus prerequisites.
- For each semester of transfer or AP credit used towards Biology prerequisites, another biology course with lab component must be taken at UIC (excluding any botany courses).
- This transfer or AP credit may be used to satisfy the Chemistry prerequisites, but one additional chemistry course for science majors must be taken at UIC to supplement the chemistry (whether one or two semester length courses have been awarded through AP or transfer credit).
- Transfer or AP credit **may not** be used to satisfy the statistics prerequisite.

Process to appeal for reinstatement to GPPA status:

Those students whose cumulative GPA is below 3.5 at the end of an academic year will be placed on probationary GPPA status for the next fall semester. By the end of that next fall semester (excluding senior year), if the student does not restore their cumulative GPA to a 3.5 or higher, the student will lose GPPA status.

A GPPA student who has lost GPPA status may appeal to be reinstated based on a presentation of special circumstances. The student may petition the Physical Therapy Director of DPT Admissions in writing to consider mitigating circumstances associated with the drop in GPA. If the Director believes that the mitigating circumstances and the student's overall academic performance warrant special consideration, the student will be informed in writing that he or she may regain GPPA status if by the end of the following semester if the student is able to bring the cumulative GPA to 3.5 or greater, and maintains all other conditions for continued GPPA status. **Appeals will require strong documentation and evidence and must be submitted within one month of receipt of a GPPA dismissal letter.**

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