

# Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy (t-DPT)

## Advance Yourself . . . Advance Your Career

Whether you're a physical therapist working in a hospital, a private clinical practice or a nursing home, perhaps you've thought about what it would take to earn your doctoral degree. If you came to the conclusion that you just didn't have the time to advance your career, think again. You do.

The **Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy (t-DPT)** program at Governors State University (GSU) is designed with you — the busy practicing clinician — in mind. You'll be able to continue working while enhancing your knowledge and skills, broadening your clinical perspective, and regenerating your passion for your profession.

And best of all, you can set your own pace, taking as many classes as your work schedule allows. Flexibility — and convenience — is the key. GSU's t-DPT program is easy to access, with the majority of classes offered online.

## What's the Value in Getting this Degree?

The **Transitional Doctoral degree in Physical Therapy (t-DPT)** is designed to prepare licensed physical therapists to meet the challenges of an ever-changing clinical environment. The program creates a bridge between the content you learned at the bachelor's and master's levels, and the latest, most current theory and practice taught at the doctoral level. You'll be able to incorporate your new knowledge and practices into your own work setting, with your own patients. You'll be on top of your field and keeping pace with your colleagues — and your patients will benefit from your advanced training, as well. It's a win-win situation.

## What's the Value in Getting this Degree?

It's never too late to advance yourself and your career. For more information, or to apply, visit [www.govst.edu/tdpt](http://www.govst.edu/tdpt). To talk to a **t-DPT advisor**, contact **Dr. Ann Vendrely**, Professor of Physical Therapy, at **708.534.7291** or [avendrely@govst.edu](mailto:avendrely@govst.edu).

## SUCCESS BY DEGREES



**Governors State University**

1 University Parkway, University Park, IL 60484

708.534.4388 [www.govst.edu/tdpt](http://www.govst.edu/tdpt)

## fact

The American Physical Therapy Association envisions that "Physical Therapy, by 2020, will be provided by **by Physical Therapists** who are **Doctors of Physical Therapy** and who may be board-certified specialists. . . ."\*

Source: Full vision statement available at [www.apta.org](http://www.apta.org)



# SUCCESS BY DEGREES

## Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy (t-DPT)

### Admission Requirements

Applications for admission to the t-DPT program are accepted throughout the year. The t-DPT program is not designed to be a cohort program; you can turn in your application at any time. Applications for admission are available online at [www.govst.edu/tdpt](http://www.govst.edu/tdpt). The Department of Physical Therapy Admissions Committee will review applications before an offer of admission is extended.

In addition to meeting the university admission criteria for graduate students, you must meet the following requirements:

1. Current **licensure as a Physical Therapist** in the United States or its territories;
2. A **bachelor's or master's degree** in Physical Therapy, with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.8 on a 4.0 scale;
3. A **minimum of six months of experience** (1,000 hours) in full-time practice as a physical therapist;
4. Two letters of recommendation;
5. Computer access to complete online course work;
6. Approval for prior course work of up to six credit hours may be awarded based on individual qualifications and completion of the following:
  - Previous coursework at Governors State University
  - Award of American Board of Physical Therapist Specialties certification
  - Completion of a credentialed clinical residency program
7. Internationally educated physical therapists must submit official academic credentials with evaluation from the Educational Credentials Evaluation (ECE) in Milwaukee, WI and may be required to submit a minimum acceptable score on the Test of English as a Second Language (TOEFL).

### Curriculum

#### Degree Requirements\*

##### Clinical Management Courses (12 credit hours)

PHYT820 Clinical Decision Making I (Required first course) (3)

PHYT821 Clinical Decision Making II (3)

\*\* PHYT830 Teaching and Learning in Physical Therapy (3)

PHYT840 Management and Administration in Physical Therapy (3)

##### Clinical Science Courses (9 credit hours)

PHYT824 Pharmacology for Licensed Physical Therapists (3)

PHYT832 Human Performance and Wellness (3)

PHYT842 Imaging for Licensed Physical Therapist (3)

##### Evidence-Based Practice Courses (9-12 credit hours)

\*\* HLSC840 Responsible Conduct of Research (3)

PHYT790 Introduction to Health Care Research (required for BA trained) (3)

PHYT825 Research I: Evidence-Based Physical Therapy Practice (3)

PHYT875 Research II: Clinical Project (Capstone) (3)

##### Electives (3-9 credit hours)

PHYT852 Integumentary Physical Therapy (3)

PHYT850 Advocacy and Leadership in Physical Therapy (3)

PHYT860 Topics in Physical Therapy (Topics vary) (3)

PHYT800 Independent Study (3)

EDPD640/NURS650 Online teaching (3)

Approved courses from other graduate programs (3)

##### Total Credits

**33 hours** for physical therapists who entered the program with a master's degree

**42 hours** for physical therapists who entered the program with a bachelor's degree

\* This information is for reference only. For complete information about College of Health and Human Services' degree programs or certificates, please refer to the current approved Governors State University Catalog.

\*\* Indicates course requires on-campus instruction.

Governors State University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

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