

## **CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**

### **Application Process for the Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) Degree**

The physical therapy professional program is a full-time competency-based program leading to the Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) degree. The curriculum consists of foundational science, clinical science, and professional practice courses taught by lecture, laboratory, and clinical education.

If you have not yet completed an undergraduate degree, you must complete a bachelor's degree at CSULB or other accredited undergraduate institution before you can apply to the program.

#### **Undergraduates Seeking the Bachelors Degree at CSULB**

- A CSULB bachelor's degree in Biology, option in Physiology will best serve your academic needs as most lower division and many upper division \*foundational science prerequisite courses are included in the degree. The Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology, option in Exercise Science at CSULB also includes many of these courses. If you choose a degree option other than Biology or Kinesiology, you will need to take units beyond the basic requirements for a bachelor's degree to complete all of the prerequisites for the MPT program. Undergraduates taking \* courses must either obtain at least a "B" in each course or a "B" average in these courses. Contact the Department of Physical Therapy before taking \* courses if you attend to apply to the MPT program.
- Transfer students should make early contact with the Department of Biological Sciences or the Department of Kinesiology to work toward a degree.
- CSULB students who anticipate the completion of all undergraduate requirements by the end of the spring or summer semesters may apply to the University by the January 15 deadline for entrance into the program the following Fall semester. CSULB students who will have completed their degree before the January 15 deadline may apply for consideration of early admission providing that all lower and upper division prerequisites are completed. Candidates must simultaneously apply to the Department of Physical Therapy.

#### **Graduates with Bachelor's Degrees from Institutions Other Than CSULB**

- If you have earned a bachelor's degree from an institution other than CSULB, you must complete all lower division prerequisite courses before applying to the Graduate School and the Physical Therapy Program. You may take these lower division prerequisites at a junior college. Once you have fulfilled all physical therapy program lower division prerequisite courses with at least a "C" in every course, you should simultaneously apply to the University and to the Department of Physical Therapy for admission to the program. Application for the Physical Therapy Program is accepted from October 1 through January 15 for entrance into the program the following Fall semester. Students completing all lower division pre-requisite courses prior to the January 15 deadline, may apply for consideration of early acceptance into the program.

- When you are admitted to the Graduate School and the program, you are considered “conditionally classified” by the University. After completing the \*foundational science courses with either a grade of “B” in each course or a 3.0 average in all \* courses, and after earning an overall Graduate GPA of 3.0, you automatically become a “classified” Graduate student and begin the professional program.

### **Application Process for all students**

- Applicants must simultaneously send an application to the Department of Physical Therapy and a separate application to the University.
  - To apply to the Department of Physical Therapy, submit a completed - *Application for Physical Therapy Professional Program*, available from the Department Office, ETEC 130 (562-985-4072), by January 15 for admission the following fall semester.
  - To apply to the University, submit a completed *CSU Post baccalaureate and Graduate Admissions Form* available on line at [www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu) or through the University's Office of Enrollment Services (562-985-5471). You must have a 2.5 GPA in the semesters of your last 60 units to be accepted by the University.
- If you need to complete all of the \*courses after admission to the program, you should apply by January 15<sup>th</sup> at least one year prior to the date you wish to begin the professional MPT program.
- Applicants must meet the minimal requirements for admission to graduate studies at California State University. Physical therapy, like other high-demand programs may be unable to admit all students who meet the established minimum qualifications. Acceptance to the program, therefore, is on a competitive basis.

### **Completing the MPT Degree**

- Each MPT student must fulfill all of the physical therapy professional program requirements including the comprehensive examination and completion of a research project before being awarded the Master of Physical Therapy degree.
- The completion of all degree requirements and a post-professional internship mandated by state licensure laws will qualify the graduate to sit for a state board examination to practice as a physical therapist in California and other states.
- All students must complete a criminal background check prior to internship. Students will be unable to complete internships or to practice if they have been convicted of certain felonies.

### **Advisement Sessions**

- The Department of Physical Therapy encourages you to attend one of the general advising sessions scheduled at 8:00 a.m. in ET-115 on the first Friday of most months. Call the Department Office for a schedule of general advising sessions at 562-985-4072 or e-mail the Department Coordinator, Gloria Dacanay at [gdacanay@csulb.edu](mailto:gdacanay@csulb.edu)
- (Revised 9-07)