



Five Things Students Should Know About Applying To The UTEP Physical Therapy Doctoral Program



1. While you do need a bachelor's degree in order to apply to the Physical Therapy program, it does not matter which bachelor's degree you pursue. No preference is given to any degree. However, it is important to note, some degrees fulfill the prerequisite course requirements for Physical Therapy more efficiently than others.
2. When choosing a bachelor's degree major, it is in your best interest to pursue a bachelor's degree in a field that you will enjoy. Admittance into the Physical Therapy program is not guaranteed. It is a competitive program that only accepts a maximum of 24 students each academic year. For that reason, it is important that students choose a degree as a career of choice.
3. The minimum Prerequisite and Cumulative GPA requirement is 3.0. Furthermore, the average GPA of students admitted into the Physical Therapy program is about 3.5. Therefore, it is very important for students pursuing Physical Therapy to strive to achieve 'A's and 'B's, mainly 'A's, in all of their courses.
4. Students are also required to complete, at least, 50 hours of volunteer work with a licensed Physical Therapist. We recommend students attempt this sooner, not later. The sooner students research and learn about the career the sooner they will establish if Physical Therapy is the right choice. Think of it this way, would you buy a car without popping the hood or test driving the vehicle?
5. Students applying to the Physical Therapy program also must take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). While there is no minimum score requirement on the GRE, it is a measure of a student's knowledge and is used in the application process for some graduate programs. Keep in mind, the higher the score the more competitive the candidate. Since the Physical Therapy application process begins in the Spring term, we encourage our students to begin studying two years prior to graduation in order to attempt the GRE the final fall semester before applying in the Spring term. If a student wishes to attempt the GRE again, the student has the opportunity to retake the test before the application deadline in the Spring semester.