

DPT APPLICATION TIMELINE

APPLYING TO DPT PROGRAMS? STAY ON TOP OF YOUR APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS & MATERIALS

FRESHMAN YEAR



Familiarize Yourself With Application Requirements

- Visit Arcadia & other DPT program websites
- Outline your 4 year course plan with an academic advisor by the end of the year



Review the PTCAS Website

- PTCAS stands for Physical Therapy Centralized Application Service
- System all students use to apply to DPT programs



Gain PT Exposure Hours

- Start to shadow, volunteer or intern with a licensed PT
- Acquire at least 20 hours by the end of the summer

SOPHOMORE YEAR



Track Your Pre-Requisites Progress

- Make sure you are on track to complete all academic requirements for DPT programs during your time at AU



Stay on Top of Your GPA

- If you were not as successful in a course, consider re-taking it over the summer
- Community college courses are accepted for many PT programs



Study For and Take the GRE

- Attempt to study for and take the exam in your Sophomore year
- Retake during Junior year if needed
- Look at the average scores for programs you are applying to

JUNIOR YEAR



Identify PT Programs

- Review PTCAS to identify programs to apply to
- Select safety, match and reach programs
- It costs \$40 for each PTCAS program application



Touch Base with References

- Before leaving for summer break, identify individuals you want to serve as a reference
- Educate PTs you have worked with and professors about the application process and deadlines



Get Even More PT Exposure

- Keep track of all of your hours on a spreadsheet
- Acquire at least 150 hours total by the end of summer
- Maintain relationships with your PTs throughout the app process

SENIOR YEAR



Prepare Your Materials

- Even before PTCAS opens, you can begin to prepare your materials
- Start your personal statement, reach out to references, research university GRE codes



Apply Through PTCAS

- PTCAS opens in July
- Submit your materials as early as possible
- PTCAS verifies all of your documents and this process can take 3-5 weeks after you submit



Prepare for Interviews

- Many programs interview on-campus
- Conduct a practice interview with the OCE to prepare
- Dress for Success! Make sure you have a suit for interviews



PTCAS FAST FACTS

- PTCAS is a service of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)
- The system allows applicants to use a single application and one set of materials to apply to multiple DPT programs
- Visit www.ptcas.org to view application instructions, programs list, application requirements and deadlines

