**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 application process

**SENIOR YEAR**
- **Prepare Your Materials**
  - Even before PTCAS opens, you can begin to prepare your materials
  - Start your personal statement, 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

**OFFICE OF CAREER EDUCATION**
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