



GENERAL INFORMATION

To enter the Physical Therapy profession, students must earn a doctoral degree in Physical Therapy (DPT), followed by passing a state licensing exam. Most physical therapy programs are very selective, so students must demonstrate a high level of achievement, earn a bachelor degree (usually in some area of biology, exercise science or psychology), and have actual work or volunteer experience in the physical therapy field. The 2007-08 classes accepted to the University of Washington DPT program had an average undergraduate GPA of 3.7 and each applicant had 200-500 hours of volunteer or paid work experience. The University of Washington accepts 30 students per year in its DPT program.

Most students applying to Physical Therapy programs have first earned a bachelor degree in exercise science, kinesiology, physiology or biology, but a bachelor degree in any field is acceptable. Western Washington University offers Pre-Physical Therapy and Exercise Science Bachelors degrees. The University of Washington does not offer degrees in the physical education field, but it does offer the biology/physiology degree. **It is essential that you talk to an advisor here at EvCC while planning your courses so that you take prerequisites for your bachelor degree as well as for the eventual transfer to a physical therapy doctoral program.** Everett Community College offers the following pathway to university transfer:

The Associate in Arts and Sciences – Option II meets guidelines for direct transfer to most colleges and universities in Washington, as well as to the major public universities in Oregon. The degree enables the student to complete basic distribution requirements in math, English, humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, and to begin the major course of study. However, the student may have to take additional freshman and sophomore level science courses at the university before being eligible for junior level courses in the major.

PROGRAM ADVISORS

It is helpful to consult with university advisors, as well as EvCC advisors. Please contact one of these EvCC advisors to help you select which degree pathway to follow, and to map out your program of study.

- ◆ Fayla Schwartz, Shuksan 117, 425-388-9451, fschwartz@everettcc.edu
- ◆ Pamela Pape-Lindstrom, Shuksan 118, 425-388-9480, ppape@everettcc.edu
- ◆ Elliot Stern, Shuksan 133, 425-388-9424, estern@everettcc.edu

CAREER OPTIONS

According to the University of Washington School of Physical Therapy website:

“The profession of physical therapy will appeal to people who enjoy physical activity, service to others, and one-on-one therapeutic relationships. Physical therapists work with individuals with movement or mobility problems in order to prevent, restore or resolve the dysfunctional condition. Physical therapists find work in hospitals, private clinics, public schools, health maintenance organizations, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers and home health agencies. Currently, a conservative estimate of the annual salary for a new graduate is \$57,000.

“Certain essential attributes and skills are exercised in the practice of the profession. These include: the ability to learn new tasks; emotional stability; the ability to make sound judgments; effective communication skills; the ability to detect subtle changes; functional discernment of spatial relationships; the ability to perform, evaluate and interpret diagnostic tests; good problem solving skills; the ability to safely assist others with their movements; and demonstration of professional ethical behaviors.”

Everett Community College and Lake Washington Technical College now jointly offer a two-year associate degree program in **Physical Therapist Assistant**. This program does not lead directly to a bachelor’s degree. Instead, it provides preparation to enter the field as an assistant or aide, and requires a totally different set of preparatory courses than those required for becoming a physical therapist. Physical therapist assistants and aides perform components of physical therapy procedures and related tasks selected by a supervising physical therapist. Please direct your questions to Molly Verschuyt, PTA Program Director, e-mail: molly.verschuyt@lwtc.edu

SUGGESTED PREPARATION

High school study in math, biology and chemistry is very helpful, so that college level courses in these subjects can be immediately pursued. Additionally, writing and communication skills are important.

Students interested in physical therapy should be prepared to work with a diversity of clients. Their written and verbal communications skills should be strong.

TRANSFER INFORMATION

The UW and EWU Doctor of Physical Therapy programs require that the applicant has completed a minimum of the following undergraduate courses (quarter system): 2-3 courses in general chemistry, 3 courses in physics, 1 course in anatomy, 1 course in physiology, at least 2 other courses in biology (cellular biology, evolution/ecology, microbiology), 2 courses in psychology, and 1 course in statistics. The WWU pre-physical therapy major also requires a course in Nutrition and one in Computer Science. In addition, the student must take basic college level English and math classes. Some transfer institutions will also require two to three quarters of college level foreign language or three years of high school foreign language. UW and EWU require a cumulative GPA of 3.0, including at least a 2.0 for each prerequisite course. Some experience (100-200 hours, paid or volunteer) working with a physical therapist is also required. All applicants must be U.S. residents or citizens (student visa not acceptable). For specific requirements in your area of interest or for the school to which you wish to transfer, it is strongly recommended that you contact an EvCC biology advisor and contact the transfer institution. As indicated in the section “General Information”, admission can be very competitive, and simply meeting the minimum requirements may not be enough.

WEBSITES

Websites of physical therapy departments at common transfer institutions:

Eastern Washington University:	www.ewu.edu/pt
Pacific University (Oregon):	www.pacificu.edu/pt/index.cfm
University of Puget Sound:	www.ups.edu/pt.xml
University of Washington:	http://rehab.washington.edu/

[November 2009]

GETTING STARTED AT EVCC

Our Enrollment Services Office provides information about application, advising, orientation and registration for new and continuing students. Though advising is voluntary, all prospective and current students are invited to contact the Enrollment Services Office or the Counseling Advising and Career Center (CACC) if they would like to speak one-to-one with an advisor about getting started. Contact:

- ◆ Enrollment Services, Jackson Center, 425-388-9219, admissions@everettcc.edu
- ◆ CACC, Third Floor, Parks, 425-388-9263

***Prepare for your
future in a
health profession
at EvCC***



Note 4: Completion of all the listed courses may result in more than 90 credits being earned for the degree. The advantage is that the completion of these courses will enable you to progress more efficiently in your major at a university. Alternatively, some of the courses may be done at the university instead. Please consult with an advisor to decide the best option for you.

Note 5: Students considering a B.S. in Physiology at the University of Washington may find they also need to take BIOL&223, CHEM& 261, 262, 263 [200, 201, 202] and MATH& 151, 152, 153 [152, 153, 154]. Some schools may only require two quarters of some lab sciences, instead of a year-long sequence. Please check with an advisor.

SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCE

This plan assumes the student is academically ready for college level Math, English and Chemistry courses.

Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
CHEM& 161 [140] BIOL& 221 [180] MATH& 141 [140]	CHEM& 162 [150] BIOL& 222 [200] ENGL& 101 or 101D	CHEM& 163 [160] PSYC& 100 ENGL& 102 or 102D	CMST& 210 [SPCH 100] HUMANITIES SOCIAL SCIENCE
Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
BIOL& 231 [235] PHYS& 121 [117] NUTR& 101	BIOL& 232 [237] PHYS& 122 [118] MATH& 146 [281]	PSYC& 220 [201] PHYS& 123 [119] BIOL&260	HUMANITIES SOCIAL SCIENCE



About Everett Community College

Improve your personal skills, discover new ideas, prepare for work and/or university transfer, and improve your career prospects through programs at EvCC.

Each term, about 9,800 students enroll in a wide variety of courses. Day, evening, distance, and workplace-based options are available. Students may enroll on a full-time or part-time basis. EvCC offers two-year associate degrees, short-term certificates, endorsements and industry certifications.

Student life can be active. Currently, EvCC offers athletic programs in basketball, baseball, and soccer, to name a few.

Student clubs range from Phi Theta Kappa (the Honor Society) to the United Native American Council to the International Club to the German Club, and more. Our Student Government and Programs Board are always on the go with activities that make college life fun. There are also opportunities to develop leadership skills.

Student services are designed to support students in their studies, remove barriers, and enrich student life. Financial aid services offer grant and loan opportunities, as well as scholarships. Our Counseling, Advising and Career Center has a rich array of information and personal assistance for students. The Diversity and Equity Center supports student activities and College programs that promote growth and opportunity toward cultural understanding.

Former EvCC students have found employment in business and industry, in community service agencies, in schools, and in other locales. Our transfer students are known to do very well at the UW, WWU and other schools.

EvCC's University Center

Looking for educational options close to home?

Check out our new University Center, offering a variety of Bachelor's and Master's degrees –

Right here. Right now.

www.uceverett.org