Do all 15 physical therapy programs across Canada have the same admission criteria?

No. Although all Canadian programs in physical therapy are at the graduate level, eligibility requirements for all programs differ across the country. It is recommended that students check the criteria for all individual programs that they may be interested in. Many programs offer first priority to applicants from their own province. Check the Canadian Physiotherapy Association website for links to the other programs across Canada.

How many clinical hours are integrated into the MPT program?

Students are required to successfully complete a minimum of 1025 hours of clinical placement experience in the program to be eligible to write the national licensing examination (PCE). There are 1085 hours in regularly scheduled clinical placement courses over the two years of the MPT program. The extra hours provide students with a cushion to account for missed time during clinical placements due to public holidays, sick leave, etc.

Am I required to complete a thesis as part of the MPT program?

There is no formal thesis component to the MPT program. However, all students are required to complete a research project, either individually or in small groups. After being presented with a list of project options to choose from, students will have roughly 18 months to complete and present their projects.

Is the MPT program accredited?

Yes, the Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) program at the University of Manitoba has been accredited by Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada (PEAC) until April 30, 2020.

How much does the MPT program cost?

Students are directed to the Registrar’s Office for current student fees.

How long does the MPT program take?

Students are admitted into the program in early August every year. The program takes roughly two years, with approximately two weeks off in the summer between first and second year. Academic course work, clinical education courses and a capstone research project continue through the second year until early September, in time for fall convocation.
Is there the possibility of taking the program on a part-time basis?

No, there are no part-time studies permitted. Only full-time studies are allowed, similar to other health professional programs at the University of Manitoba and consistent with other physical therapy programs across Canada.

How many students are accepted into the MPT program every year?

Fifty students are admitted every year.

Are there any specific high school requirements?

There are no specific high school prerequisites. However, some of the university-level prerequisites do have high school requirements. Students are encouraged to check with the individual undergraduate departments for necessary high school prerequisites. Grade 12 Biology, Physics or Chemistry, Applied or Pre-calculus Mathematics and English are highly recommended. The grades of the high school courses are not considered in the selection process into the MPT program.

What are the admission criteria of the MPT program?

Eligibility requirements can be found on our webpage here.

### Prerequisite University Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisite Courses</th>
<th>University of Manitoba</th>
<th>Université de St. Boniface</th>
<th>University of Winnipeg</th>
<th>Brandon University</th>
<th>Canadian Mennonite University</th>
<th>Athabasca University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human Anatomy (3 credit hours)</td>
<td>BIOL 1410 or PHED/KIN 2320 with PHED/KIN 3320 or KPER 2320 with KPER 3320</td>
<td>BIOL 1411</td>
<td>BIOL-1112/6</td>
<td>15:132 or 94:132 or 15:171 with 15:172</td>
<td>BIOL 1360</td>
<td>BIOL 235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiology of the Human Body (3 credit hours)</td>
<td>BIOL 1412 or BIOL 2410 with BIOL 2420</td>
<td>BIOL 1413 or BIOL 2411 with BIOL 2421</td>
<td>BIOL-1112/6 or KIN-2204/3</td>
<td>BIOL 1370</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introductory Biology (3 credit hours with genetics)</td>
<td>BIOL 1000 or BIOL 1020 or BIOL 2500</td>
<td>BIOL 1001 or BIOL 1021 or BIOL 2501</td>
<td>BIOL-1115/3 or BIOL-1102/6</td>
<td>BIOL 1310 or BIOL 1330 or BIOL 1351</td>
<td>BIOL 204</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introductory Psychology (6 credit hours)</td>
<td>PSYC 1200</td>
<td>PSYC 1201 or PSYC 1211 with PSYC 1221</td>
<td>PSYC-1000/6</td>
<td>82:160 with 82:161</td>
<td>PSYC 1000 or PSYC 1010 with PSYC 1020</td>
<td>PSYC 289 with PSYC 290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Development (3 credit hours)</td>
<td>PSYC 2290 or PHED 2550 or KPER 3550 or FMLY 1010 or NURS 2610</td>
<td>PSYC 2291</td>
<td>PSYC -2200/3, or PSYC-3200/3 or KIN-2207/3</td>
<td>82:274</td>
<td>PSYC 2200</td>
<td>PSYC 323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aging (3 credit hours)</td>
<td>PSYC 3070 or KIN 2610 or KIN 3510 or KIN 4500 or NURS 2610</td>
<td>Not available</td>
<td>PSYC-3200/3, or KIN-3208/3</td>
<td>82:356</td>
<td>PSYC 2220</td>
<td>PSYC 381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Statistical Analysis I (3 credit hours)</td>
<td>STAT 1000 or PSYC 2250</td>
<td>STAT 1001</td>
<td>STAT 1301/3 or STAT-1302/3 or STAT-1201/6 or STAT-1501/3 or PSYC-2101/3</td>
<td>82:171 or 82:250 with 82:251</td>
<td>MATH 1000 or MATH 2040</td>
<td>MATH 215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English (6 credit hours)</td>
<td>ENGL 1200 or ENGL 1300 or ENGL 2000 or ENGL 1340 with ENGL 1400</td>
<td>FRAN 1001 or FRAN 1071 with FRAN 1091</td>
<td>ENGL-1001/6 or Two of ENGL-1000/3, ENGL-1003/3, ENGL-1004/3</td>
<td>Two of 30:151, 30:153, 30:161, 30:162</td>
<td>ENGL 1010 with ENGL 1020</td>
<td>Two of ENGL 211, ENGL 212, ENGL 255, ENGL 302</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
My courses are not listed above. How do I find out whether or not my courses meet your eligibility requirements?

If you are unable to find your course(s) listed in the table above, you can check to see if the University of Manitoba has previously assessed courses from your home institution. Courses that have been assessed for equivalency are located in the University of Manitoba’s Transfer Credit Equivalencies database.

Please note that the Transfer Credit Equivalencies database will stipulate a specific course number at the University of Manitoba where a course has been deemed to be equivalent. Where the database indicates that an external course is transferrable to the University of Manitoba at a certain level, but no course number is given, then that should be interpreted as the course has been deemed NOT to be equivalent to a specific course at the U of M. Course evaluations are valid for five years.

Courses from other Canadian institutions may have been assessed directly by the Department of Physical Therapy Admissions Committee. These courses may be used as prerequisite requirements for the program, but are not included in the database above. If you are unable to find your course(s) listed in the Transfer Credit Equivalency database above, please email your specific course information to the Physical Therapy Admissions Officer at CORS.PTprogram@umanitoba.ca to see if your course(s) have been previously assessed for equivalency by the Department of Physical Therapy.

If your course(s) have not been previously assessed as equivalent to the admission prerequisites, you must submit a detailed course syllabus along with a completed prerequisite request form for review by the Admissions Chair and or Admissions Committee.

Prerequisite review requests must be received by the MPT Chair of Admissions no later than October 1st in order for pre-assessment prior to the November 15th application deadline.

Potential applicants with course work not previously reviewed by October 1st are encouraged to submit an application before the November 15th deadline and email their course syllabi to CORS.PTprogram@umanitoba.ca at the time of application. If course work is found to not be equivalent there will be no refund of the application fee.

What are the content areas to be covered in the anatomy and physiology prerequisite courses?

The anatomy and physiology prerequisite courses must provide a systems-based approach, including content on the musculoskeletal, neurological, circulatory, respiratory, endocrine, urinary, digestive, reproductive and integumentary systems. If your courses are not listed in the table of course numbers, nor in the University of Manitoba’s Transfer Credit Equivalency database please follow the steps in the question above to request a prerequisite review.

Can I use one course to meet two different requirements?

It is possible to use one six (6) credit hour course to meet two separate half course (3 credits each) requirements. For example, it is permissible to use U of W Biol-1112(6) Human Anatomy and Physiology to meet the three credit hour requirement in human anatomy as well as the three credit hour requirement in human physiology.

It is NOT permissible to use one three hour credit course to meet two separate half course requirements. For example, it is NOT permissible to use one three (3) credit hour course in Human Growth and Development to meet the three (3) credit hour requirement in child development as well as the three (3) credit hour requirement in aging.

If in doubt, please contact the department at CORS.PTprogram@umanitoba.ca.

Is there a time frame within which the prerequisite courses must be completed in relation to the time of application?

The prerequisite in Physiology must be completed within five years of application to the program. All other prerequisites must be completed within ten years of application to the program. Where evidence can be demonstrated of application of the knowledge or the successful completion of higher level courses in the same subject area, exceptions to the time limit may be considered on a case-by-case basis. A written request must be submitted by email to the Chair of Admissions at CORS.PTprogram@umanitoba.ca with sufficient evidence for an exemption or waiver to receive approval.
All prerequisite courses (or approved alternate courses) must be completed by the end of the fall term in the year prior to admission. For example, for August 2020 entry, prerequisite courses must be completed by December 31, 2019.

**What are my chances of being accepted into the MPT program?**

Only Canadian citizens and permanent residents are considered for the MPT program. First priority will be given to Manitoba residents. Up to ten spots are available to eligible applicants who self-identify as Indigenous and apply through the [Canadian Indigenous Peoples Category](#). Up to five spots are available for competitive out-of-province applicants.

The size and caliber of the applicant pool for the MPT program will vary from year to year. In 2019, 125 applications were received for the 50 available spots, 18 of which were from out-of-province. More details can be found in our [FAQ about the applicant pool](#).

**Who is considered part of the Manitoba applicant pool?**

The Department of Physical Therapy adheres to the definition of [Manitoba Residency](#) outlined by the University of Manitoba’s Student Affairs. Proof of residency may be required.

**How are students selected for the MPT program?**

Eligible students will be selected for an interview based on the GPAPC. Information on how to calculate an applicant’s GPAPC can be found on our website. The GPA of the last 60 credit hours will be used to differentiate applicants in the case of a tie in ranking. To be eligible for admission, all applicants will be required to pass the Multiple Mini-Interview (MMI). Information on the MMI can be found in the MPT Admissions hub.

Students are selected based on their ranking determined by a composite score of the Multiple Mini-Interview (worth 40%) and the student’s Grade Point Average of the Prerequisite Courses (GPAPC) (worth 60%).

**When will the 2020 Multiple Mini-Interview (MMI) be held?**

The MMI will be held on March 14 and 15, 2020.

**How is the Grade Point Average of my Prerequisite Courses (GPAPC) calculated if I repeat a prerequisite course or if I have more than one eligible prerequisite course?**

Where a student has repeated a prerequisite course or has more than one eligible course, the higher mark will be used to calculate the student’s GPAPC for selection. The applicant’s self-identification of all prerequisite courses in the on-line application will facilitate this process.

**If I have taken two courses to meet one prerequisite (for example, two half Introductory Psychology courses or two Physiology courses or two half English Literature courses), how do I calculate my GPAPC?**

Where a student has successfully completed two courses to meet one requirement, the average of the two courses will be used in calculating the GPAPC after the grades are converted to a 4.5 scale. Based on curricular topics some candidates need 2 courses to make up a single prerequisite for our program. In the event the candidate has more than 30 credit hours GPAPC may be calculated on 33 or 36 credit hours depending on the courses taken (ex. combination of 6 credit hours for Anatomy and combination of 6 credit hours for Physiology).

Please note that a minimum grade of a B is required in ALL prerequisite courses. This means, that in the case of two half courses, BOTH courses must have a minimum grade of a B.

**How do I calculate my GPA of the last 60 credit hours?**

The [Faculty of Graduate Studies Application Assessment](#) webpage provides information on how to calculate your GPA.

Note: For MPT admission interview purposes, courses completed up to and including all courses to December 31st of the academic year in which the applicant is applying will be included in the calculation of the GPA. If a student is recommended for admission to the MPT program with outstanding coursework, final official
transcripts will be required showing that all coursework has been successfully completed and that the GPA in the most recent 60 credit hours has remained at a 3.25 or higher.

I have a B+ in one of my pre-requisite courses on my formal transcript but the professor graded my performance as an 87%. Which grade will you use in the calculation of my GPAPC?

The Faculty of Graduate Studies and the Department of Physical Therapy will only use the grade as it appears on the formal transcript provided by the applicant’s educational institution. See the Faculty of Graduate Studies Canadian GPA Equivalency Table for corresponding grades.

I took university-level courses somewhere else and had them transferred to my current university, where they appear on my transcript. How do I enter these courses in my on-line application?

Please enter these courses into your application as they originally appeared on the transcript of the university where you took them. That includes the original course number, course title and grade. Transcripts from all of the post-secondary institutions that you have attended are required as part of the application to the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

Is preference given to applicants with a particular degree or from a particular institution?

No preference is given to students with any particular degree or graduates of a particular university. We feel that a diversity of educational backgrounds will enhance the future opportunities of physiotherapy in the Canadian health care system.

Do I need to have relevant volunteer and/or work experience for the MPT program?

No volunteer or work-related experience is required for admission. However, relevant workplace exposure including job-shadowing is highly recommended to help make an informed decision about your future career.

Do I need letters of reference as part of my application to the MPT program?

No. Letters of reference are not a requirement for admission.

Do I need to pass a national licensing or certification exam in order to be fully licensed upon graduation?

Yes. The Physiotherapy Competency Examination (PCE) is designed to evaluate essential knowledge, skills and abilities of physiotherapy practice. The examination covers the core clinical practice areas of musculoskeletal, neuromuscular and cardiorespiratory. It is designed to evaluate skills including history-taking, physical examination, data interpretation, clinical problem-solving, treatment skills, ethics, safety, interviewing and communications.

The PCE is comprised of two components:

**Written Component:** The Written Component of the PCE is a multiple-choice written exam that evaluates your understanding of the principles and processes of physiotherapy practice including knowledge about essential physiotherapy skills, behaviours and abilities.

Candidates must successfully complete the Written Component before advancing to the Clinical Component.

**Clinical Component:** The Clinical Component of the PCE evaluates your knowledge and application of skills, behaviours and abilities by testing your understanding and performance of safe, effective application of the principles and processes of physiotherapy practice. Also known as the Physiotherapy National Exam, the clinical component involves 16 stations in an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) format.

For more information, including exam fees, see www.alliancept.org.

**What are the English language requirements to be considered eligible for practice as a physiotherapist?**

For those not educated in English, the Department of Physical Therapy complies with the English language requirements required by the Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators and the College of Physiotherapists of Manitoba, as well as the Faculty of Graduate Studies. These minimum scores are required to be granted admission; to be licensed as a student physical therapist in Manitoba; and considered eligible to sit the national Physiotherapy Competency Examination upon graduation.
1. **Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), internet-based (iTOEFL)**
   A minimum total score of 92 is required, with no sub-score lower than 21.

2. **Canadian Test of English for Scholars and Trainees (CanTEST)**
   A minimum band rating of 4.5 in Listening, Reading and Oral Expression and a minimum band rating of 4.0 in writing.

3. **Academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS)**
   An overall score of at least 7 and must include all components of the test (i.e., listening, reading, writing and speaking).

The Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators and the College of Physiotherapists of Manitoba do not accept the Academic English Program for University and College Entrance (AEPUCE), the University of Michigan English Language Battery (MELAB) or the Canadian Academic English Language Assessment (CAEL).

**What can I do to prepare myself for the MPT program?**

1. While job-shadowing and/or volunteering is not a requirement of admission, it is highly encouraged to ensure that this is the right career choice for you. Consider contacting the [University of Manitoba Career Mentor Program](#) for additional resources.

2. Attend one of the many training workshops offered by the [University of Manitoba libraries](#) on literature searches and reference management tools.

3. Familiarize yourself with word processing (e.g., Word); preparation of public presentations (e.g., Power Point); and preparation of spread sheets (e.g., Excel).

4. Determine your eligibility for [University of Manitoba Financial Aid and Awards](#).

**How do I find out more information?**

1. Attend the annual College of Rehabilitation Sciences [Open House](#), hosted jointly by current students and faculty. The next Open House will be held **Sunday, January 19, 2020, at the Brodie Centre, 727 McDermot Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba.**

2. Attend career fairs where information on physiotherapy is available. For a list of career fairs and information sessions, see [Upcoming Events](#) on our website.

3. Review the [Department of Physical Therapy](#) website and check for admissions updates.

4. Contact the College of Rehabilitation Sciences Admissions Officer at (204) 789-3259 or [CORS.PTprogram@umanitoba.ca](mailto:CORS.PTprogram@umanitoba.ca).