



## Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) Program Frequently Asked Questions

### **Why has the Bachelor of Medical Rehabilitation in Physical Therapy [BMR(PT)] been replaced with a master's entry-level degree program?**

This change in credential for the physical therapy profession is a reflection of the evolution of the role of physical therapy in health care in Canada. This evolution includes the move towards greater emphasis on primary health care, direct access to physiotherapy, increased consumer knowledge, and advancements in technology. The other 13 physical therapy programs across Canada are also at the master's entry-level.

### **Do all 14 physical therapy programs across Canada have the same admission criteria?**

No. Although all other 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 he/she 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?**

Successful completion of more than 1100 clinical hours is required over the course of the two year master's program. A minimum of 1050 hours of clinical experience is required for students to be eligible to write the national licensing examination.

### **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, either individually or in small groups, a research project. After being presented with a list of project options to choose from, students will have roughly 18 months to complete and present their projects.

### **Will the new MPT program be accredited?**

The Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) program, University of Manitoba is seeking accreditation by Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada (PEAC). The program has undergone the pre-accreditation process indicating that the education program is considering accreditation standards in its planning stages. Participation in the pre-accreditation process does not assure that the program will be granted accreditation status when the final program is implemented. The MPT program will be seeking full accreditation status before the first cohort graduates in the fall of 2014.

## **How much does the MPT program cost?**

Student tuition is expected to be approximately \$8,000 per year.

## **How long does the MPT program take?**

Students are admitted into the program in mid-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?**

The following criteria are required to be considered eligible for admission:

- Canadian citizenship or landed immigrant status
- An accredited bachelor's degree in any area of study
- Successful completion of at least 24 credit hours in one regular fall/winter session (from September to April)
- A minimum grade point average of 3.25 in the last 60 credit hours of university-level courses.
- Equivalent IB and/or AP courses will be accepted in lieu of prerequisite courses
- A minimum grade of a 3.0 or a "B" in the following prerequisite courses (see table below for course numbers):
  - Broad systems-based Human Anatomy (3 credit hours)
  - Broad systems-based Human Physiology (3 credit hours)
  - Introductory Biology with genetics content (3 credit hours)
  - Introductory Psychology (6 credit hours)
  - Childhood Psychology (3 credit hours)
  - Aging (3 credit hours)
  - Introductory Statistics (3 credit hours)
  - English Literature (6 credit hours)

## Prerequisite University Courses

Prerequisite Courses	University of Manitoba	Université de St. Boniface	University of Winnipeg	Brandon University	Canadian Mennonite University	Athabasca University
Human Anatomy (3 credit hours)	BIOL 1410 or ZOO 1320 or PHED/KIN 2320 with PHED/KIN 3320 or 68.148	Not available	BIOL-1112/6	15:132 or 94:132	BIOL 1360	BIOL 235
Physiology of the Human Body (3 credit hours)	BIOL 1412 or ZOO 1330 or BIOL 2410 with BIOL 2420	BIOL 2411 with BIOL 2421	BIOL-1112/6 or KIN-2204/3		BIOL 1370	
Introductory Biology (3 credit hours with genetics)	BIOL 1000 or BIOL 1020 or BIOL 2500	BIOL 1001 or BIOL 1021 or BIOL 2501	BIOL-1115/3 or BIOL-1102/6	15:162 or 94:162	BIOL 1310 or BIOL1330 or BIOL 1331	BIOL 204
Introductory Psychology (6 credit hours)	PSYC 1200	PSYC 1201 or PSYC 1211 with PSYC 1221	PSYC-1000/6	82:160 with 82:161	PSYC 1000 or PSYC 1010 with PSYC 1020	PSYC 289 with PSYC 290
Child Development (3 credit hours)	PSYC 2290 or PHED 2550 or FMLY 1010 or NURS 1260	PSYC 2291	PSYC-3200/3 or KIN-2203/3 or KIN-2207/3	82:274	PSYC 2200	PSYC 323
Developmental Psychology from Adolescence to old Age (3 credit hours)	PSYC 2370 or KIN 2610 or KIN 4500	Not available	PSYC-3220/3 or KIN-3208/3	82:356	PSYC 2220	PSYC 381
Basic Statistical Analysis I (3 credit hours)	STAT 1000 or 57.259 or PSYC 2250	STAT 1001	STAT-1201/6 or STAT-1501/3 or PSYC-2101/3	62:171	MATH 1000	MATH 215
English (6 credit hours)	ENGL 1200 or ENGL 1300 or ENGL 2000	FRAN 1001 or FRAN 1071 with FRAN 1091	ENGL-1001/6 or ENGL-1000/3 with ENGL-1003/3	30:161 with 30:162	ENGL 1010 with ENGL 1020	Two of ENGL 211 ENGL 212 ENGL 255 or ENGL 302

### 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**, found here:

[https://aurora.umanitoba.ca/banprod/ksstransequiv.p\\_trans\\_eq\\_main](https://aurora.umanitoba.ca/banprod/ksstransequiv.p_trans_eq_main)

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 are also able to 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 Advisor at [SMR.PTprogram@med.umanitoba.ca](mailto:SMR.PTprogram@med.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 will be asked to submit a **detailed course syllabus** for review and approval by the Admissions Committee.

### **What are the content areas to be covered in the anatomy prerequisite course?**

The anatomy prerequisite course must be a systems-based approach, including content on the musculoskeletal, neurological, circulatory, respiratory, endocrine, urinary, digestive, reproductive and integumentary systems. If your course is not listed in the table of course numbers, nor in the University of Manitoba's Aurora database, then contact the Chair of Admissions directly at [Moni.Fricke@med.umanitoba.ca](mailto:Moni.Fricke@med.umanitoba.ca) with an electronic copy of the course syllabus in question.

### **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. Any exemption or waivers to the time limit requires prior approval from the Chair of Admissions.

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 fall 2014 entry, prerequisite courses must be completed by December 2013.

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

Only Canadian citizens and landed immigrants are considered for the MPT program. First priority will be given to Manitoba residents. Up to seven spots will continue to be available to those eligible applicants who self-identify as Aboriginal and are applying through the Special Consideration 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 2013, 109 applications were received for the 50 available spots, 16 of which were from out-of-province. More details about the [applicant pool](#) can be found on our website.

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

All permanent residents of Manitoba are considered part of the Manitoba applicant pool, regardless where the applicant has pursued his or her undergraduate degree. Graduates of a Manitoba high school are also considered part of the Manitoba applicant pool. Where proof of residency is required, a valid Manitoba driver's license or a Manitoba Health card would be acceptable.

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

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%). 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](#). To be eligible for admission, all applicants will be required to pass the Multiple Mini-Interview (MMI). Information on the MMI can also be found on our [website](#).

## **When will the 2014 Multiple Mini-Interview (MMI) be held?**

The MMI will be held in March 1 and 2, 2014.

## **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 GPA for selection. The applicant's completion of the [MPT prerequisite course recognition request form](#) as part of the MPT application should assist the admissions process in ensuring that the correct grade is applied.

## **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. 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?**

Pending approval for the 2014 application cycle, the GPA of the last 60 credit hours will be calculated using the last 60 credit hours completed as of December 31st of the academic year in which the applicant is applying. Courses completed after this date will not be included in the calculation. GPA equivalency calculations can be found on the [Faculty of Graduate Studies website](#).

## **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?

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:** Also known as the Qualifying Exam, 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 (Qualifying Exam) before advancing to the Clinical Component (Physiotherapy National Exam).

**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 costs, see [www.alliancept.org](http://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](http://www.alliancept.org) and the [College of Physiotherapists of Manitoba](http://www.collegeofphysiotherapists.com). These minimum scores are required to be licensed as a student physical therapist in Manitoba and considered eligible to sit the national Physiotherapy Competency Examination upon graduation, in order to practice safely in Canada.

### 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 average score of 4 with no component lower than 4 and a minimum oral interview rating of 4.5.

### 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 School of Medical Rehabilitation Open House, hosted jointly by current students and faculty. The next Open House will be held **Sunday, January 19, 2014, from 12:30 to 3:00 pm 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 our [Informational Sessions](#) on our website.
3. Check the [Department of Physical Therapy website](#) for updates.
4. Contact the School of Medical Rehabilitation Admissions Advisor at (204) 789-3259 or [SMR.PTprogram@med.umanitoba.ca](mailto:SMR.PTprogram@med.umanitoba.ca)