Pre-Physical Therapy at Illinois College

To become a physical therapist a student must complete a bachelor's degree (in any field, but most major in biology and/or psychology) and a doctoral program in physical therapy (3 more years). Admission to doctoral programs in physical therapy is very competitive. Students are selected for admission to physical therapy programs based on their high grade point average, evidence of leadership skills, above average GRE scores, observation experience with physical therapists, letters of recommendation from professors and at least one physical therapist, and an interview. Applications to professional school are submitted through the Physical Therapy Common Application Service (PTCAS).

Requirements for Admission to Programs in Physical Therapy

While requirements for physical therapy programs may vary slightly among universities, the general prerequisites are:

- 2 semesters of physics (prerequisite: MA 133 or equivalent)
- 2 semesters of anatomy and physiology (prerequisite: BI 110)
- 2 semesters of general inorganic chemistry (pre-or co-requisite: MA 133 or equivalent)
- 1 semester of statistics
- one semester of developmental or lifespan psychology (prerequisite: PS 101)
- one semester of abnormal psychology
- two semesters of English

Note: students should check specific requirements for the programs to which they intend to apply.

Sample Course Schedule for Pre-Physical Therapy

(Biology Major, Psychology Minor)

(all courses are 4 credit hours, except where noted)

First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EN 121. Principles of Writing</td>
<td>CO 101 Speech Fundamentals</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Year Seminar</td>
<td>MA 133 Intro. to Functions</td>
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<tr>
<td>BI 110 Biological Investigations</td>
<td>PS 101 Intro. to Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLUEPrint elective</td>
<td>BI 206 Vertebrate Biology</td>
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Second Year

Fall
CH 111 General Chemistry I
BI 207 Genetics
Foreign Language I
BLUEPrint elective

Spring
CH 112 General Chemistry II
PS 276 Lifespan Development
Foreign Language II
BLUEPrint Connected Course

Third Year

Fall
BI 315 Anatomy and Physiology I
CH 203 Organic Chemistry I
PS 346 Abnormal Psychology
BLUEPrint elective

Spring
BI 316 Anatomy and Physiology II
MA 123 Statistics
PS elective
BH 340 Exercise Physiology/Kinesiology

Fourth Year

Fall
*BI 401 Research and Analysis I
PS elective
PY 181 General Physics I
BLUEPrint elective

*2 credit hours each.

Spring
*BI 402 Research and Analysis II
BI 338 Population Genetics, Ecol., Evolution
PY 182 General Physics II
BLUEPrint/PS elective

Where do Illinois College graduates complete their physical therapy education?

In the past fifteen years graduates of Illinois College have attended the following physical therapy programs:

- Washington University (9)
- Midwestern University (3)
- Bradley University (2)
- St. Ambrose University (4)
- Northwestern University (2)
- Elon University (1)
- Rosalind Franklin/Finch University of Health Sciences (1)
- University of Nebraska Medical Center (1)
- Rockhurst University (1)
- Marshall University (1)

Illinois College graduates have also been accepted to Physical Therapy Programs at

- University of Iowa
- Emory University
- College of St. Catherine
- University of Illinois
- University of Indianapolis
- Mayo School of Health Sciences