Department of Rehabilitation Sciences
Frequently Asked Questions about the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

What is the future outlook for the physical therapy job market? The job market for physical therapists has improved significantly over the last several years. There is an anticipated increased need for physical therapy services through 2025 due to the aging of the baby-boomers generation and the increased role of physical therapists in many areas of health care.

What is unique about the DPT program at the University of Hartford? The scientific inquiry series offers an opportunity for students to work in small groups with a faculty member to design, conduct, and analyze a research project over the course of three consecutive semesters.

What is the pass rate of University of Hartford’s students on the Physical Therapy Licensing exam? The current 3/year average pass rate on the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) is 94%. This pass rate is updated routinely and is available through the Federation of State Boards of Physical therapy website.

Where do the students do their clinical affiliations and how are they set up? Working with students, the Directors of Clinical Education arrange clinical affiliations. These affiliations occur at contracted sites throughout the United States. During these experiences students are registered as full-time students and are responsible for housing and transportation costs in addition to a fixed university fee for each of the three clinical affiliations. Students should expect to be placed at one affiliation out of state.

What financial assistance is available? No federal funds are available for financial aid at the graduate level. Financial assistance is available to domestic students in the form of student loans. To receive federal financial assistance, including Stafford Loans, students are required to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). More information can be obtained through the Office of Student Financial Assistance at (860) 768-4296. For current costs please see the DPT program website, http://www.hartford.edu/enhp/academics/rehabilitation-sciences/physical-therapy-dpt/tuition-financial-aid.aspx (If this link is not active, just search “DPT Program Cost” on the www.hartford.edu website)

Where can I take my prerequisites? Prerequisites may be taken at any college or university, including a community college or the University of Hartford. If you are unsure whether the course you want to take will fulfill a required course, email the course description and the pre-requisite in question to bcrane@hartford.edu . Applicants may apply for admission into the program while completing up to 2 prerequisites during the spring term, however they all need to be completed prior to the summer start of the program.

Is it essential to complete all of the prerequisites? Sometimes students are allowed to substitute a course for one of the prerequisites. This must be pre-approved and is generally not allowed for sciences courses. Completing all pre-requisites with no substitutions results in a more competitive application. If you received a grade lower than a B-, particularly in a science pre-requisite course, we encourage you to repeat the course. The higher of the two grades will be used in any GPA calculations.

Are on-line courses acceptable to fulfill pre-requisite requirements? Yes, as long as coursework is completed at an accredited college or university and are considered “college level” courses, they are acceptable.

Is this a full-time program? Yes, the DPT program is a full-time day-time program.

Does the University have graduate housing? The University of Hartford has very limited graduate housing near the main campus. Most graduate students live off campus in one of the many area apartment complexes.