

Physical Therapists (PTs) are health care professionals who diagnose and treat individuals of all ages who have medical problems or other health related conditions that limit their abilities to move and perform functional activities in their daily lives. PTs examine each individual and develop a plan using treatment techniques to promote the ability to move, reduce pain, restore function, and prevent disability. In addition, PTs work with individuals to prevent the loss of mobility before it occurs by developing fitness- and wellness-oriented programs for healthier and more active lifestyles. Physical therapists provide care for people in a variety of settings, including hospitals, private practices, outpatient clinics, home health agencies, schools, sports and fitness facilities, work settings, and nursing homes. State licensure is required in each state in which a physical therapist practices.

The University of Arkansas at Monticello offers courses that provide the basic education in biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, physical education, and humanities needed for admission into a physical therapy program. A Bachelor's Degree must be completed prior to entering the physical therapy program. The GRE Exam is required as an admission exam. No specific degree is required as long as all prerequisite courses are taken; however the most common paths are degrees in Biology or Natural Science. Each professional program's prerequisites differ slightly, so it is necessary to look at the requirements for each program when planning your coursework at UAM.

Arkansas currently has five physical therapy programs, all of which provide the Doctor of Physical Therapy. If you choose to apply to an out of state program contact the pre-physical therapy advisor, Dr. Morris Bramlett. He will be glad to design a curriculum for you that will allow you to apply to that program. Another pathway to physical therapy is available through the School of Education with an Exercise Science degree. If you choose that route, Dr. Suzanna Guizar will be glad to work with you.

Links to Physical Therapy Schools:

[University of Central Arkansas](#)

[Arkansas State University](#)

[Harding University](#)

[Arkansas College of Health Education](#)

[University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences \(UAMS\)](#)

Other Useful Links:

[Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service \(PTCAS\)](#)

[American Physical Therapy Association](#)

[Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy](#)

[Arkansas Physical Therapy Association](#)