

Lebanon Valley College
Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

Essential Requirements of Physical Therapist Education at Lebanon Valley College

The purpose of this document is to delineate the cognitive, affective, and psychomotor skills deemed essential to complete this program and to perform as a competent generalist physical therapist.

If a student cannot demonstrate the following skills and abilities, it is the responsibility of the student to request an appropriate accommodation. The College will provide reasonable accommodation as long as it does not fundamentally alter the nature of the program offered and does not impose an undue hardship such as those that cause a significant expense, difficulty, or are unduly disruptive to the educational process.

A. Cognitive Learning Skills

The student must demonstrate the ability to:

1. Receive, interpret, remember, reproduce and use information in the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective domains of learning to solve problems, evaluate work, and generate new ways of processing or categorizing similar information as listed in course objectives.
2. Perform a physical therapy evaluation of a patient's posture and movement including analysis of physiological, biomechanical, behavioral, and environmental factors in a timely manner, consistent with the acceptable norms of clinical settings.
3. Use evaluation data to formulate and execute a plan of physical therapy management in a timely manner, appropriate to the problems identified and consistent with the acceptable norms of clinical settings.
4. Reassess and revise plans as needed for effective and efficient management of physical therapy problems, in a timely manner, and consistent with the acceptable norms of clinical settings.

B. Psychomotor Skills

The student must demonstrate the following skills:

1. Sitting: Maintain prolonged upright posture.
2. Standing: Maintain prolonged upright posture.
3. Locomotion ability to:
 - a. Get to lecture, lab, and clinical locations, and move within rooms as needed for changing groups, partners and workstations.
 - b. Physically maneuver in required clinical settings to accomplish assigned tasks.
4. Manual Tasks:
 - a. Maneuver another person's body parts to effectively perform evaluation techniques.
 - b. Manipulate common tools used for screening tests of the cranial nerves, sensation, range of motion, and blood pressure, such as cotton balls, safety pins, goniometers, Q-tips, aesthesiometer, sphygmomanometer.
 - c. Safely provide assistance as necessary for ambulation and other mobility activities.
 - d. Safely and effectively guide, facilitate, inhibit, and resist movement and motor patterns through physical facilitation and inhibition techniques (including ability to give time urgent verbal feedback).
 - e. Guide and control another person's body in transfers, gait, positioning, exercise, and mobilization techniques.
 - f. Manage evaluation and therapeutic intervention equipment, and safely and accurately apply to clients.
 - g. Manipulate bolsters, pillows, plinths, mats, gait assistive devices, and other supports or chairs to aid in positioning, moving, or treating a patient effectively.
 - h. Competently perform and supervise cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) using guidelines issued by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross.
5. Small motor/hand skills:

Lebanon Valley College
Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

- a. Legibly record/document evaluations, patient care notes, referrals, etc. in standard medical charts in hospital/clinical settings in a timely manner and consistent with the acceptable norms of clinical settings.
 - b. Legibly record thoughts for written assignments and tests.
 - c. Sense changes in an individual's muscle tone, skin quality, joint play, kinesthesia, and temperature to gather accurate objective evaluative information in a timely manner and sense the individual's response to environmental changes and treatment.
 - d. Safely apply and adjust therapeutic modalities.
 - e. Safely and effectively position hands and apply mobilization techniques.
 - f. Use a telephone.
6. Visual acuity to:
- a. Receive visual information from clients, including movement, posture, body mechanics, and gait necessary for comparison to normal standards for purposes of evaluation of movement dysfunctions.
 - b. Receive visual information from patient care environment, e.g., dials on modalities and monitors, assistive devices, furniture, flooring, structures, etc.
7. Communication:
- a. Effectively communicate to other students, teachers, patients, peers, staff, and personnel to ask questions, explain conditions and procedures, and teach home programs and safety in a timely manner and within the acceptable norms of academic and clinical settings.
 - b. Receive and interpret written communications in both academic and clinical settings in a timely manner.
 - c. Receive and send verbal communication in life threatening situations in a timely manner within the acceptable norms of clinical settings.
8. Self care:
- a. Maintain general good health and self-care to avoid jeopardizing the health and safety of self and individuals with which one interacts in the academic and clinical settings.
 - b. Arrange transportation and living accommodations for/during off campus clinical assignments to foster timely reporting to the classroom and clinical center.

C. Affective Learning Skills

The student must be able to:

1. Demonstrate appropriate affective behaviors and mental attitudes to avoid jeopardizing the emotional, mental, and behavioral safety of clients and other individuals with whom one interacts in the academic and clinical settings and to be in compliance with the ethical standards of the American Physical Therapy Association.
2. Sustain the mental and emotional rigors of a demanding educational program in physical therapy, which includes academic and clinical components that occur within set time constraints, and often concurrently.
3. Acknowledge and respect individual values and opinions in order to foster harmonious working relationships with colleagues, peers, and patients/clients.

*Adapted from Samuel Merritt College Physical Therapy Department's ADA Guidelines

I have read and understand the Essential Functions of Physical Therapist Education as stated by Lebanon Valley College. If I require accommodation for any of the essential functions outlined above, I am to contact the Coordinator of Disability Services in Humanities Room 4, 867-6071.

Student Signature

Date

Witness Signature

Date