

INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Frequently asked questions by potential first year physiotherapy students

Thank you for your interest in studying physiotherapy at the University of the Witwatersrand. We get many enquiries about physiotherapy and these are frequently asked questions with answers that may assist you with making your final decision.

When is the University's "Open day" for potential students?

The University of the Witwatersrand's does not have an Open day or Focus Day. All information regarding the physiotherapy degree is available online.

When is the closing date for applications?

The closing date for applications is the 30th of June.

How do I apply?

The application for physiotherapy is done online. Follow the steps at the following link:

<https://www.wits.ac.za/applications/>

What are the requirements for a first time applicant considered for entry?

Your academic results for FIVE subjects and your National Benchmark Test (NBT) scores. You also need to observe a qualified physiotherapist for 15 hours in her/his workplace when managing a patient/ client. Confirmation of these 15 hours is recorded on the physiotherapy certificate of attendance.

Where can I find information regarding the entry requirements for physiotherapy?

Information regarding the entry requirements for physiotherapy is available at the following links:

<https://www.wits.ac.za/course-finder/undergraduate/health/physiotherapy/>

<https://www.wits.ac.za/course-finder/undergraduate/health/physiotherapy/#entry-requirements>

Where can I get the Physiotherapy Certificate of Attendance that needs to accompany my application?

The certificate of attendance is available at the following link:

<https://www.wits.ac.za/media/wits-university/study/undergraduate/documents/2018%20Physiotherapy%20Certificate%20of%20Attendance.pdf>

How many hours do I need to shadow a physiotherapist as part of the certificate of attendance?

The hours required is documented on the Physiotherapy Certificate of Attendance – applicants are required to observe a qualified physiotherapist for a minimum of 15 hours.

I am having difficulties submitting my Physiotherapy Certificate of Attendance with my application. Who can I contact to help?

If you experience any difficulties with the application process contact the Student Enrolment Centre at Wits University.

Contact details of the Student Enrolment Centre at Wits are available at the following link:

<https://www.wits.ac.za/undergraduate/contact-us/>

I have heard that I need to do the National Benchmark test (NBT). Where can I find information regarding the NBT?

Information regarding the NBT and process to follow for writing the test can be found at the following links:

<https://www.wits.ac.za/undergraduate/entry-requirements/selection-tests/>

<http://www.nbt.ac.za/>

I have not received feedback regarding my application. Who can I contact to provide me with this information?

The application process for physiotherapy is managed by the undergraduate division of the Faculty of Health Sciences administration and not the Department of Physiotherapy directly. For feedback regarding your application you can contact the Faculty administration division at the following contact number: 011 717 2425.

I have a general BSc degree and want to know if having this degree would influence the number of years I have to study to complete a physiotherapy degree.

The undergraduate physiotherapy programme consists of four years of study. Each year a minimum of one course will be physiotherapy specific. The preceding year's physiotherapy course is a building block for the next year. At present it is not possible to combine physiotherapy courses to lessen the years of study. Thus the length of the undergraduate physiotherapy programme is four years irrespective of your previous qualifications. You would however get credits for subjects that are the same such as physics, chemistry, biology, psychology, anatomy and physiology once the content and level at which you studied is reviewed.

Will I get credits for courses/degrees I have done before if I am a mature student?

You may receive credits for some of the courses you have already completed in a past degree. This is more likely if the content of the course already done aligns with the course content included in the physiotherapy degree. These subjects are: biology, chemistry, physics, sociology, psychology, physiology and anatomy.

Do the marks I have obtained within previous degrees matter when applying for physiotherapy?

When we consider university-experienced candidates for entry into the BSc (Physiotherapy) degree, their previous university results are used in the calculation of the admissions score along with the National Benchmark Test results. As such, the higher the marks are in the previous university studies, the better the likelihood of being accepted.

Which degrees commonly get credits?

Credits are not based on the degrees, they are based on the courses that have been studied in the degrees. Credits are granted only for subjects that are very similar in content to those included in the BSc (Physiotherapy) syllabus

Are diploma/ certificate qualifications from institutions other than a university considered for credit?

No you will not receive credits for a diploma/ certificate from institutions other than a university.

Does it matter how many years ago I qualified with another degree before I apply for physiotherapy?

Subject credits are only valid for a period of four (4) years.

Is it true that you may not get into physiotherapy if not a first time applicant i.e. straight from matriculation?

This statement is untrue. If you wish to study physiotherapy but are a mature individual e.g. working in another profession you may apply for physiotherapy.

I want to study physiotherapy next year but was told that applications are now closed. Is there anything I can do to still apply?

Applications close on the 30th of June each year to provide adequate time to review the number of applications.