

MESSIAH COLLEGE/ARCADIA UNIVERSITY ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

Messiah College students are encouraged to explore this unique articulation agreement with the Arcadia University DPT program. If you are interested in pursuing this option, please review the minimal requirements outlined below. In addition, you are encouraged to discuss this option with your advisor early in your academic program.

1. To be eligible for the terms of this agreement students must minimally be matriculated full-time at Messiah College for their final four semesters in one of the following majors: Bachelor of Science in Biology; or Bachelor of Arts in Health & Exercise Science: Pre-Physical Therapy Concentration.

2. Arcadia University will grant assured admission each year into the Doctorate in Physical Therapy program for up to five qualified Messiah College students who successfully complete the following requirements and procedures outlined. If the number of qualified students from Messiah College exceeds five, students will also be considered in the general pool of applicants.

a. Complete the degree requirements for: Bachelor of Science in Biology or Bachelor of Arts in Health & Exercise Science: Pre-Physical Therapy Concentration.

b. Successfully complete the prerequisite course work for the DPT program:

Prerequisite courses:

- Complete three courses in biology, including Human or Mammalian Physiology with lab (a two-semester anatomy/ physiology course with laboratory would meet this requirement).
- One upper level (300-400) Biology course or equivalent Upper Level Science: one upper level course (300 or 400) of at least 3 credits with a biology focus. This course can be taken through the Health and Human Performance Department but preferably should be taken through the Biology department. Examples of courses that would fulfill this requirement are: neuroscience, principles of motor science and biology of aging.
- Complete two courses each in chemistry with lab, physics with lab and psychology
- Complete one course in statistics

c. Achieve a minimum **3.5** GPA overall and a **3.5** in prerequisite courses. A grade of "C" or better must be earned in each prerequisite course.

d. Achieve a minimum total score of 1050 on the verbal and quantitative portions of the Graduate Record examination, with no single score below 450. A minimum score of 4 is expected on the analytical portion of the test. Applicants should follow the instructions at www.ptcas.org regarding the submission of their GRE Score report. Scores cannot be more than five years old at the time of application. This test is generally taken in your junior year.

e. Develop knowledge of the profession through work or volunteer experience in a clinical setting: Students must document exposure to more than one practice setting for example, experience in hospital-based inpatient or outpatient departments, private/corporate-owned outpatient clinics, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, schools, sub-acute units.

f. Provide one recommendation from a licensed practicing physical therapist. Follow the instructions at www.ptcas.org regarding the electronic submission of recommendations.

g. Each year by December 1, the Chair of the Department of Health & Human Performance at Messiah College will notify, via email, the Director of PT Admissions at Arcadia University of the students (not to exceed 5) that are being recommended for acceptance via the guaranteed admission mechanism.

3. Messiah College students applying for admission through guaranteed admission criteria must have their completed applications delivered to Arcadia University no later than December 15 in the year in which they apply.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to complete all components of their application well in advance of the priority deadline of December 15 to allow time for PTCAS to verify and forward it to Arcadia. This can take as long as 6 weeks. Applications are NOT reviewed by Arcadia until ALL materials are received (this includes the PTCAS application, the required recommendation, and GRE scores).

Upon acceptance into the program, via the guaranteed admission mechanism, students will be required to pay a deposit by **January 15th** in order to reserve their seat in the class. Any offer of scholarships or other assistance will be made known to the student upon the offer of acceptance.

4. Students must meet all applicable Arcadia University DPT Program deadlines pertaining to application for admission, orientation and registration, payment of tuition and fees.

5. Students whose credentials do not meet the requirements that assure them automatic admission to the DPT program may still apply. They will be considered in relation to other qualified candidates in the general applicant pool.