



# Post Professional Doctorate of Physical Therapy (PP-DPT)

*An online, part-time, post professional doctoral program (16-20 credit hours)*

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Shenandoah University's Post Professional Doctor of Physical Therapy (PP-DPT) program distinguishes itself by providing opportunities to prepare practicing physical therapists to become doctoral-level clinicians through the development of critical thinking and evidence-based practice skills.

The PP-DPT program is designed to meet the busy lifestyle of a practicing clinician by offering courses in an online format, with the ability to work at your own pace to complete weekly course activities and assignments. Students work with faculty and experienced peers in a collaborative, personalized learning environment. The program is open to licensed physical therapists with at least 1 year of current practice experience.

## PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

- Track I & II: Master's degree in Physical Therapy or health-related program OR
- Track III: Bachelor's degree in Physical Therapy

## ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate application and \$30 non-refundable application fee
- Unofficial transcripts for initial admission
  - For foreign-trained licensed and practicing physical therapists, a course-by-course academic credential evaluation by an approved NACES member, AICE member, or FCCPT is required.
  - If admitted, students will need to provide official transcripts (and official evaluations, if applicable) from each institution
- Copy of current Physical Therapy License
- Employer Verification Letter
  - All students must submit verification of at least 1 year of current employment as a physical therapist
- Language Proficiency requirement must be met. Submission of TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, or Duolingo English Test may be required. See our policy for full details:  
<https://www.su.edu/admissions/international-students>

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The PP-DPT is a post-graduate program offered to both Masters- and Bachelors-prepared physical therapists, with credit awarded for prior related coursework. Physical therapists who have earned a Master's level degree in physical therapy or other post-graduate health-related programs of study, are required to complete a total of 16 credits from Shenandoah University. These credit hours may be completed over an accelerated 3 terms (Track I) or over 6 consecutive terms (Track II). Students who hold a Bachelor's Degree in physical therapy are required to complete a total of 20 credits at Shenandoah University through the Track III curriculum, offered over 7 consecutive terms. A minimum grade of 80% must be earned in all courses to successfully complete the program.

## CURRICULUM

### Track I – One-Year Plan

| Course                 | Title   | Credits   |
|------------------------|---|-----------|
| <b>Fall Semester</b>   |   |           |
| PT 835                 | Incorporating Evidence in Daily Practice            | 2         |
| PT 836                 | Medical Imaging in Rehabilitation                   | 2         |
| PT 844                 | PT Role in Community and Global Health              | 1         |
| PT 834                 | Professionalism in Physical Therapy                 | 1         |
| <b>Spring Semester</b> |   |           |
| PT 842                 | Differential Examination & Diagnosis in PT Practice | 2         |
| PT 846                 | Emerging Clinical Practice I                        | 1         |
| PT 899                 | Pharmacology in Physical Medicine                   | 2         |
| <b>Summer Semester</b> |   |           |
| PT 849                 | The Doctoring Profession                            | 2         |
| PT 848                 | Emerging Clinical Practice II                       | 2         |
|                        | PP-DPT Elective Course                              | 1         |
| <b>Total</b>           |   | <b>16</b> |

## ADMISSION & APPLICATION

### Start Term

Summer (May): Track III (Bachelor's Level PTs)  
Fall (August): Track I & II (Master's Level PTs)

### Admission Deadline

Summer: April 1  
Fall: June 1

*Completed applications are reviewed regularly and applications are accepted after deadlines on a space-available basis*

### Format/Location

Online

*Two half-day face-to-face sessions held onsite with the option for virtual attendance*

### How to Apply to Shenandoah

Begin the online application process by going to [www.su.edu/ptapp](http://www.su.edu/ptapp).

### International Applicants

Applicants licensed in the following states must meet English language proficiency standards: CO, CT, DE, FL, IN, MO, NY, PA, WI and Puerto Rico

Applicants can upload an unofficial copy of their academic credential evaluation to serve as his or her unofficial transcript from that institution. An official evaluation must be sent with the official transcript after the student is admitted.

### Transfer Credit

A minimum grade of "B-" required for any transfer credit. A maximum of 14 credits can be transferred in for Tracks I and II. A maximum of 10 credits can be transferred in for Track III.

### Contact Us

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Associate Director, PP-DPT  
[jhatch@su.edu](mailto:jhatch@su.edu)

Office of Graduate Admissions  
[SUGradAdmissions@su.edu](mailto:SUGradAdmissions@su.edu)  
call: 540-665-4581 | text: 540-401-5709

Office of Financial Aid  
<https://www.su.edu/financial-aid/incoming-graduate-aid/>  
[finaid@su.edu](mailto:finaid@su.edu) | call: 540-665-4538



**Janine Hatch, PT, DPT, MS, GCS**  
Associate Director, PP-DPT

### CAMPUS LOCATION

Your journey to earning your DPT degree starts with a half-day orientation session on the new Health Professions campus in beautiful historic Winchester. Students return in mid-August of their final year of study for a half-day immersive learning experience, followed by the doctoral Hooding Ceremony. Virtual attendance for each onsite meeting session may be granted upon request.



**Winchester Campus**  
1775 North Sector Court  
Winchester, VA 22601

Visit <http://su.edu/ppdpt> for more information.

### Track II – Two-Year Plan

| Course                   | Title   | Credits   |
|--------------------------|---|-----------|
| <b>Fall Semester 1</b>   |   |           |
| PT 835                   | Incorporating Evidence in Daily Practice            | 2         |
| PT 834                   | Professionalism in Physical Therapy                 | 1         |
| <b>Spring Semester 1</b> |   |           |
| PT 842                   | Differential Examination & Diagnosis in PT Practice | 2         |
| PT 899                   | Pharmacology in Physical Medicine                   | 2         |
| <b>Summer Semester 1</b> |   |           |
|                          | PP-DPT Elective Course                              | 1         |
| <b>Fall Semester 2</b>   |   |           |
| PT 836                   | Medical Imaging in Rehabilitation                   | 2         |
| PT 844                   | PT Role in Community and Global Health              | 1         |
| <b>Spring Semester 2</b> |   |           |
| PT 846                   | Emerging Clinical Practice I                        | 1         |
| <b>Summer Semester 2</b> |   |           |
| PT 849                   | The Doctoring Profession                            | 2         |
| PT 848                   | Emerging Clinical Practice II                       | 2         |
|                          | <b>Total</b>  | <b>16</b> |

### Track III – Seven Consecutive Terms

| Course                   | Title   | Credits   |
|--------------------------|---|-----------|
| <b>Summer Semester 1</b> |   |           |
| PT 860                   | Advanced Human Anatomy                              | 2         |
| <b>Fall Semester 1</b>   |   |           |
| PT 835                   | Incorporating Evidence in Daily Practice            | 2         |
| PT 834                   | Professionalism in Physical Therapy                 | 1         |
| <b>Spring Semester 1</b> |   |           |
| PT 842                   | Differential Examination & Diagnosis in PT Practice | 2         |
| PT 899                   | Pharmacology in Physical Medicine                   | 2         |
| <b>Summer Semester 2</b> |   |           |
|                          | PP-DPT Elective Courses (3)                         | 3         |
| <b>Fall Semester 2</b>   |   |           |
| PT 836                   | Medical Imaging in Rehabilitation                   | 2         |
| PT 844                   | PT Role in Community and Global Health              | 1         |
| <b>Spring Semester 2</b> |   |           |
| PT 846                   | Emerging Clinical Practice I                        | 1         |
| <b>Summer Semester 3</b> |   |           |
| PT 848                   | Emerging Clinical Practice II                       | 2         |
| PT 849                   | The Doctoring Profession                            | 2         |
|                          | <b>Total</b>  | <b>20</b> |

### Elective Course Options

| Course | Title  | Credits |
|--------|--|---------|
| PT 826 | Management and Leadership                      | 1       |
| PT 850 | Advanced PT Practice for the Geriatric Client  | 1       |
| PT 852 | Advanced Practice in Pediatric PT              | 1       |
| PT 885 | Vestibular Rehabilitation                      | 1       |
| PT 887 | Women's Health Issues in PT                    | 1       |
| PT 888 | Understanding and Managing the Pain Experience | 1       |
| PT 860 | Advanced Human Anatomy                         | 2       |

### SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available for Shenandoah University physical therapy alumni, Shenandoah University physical therapy clinical instructors, and employees of Valley Health Systems, Inova Health Systems, and West Virginia University Hospital-East.