

Doctor of
Physical Therapy
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus



Physical Therapy
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

About Our Program

DIRECTOR WELCOME

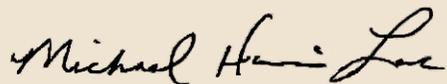
On behalf of the faculty, staff and students, I welcome you to our University of Colorado Physical Therapy Program Viewbook. Our program celebrated its 70th Anniversary in 2017 and we continue to transform health and promote wellness through our education, research and community engagement.

The Viewbook provides a snapshot of the distinctive features of the CU Physical Therapy Program and the Anschutz Medical Campus. Within these pages, you'll learn more about our innovative curriculum, interprofessional learning opportunities and community environment. You will also see the commitment of our faculty and students to community service through a number of local initiatives. Our physical therapy students provide the reader with personal accounts of their educational experience, why they chose CU and their interactions with their professors.

Additionally, the Viewbook offers a convenient overview of program requirements as well as our campus facilities and clinical partnerships with institutions such as University of Colorado Hospital and the Rocky Mountain Regional VA Medical Center. From the active lifestyle afforded by the Metro Denver area, to the cutting-edge facilities found at the Anschutz Medical Campus, the CU Physical Therapy Program provides an outstanding learning environment.

Part of our program mission includes serving as leaders within the field of physical therapy to improve movement, participation and health for individuals and society. I hope that you will choose to join us in achieving this worthwhile mission.

Sincerely,



Michael Harris-Love, PT, MPT, DSc, FGSA
Program Director
Joanne Posner-Mayer Endowed Chair in Physical Therapy
Associate Dean for Physical Therapy Education



Program Overview

The University of Colorado Physical Therapy program (CU Physical Therapy) offers the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree (DPT) to graduates following eight consecutive semesters, or two and a half years. CU Physical Therapy readies physical therapists who are prepared to treat patients across the lifespan, in a variety of diverse settings and assume multi-faceted responsibilities for high quality care in today's healthcare environment.

Beginning in 1948 with a class of six students, there have been over 2,200 graduates of the continuously accredited CU Physical Therapy program. Graduates are 100% employed and pursue positions in outpatient clinics, inpatient hospitals, home care, schools, fitness centers and more. Our alumni contribute to the delivery of high-quality physical therapy services throughout the Rocky Mountain region and nationally. Our success is linked to the expertise and collaborations of our faculty, exceptionally qualified students, interprofessional colleagues, network of alumni and clinical partners, and beautiful facilities on the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.



The University of Colorado has established a tradition of excellence in the educational preparation of physical therapists for over 70 years.

15TH
in the Country

1ST
in Rocky
Mountain Region

2ND
in Western U.S.

THREE EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS:

Doctor of Physical Therapy
PhD in Rehabilitation Science
Residency in Pediatric Physical Therapy



Mission: The University of Colorado Physical Therapy Program leads discovery and innovation to improve movement, participation, health, and wellness for individuals and society through excellence in education, research, clinical care, and service.

Vision: We transform health and foster wellness in individuals and society through education, discoveries, engagement and innovation.

Values: Our Program values serve to support our mission and vision, shape our culture, and reflect the physical therapy profession's vision and core values:

Respect

For all individuals' safety, rights, dignity, and perspectives

Integrity

Because professional behavior reflects who we are

Altruism:

In service to the individual, community, and organization

Diversity

For inclusivity in all endeavors

Accountability

To all those seeking care and providing care within our profession and health care systems

Passion

Because we are committed to lifelong learning, service, and community engagement

Collaboration

To leverage collective input from all individuals

Leadership

Within the university, profession and community at large

Quality

To attain excellence in all we do



Caitlin Alexander, Class of 2019

I believe it's important to have interests and passions outside of PT school. Those things are what make you unique and what help you connect with and develop real relationships with your patients. I've been involved in the sport of triathlon for 15 years after too many injuries took their toll on me with running. I did my first Ironman five years ago and became hooked after realizing I had a knack for the longer stuff. It is my form of self-care, so I make time for it, even if that requires extra planning on my part. Class is typically from 8am-3pm or 5pm, and I spend on average 15 hours a week training. Sometimes it requires some creativity on my part to get it all in, whether that's biking to class and taking the long way home, fitting in a run or gym session at lunch (shoutout to the amazing Anschutz Health and Wellness Center), or studying while on the bike trainer at home.

On the Move!

Not surprisingly, many CU PT students are fueled by movement and enjoy being active in their free time. They truly embrace “practicing what you preach.”

PT students can always be identified on campus, as there’s always a group getting a volleyball game going during the lunch hour.

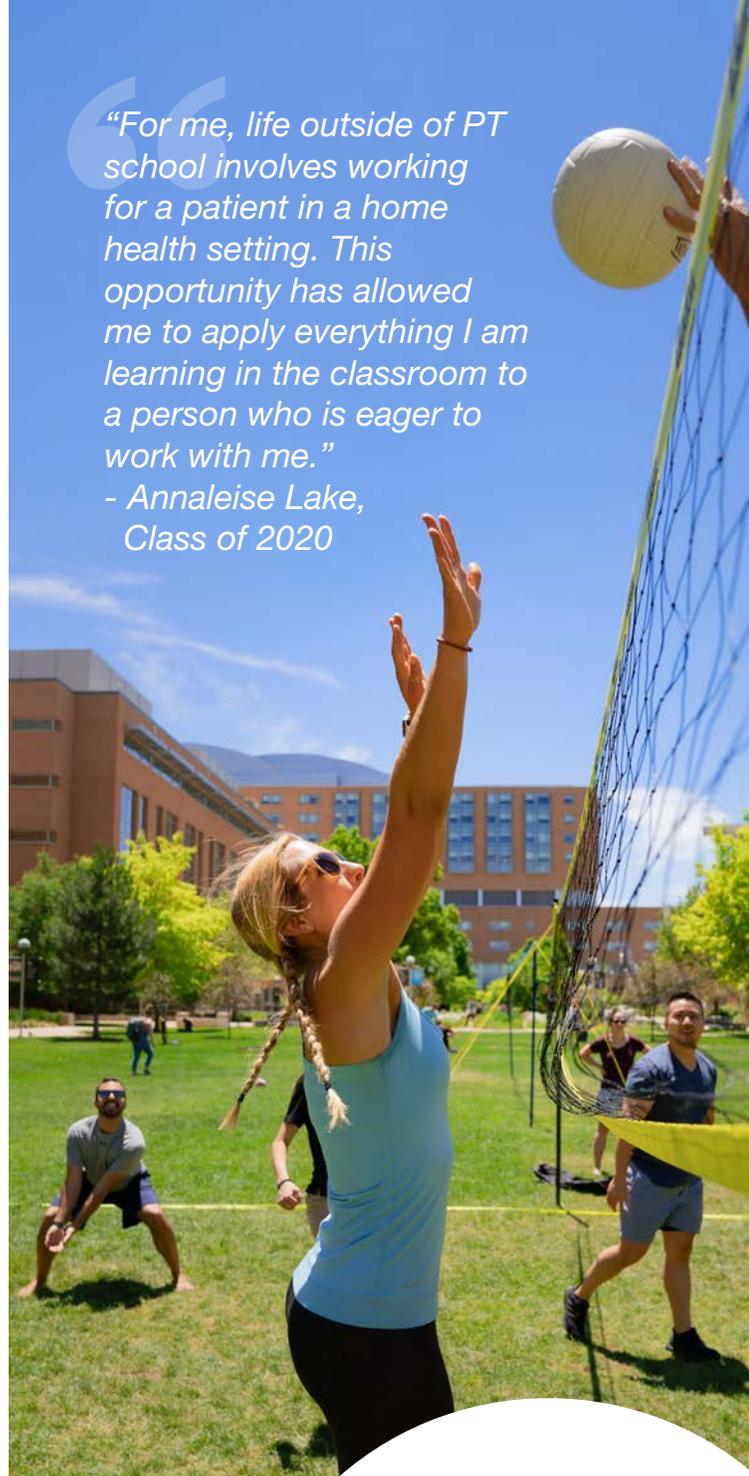
STUDENT LIFE

Our DPT students work hard to achieve academic and clinical goals but also work hard to find balance in their lives. Just a few of their preferred activities include:

- Playing volleyball and spikeball during lunch hours
- Skiing & snowboarding
- Working out, playing soccer, biking, running, swimming, dancing, yoga, meditating... and many more activities
- Volunteering for community-based programs
- Taking part in research initiatives as work-study students
- Camping and hiking together
- Being active with their dogs
- Pursuing spiritual activities
- Visiting the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center

“For me, life outside of PT school involves working for a patient in a home health setting. This opportunity has allowed me to apply everything I am learning in the classroom to a person who is eager to work with me.”

- Annaleise Lake,
Class of 2020



Addison Huck, Class of 2021

After my honorable discharge from the United States Marine Corp, I pursued a degree in Health and Exercise Science. I learned of the Physical Therapy profession and quickly fell in love with its concepts and values, as they aligned closely with mine. Growing up in rural North Dakota made me realize the lack of care that exists in many parts of the United States. When the doctor that provided care for my mom left town, they had no other choice but to close the facility. As a family with little means, we couldn’t afford to drive to the next town on a regular basis. I hope to ease this pain for families and work as a physical therapist in a rural location finding itself in dire need of a movement specialist.





“The class is such a supportive environment and you really feel that the faculty and program staff support you 100%. Campus in general has that same feeling and provides lots of resources for students to be successful and happy.”
- Mitsuyoshi Smyth, Class of 2019

Community Feel

An amazing result of studying, collaborating, playing and going to class with 70 other students is that there is a strong feeling of community that develops. This feeling extends beyond students and includes faculty, administrative staff, students in other campus programs, as well as campus and healthcare leaders who all are focused together on achieving the goal of providing optimal healthcare for our communities.



“Our class bonded quickly through social outings, volunteering experiences, study groups and lunch activities. There is no sense of competition in our class, rather there is a sense of community.”
- Tessa Mikesell, Class of 2019

Campus Highlights

A graduate level campus, the CU Anschutz Medical Campus (AMC) is the largest academic health center in the Rocky Mountain region, with 11.3 million square feet of state-of-the-art training facilities. The campus combines interdisciplinary teaching, research and clinical facilities, preparing future medical professionals to redefine the health care of tomorrow.

The campus consists of three zones that promote collaboration and innovation: an education zone with remarkable facilities for training future physicians and other health professionals; a research zone with ground-breaking, internationally renowned research; and a clinical care zone with the University of Colorado Hospital and The Children's Hospital, the University of Colorado School of Medicine's primary adult and pediatric hospital partners, nearby.



CLASS OF 2017

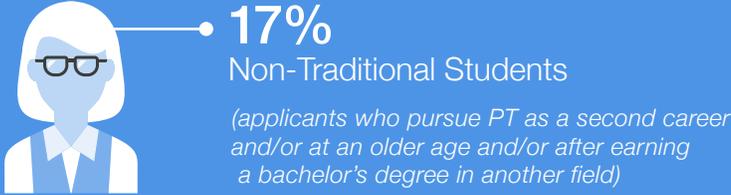
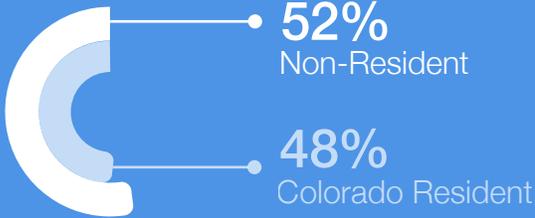
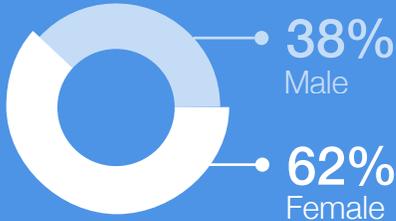
Graduation Rate
First-Time NPTE Pass Rate
Employment
(within six months of licensure)

CU Anschutz is home to six health professional schools offering over 40 degree programs

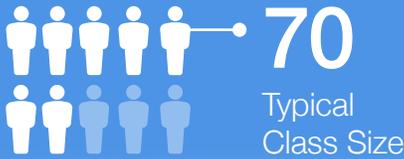
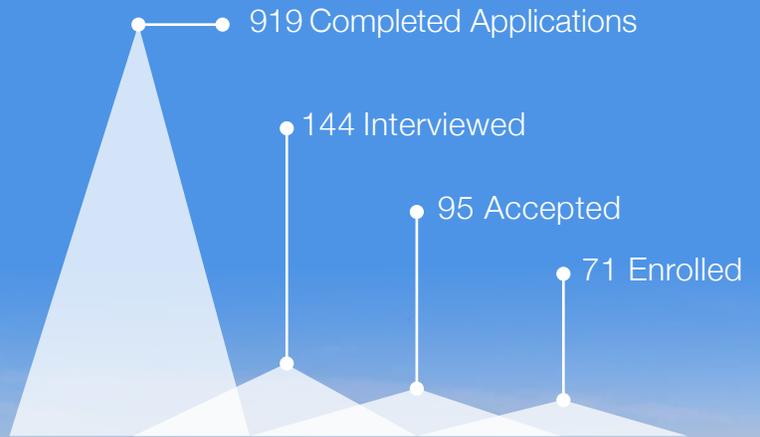
College of Nursing
Colorado School of Public Health
Graduate School
School of Dental Medicine
School of Medicine
Skaggs School of Pharmacy



CLASS OF 2021 DEMOGRAPHICS



APPLICANT DATA 2018-2019



Students on the AMC Campus **4,500**





Curriculum

On-campus, year-round courses include both classroom and laboratory learning experiences, beginning with foundational science and clinical skill content, and progressing to patient management, advanced clinical skills and professional topics over seven semesters. Faculty members use a variety of learning methods incorporating technology, learning modules, case-based and small group hands-on experiences. Content learned in the classroom and laboratory complement the integrated and full-time clinical experiences, the last experience which occurs in the eighth semester of the program.

CLINICAL EDUCATION

- 38 weeks of full-time clinical experience including Integrated Clinical Experience (ICE)
- Clinical Sites throughout Colorado and the U.S.
- Commitment to rural and underserved communities

CLINICAL EDUCATION SCHEDULE:

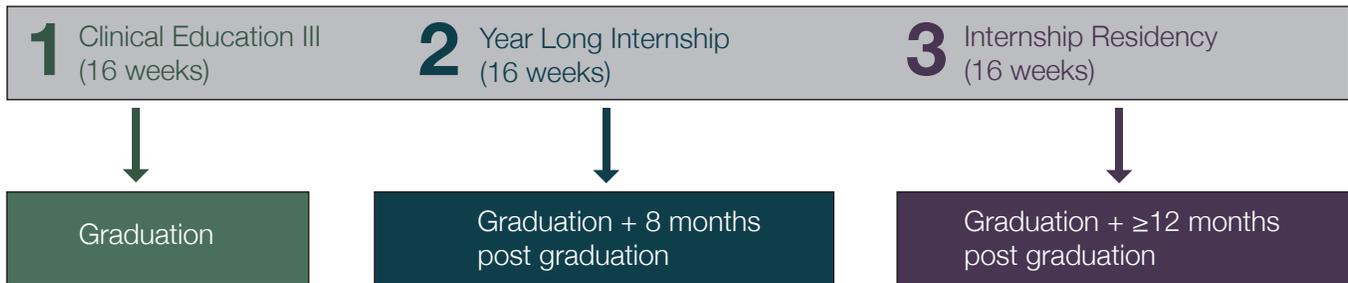
YEAR 1



YEAR 2



YEAR 3 (3 options)



Melissa Darnell, Class of 2020

Reflecting on CE 2 Experience at Craig Hospital on the inpatient traumatic brain injury unit

My biggest takeaway from my second clinical experience was to slow down and work with consistency, intention and offer yourself grace. As a student, it's easy to become overwhelmed with all aspects of patient care, from writing letters of medical necessity, training family members on aspects of patient needs and mobility and managing pain level and behavior changes among others. It takes a village, and I witnessed the magic of working as part of an interdisciplinary team that offered the highest level of care for all patients. It truly is the best way for us to see the big picture and the patient as a whole.



INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

In order to provide the best quality of care for patients, health professionals must work together as an effective team. The Anschutz Medical Campus was intentionally designed to facilitate interprofessional education. Lecture halls and study spaces in the education buildings are shared by students from all areas of study – dental medicine, graduate school, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, physical therapy, physician assistant and public health.

The CU Interprofessional Practice & Education (IPE) program integrates preclinical and clinical training for all students in three components: classroom team based learning, simulation experiences at the Center for Assessing Professional Excellence and practicum experiences at clinical sites.

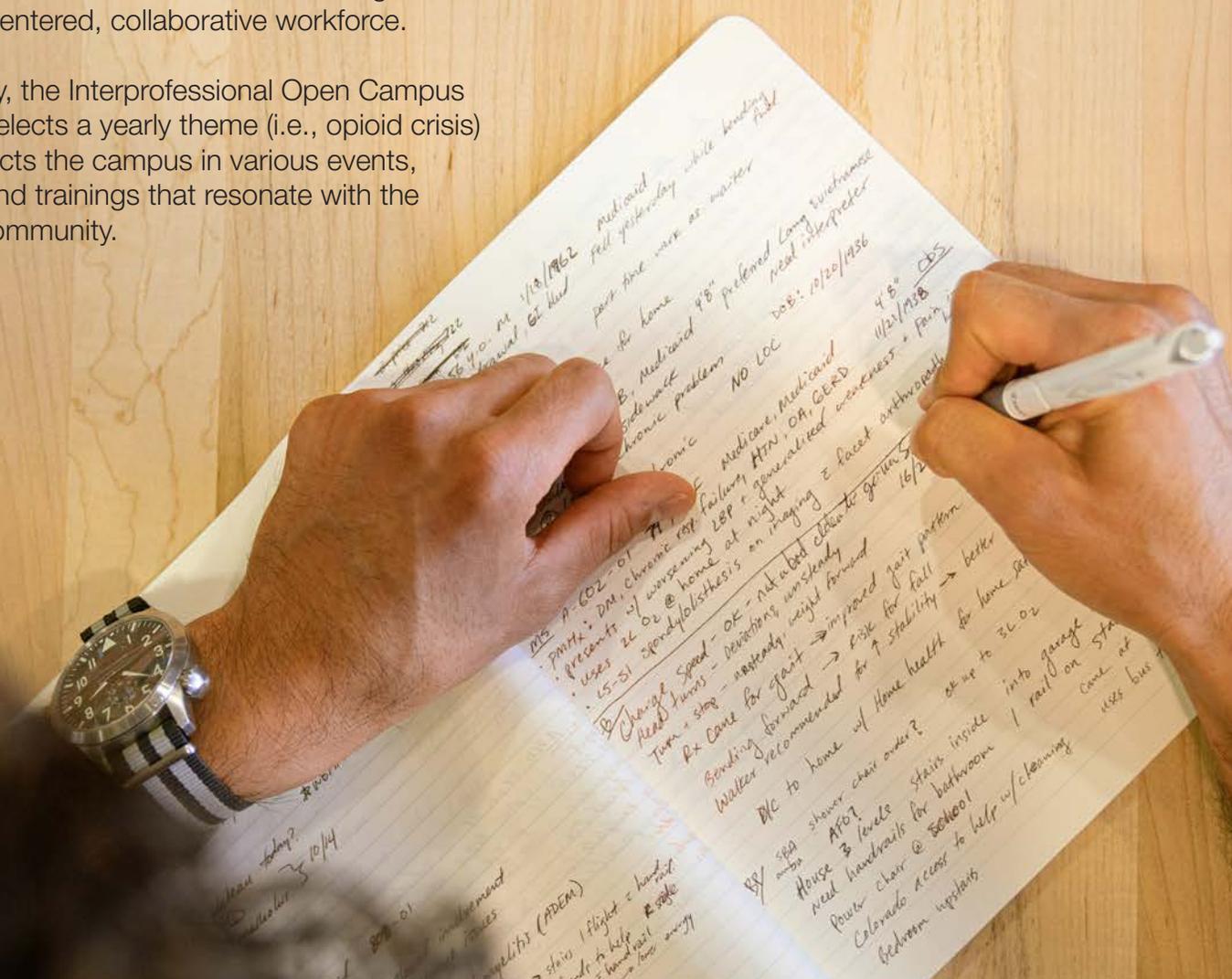
Students engage with a team of interprofessional students in courses and experiences in quality, safety, ethics, teamwork and communication skills to prepare them for their roles as collaborative providers and team members.

The IPE program goal is to improve population health, quality of care, and reduce health care costs through the creation of a patient-centered, collaborative workforce.

Additionally, the Interprofessional Open Campus Program selects a yearly theme (i.e., opioid crisis) that connects the campus in various events, activities and trainings that resonate with the campus community.

DPT/PHD PATHWAY

For prospective students who have an interest in and experience in research and wish to ultimately earn a PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences following their DPT completion, the PT Program offers the DPT/PhD Pathway option. For more information regarding the DPT/PhD Pathway, please contact Kenton Owsley, the Program Administrator for the PhD Program, by email at Kenton.Owsley@cuanschutz.edu.



Why CU Anschutz?

“CU has always been my singular focus for PT school. I chose CU because of the relationships they have with the community (VA, Craig Hospital, UCHealth) and the excellent quality of practitioners the program produces.”

-Barret Formslag, Class of 2021



“CU has a reputable physical therapy program that is focused on giving back to the community and establishing well-rounded health professionals.

I chose CU because of this and also because of the school’s significant emphasis on advancement of the profession through research.”

-Haley Tirado, Class of 2021



“You know your professors, lab assistants and peers, they all know you. You feel welcomed, accepted and that you’re apart of something bigger than yourself.”

- Steven Yao, Class of 2020

“I was attracted by the excellence of the program, the interprofessional nature of the campus, the DPT faculty and student community, as well as the adult learning environment. At CU there are numerous opportunities to be involved in the wider medical community, as well as the PT community. Having many choices for community involvement and the flexibility to pursue my own interests was highly important to me. As an adult learner, I have specific professional interests and personal commitments outside of school that are important to me.”

- Rebecca Altic, Class of 2019

Community Service & Engagement

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE FOR AURORA WARMS THE NIGHT

Annually, the CU PT Student Community Service Officers lead efforts to collect over 25 trash bags full of warm jackets and other items as part of a Winter Clothing Drive for the Aurora Warms the Night program.

"The Winter Clothing Drive was particularly meaningful because it allowed us to connect to our Aurora community and provide clothing that will be utilized for a good cause. It was incredibly heart-warming to see the outpouring of donations from the Anschutz campus community and also the reaction from the shelter recipients when we pulled up with two huge carloads. It's not everyday you get to connect with donation recipients like this and it was truly gratifying."

- Blake Pepper-Tunick, CU PT Class of 2020 Community Service Officer



DAWN

The Dedicated to Aurora's Wellness and Needs (DAWN) Clinic is an interdisciplinary, student-run clinic that serves the uninsured residents of Aurora. Every Wednesday, PT students under the supervision of faculty mentors provide physical therapy to patients free of charge. Since opening in March 2015, DAWN continues to be one of the most popular volunteer opportunities.

"I will never forget the patients I have had the pleasure of working with [at DAWN]. Hearing how grateful each person is makes me realize how much a little support can impact someone. I have learned a tremendous amount about physical therapy care, being part of multidisciplinary team, making difficult decisions, logistics [and] most important of all, our shared humanity."

- Claire Zwaan, CU PT Class of 2020 Community Service Officer

STOUT STREET

"It is a privilege to provide PT services at the Stout Street Clinic for individuals experiencing homelessness. Not only can our students hear the amazing stories of patients, they can share their knowledge, skills, and compassion and make a difference during each encounter."

- Jenny Rodriguez, Director of Clinical Education

NIGHT OWLS

On the first Friday evening of each month students have the opportunity to participate in Night Owls, which is a partnership with the University of Denver Fletcher Early Learning Center. At Night Owls, graduate students and faculty spend the evening with children with disabilities and their siblings while their parents enjoy a night out on the town.

“Night Owls is an amazing volunteer experience that allows PT students to provide hands on care to neurologically and developmentally delayed children. There is nothing quite like having a kiddo smile and laugh with you, knowing that they genuinely appreciate your time and mentorship.”

- Kathleen Kershnik, CU PT Class of 2019

PUNCHING FOR PARKINSON'S

Another popular volunteer opportunity for PT students, Punching for Parkinson's (PFP), is a program that provides patients with Parkinson disease (PD) intensive, non-contact boxing workouts. Studies have shown that when patients with PD participate in a regular exercise program, their walking, balance, strength and quality of life can improve.

“Punching for Parkinson's has taught me many valuable lessons for my future practice as a PT- I've practiced dosing exercise, providing verbal cues and feedback, and creating creative balance and agility exercises. However, the most valuable thing about PFP are the relationships that you build with the participants. They've become another family to me and I admire their passion to fight their disease!”

- Kaylae Nakamura, CU PT Class of 2019



HIGH SCHOOL OUTREACH

Throughout their time in the program, students will have the chance to share their love for physical therapy with the next generation. Many middle school and high school outreach events take place at the Anschutz Medical Campus and at other locations throughout the year. There are many opportunities for students, and later as alumni, to assist with CU Physical Therapy Program recruitment efforts.



RELAY FOR LIFE

“Everyone at some point in their life will be affected by cancer. Relay for Life provides an opportunity to raise money for cancer research while having a blast with your classmates.”

- Zach Davis, CU PT Class of 2019

LEGISLATIVE DAY

Each year students have the opportunity to meet face-to-face with state legislators to discuss current issues affecting physical therapy, health care, and access to care. Students are encouraged to become student members of the professional organization for PT, the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), which provides access to publications and information regarding current issues in PT, evidence based practice tools, career development and networking opportunities and many discounts for members.

The annual APTA Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) will take place in Denver, Colorado in February 2020. Students and faculty attend each year and are proud to soon have over 20,000 CSM attendees in the Mile High City.



STEP UP FOR DOWN SYNDROME

On September 23, 2018, numerous CU PT students participated as volunteers during the Step Up for Down Syndrome Walk, a 1-2 mile loop around City Park in Denver, Colorado. Proceeds benefit the Rocky Mountain Down Syndrome Association.



Diversity

The students, residents, faculty and administration of the University of Colorado School of Medicine (SOM) believe that diversity is a value that is central to the School's educational, research, community service and health care missions. Therefore, the SOM is committed to recruiting and supporting a diverse student body, house staff, faculty and senior administration. The SOM adopts a definition of diversity that embraces race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, religion, political beliefs and socioeconomic status. The definition of diversity also includes life experiences, record of service and employment and other talents and personal attributes that can enhance the scholarly, clinical care and learning environment.

The Physical Therapy Program is committed to:

- Enhancing and appreciating a diverse student body, faculty and staff as one of our core values
- Assuring that students are aware that the School of Medicine offers services, resources and guidance to enhance diversity and foster a culture of inclusion through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion
- Providing an opportunity to continue to enhance our commitment to diversity through scholarships, a PT Program Diversity, Equity & Inclusion committee with student representation, providing activities and discussion within several courses and participating in many campus-wide events
- Recognizing that diverse populations produce better outcomes



“After visiting CU for interview day, I fell in love with the program. I connected with Dr. Dawn Magnusson and was excited to explore her research in population health and the role that PTs can play in ameliorating health inequities in our communities. I also connected with Dr. Robyn Gisbert, who introduced me to the Health Humanities and Bioethics program on campus.”

- Louise Fix, Class of 2021



Faculty

The 24 faculty members of the CU PT Program have multiple roles designed to support students in the DPT program. Faculty members create and manage courses which include classes and labs, produce scholarly products, conduct research, work in clinical settings and provide service to professional associations, campus groups and committees, and volunteer in numerous local, national and international activities. Like students, they work on finding balance and participate in many Colorado activities with family and friends.

Our faculty highly encourage and promote work-life balance in the program, and they practice these habits themselves, leading by example. I always looked forward to reading Paul Mintken’s emails to our class, as he always included motivational quotes or little snippets of wisdom and advice to help us remember the bigger picture. Our class easily stressed over big exams and projects and I remember this particular note that Paul Mintken wrote to us: We spend so much time planning for the future and stressing about the next exam, the next bill, and the next appointment, that it is difficult to appreciate the current moment. Take time to stop, take a deep breath, and enjoy the moment. As Robert Brault once said, “Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things.”

- Caitlin Alexander, Class of 2019

Why Faculty Chose CU

"I work here because it's an opportunity to be part of a terrific faculty in a vibrant healthcare education environment on a growing campus. What more could I want?"

"To be a part of a collaborative, highly talented and passionate faculty who are dedicated to improving the lives of others and pursuing excellence in physical therapist education."

"I am grateful to work at CU PT every single day. I love the faculty's dedication and commitment to excellence, their spirit of collaboration, and true caring and compassion for each other and our students. The students are fantastic and challenge me to be a better educator and human being."



SPECIALTIES

Faculty members have a variety of specialty areas of practice and many are Board Certified through the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties. Specialty certifications include Pediatrics, Neurology, Cardiovascular & Pulmonary, Sports and Orthopedics.



NOTABLE HONORS/AWARDS

Faculty have received many awards and honors from campus organizations, national associations and volunteer organizations for community and professional service, arts, advocacy, teaching and research accomplishments.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS INCLUDE

Cory Christiansen, PT, PhD
University of Colorado Dean's Doctoral Mentoring Award

Robyn Gisbert, PT, DPT
Professor Bernie Karshmer Award in the Center for Bioethics and Humanities

Michael Harris-Love, PT, MPT, DSc, FGSA
*Eugene Michels New Investigator Award
Gerontological Society of America Health Sciences Fellow*

Dana Judd, PT, DPT, PhD
University of Colorado School of Medicine Academy's Medical Educator Award for Curriculum Development or Educational Innovation

Mark Mañago, PT, DPT, NCS
President's Fund for the Humanities Award

Amy McDevitt, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT
Academy of Medical Educators Rymer Grant

Paul Mintken, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT
*James A. Gould Excellence in Teaching
Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Award*

Mary Jane Rapport, PT, DPT, PhD, FAPTA
APTA Visiting Scholar in Education Research

Margaret Schenkman, PT, PhD, FAPTA
Anne Shumway-Cook Lectureship

Jennifer Stevens-Lapsley, PT, PhD
*Marion Williams Research Award
Dorothy Briggs Memorial Scientific Inquiry Award*

RESEARCH EFFORTS

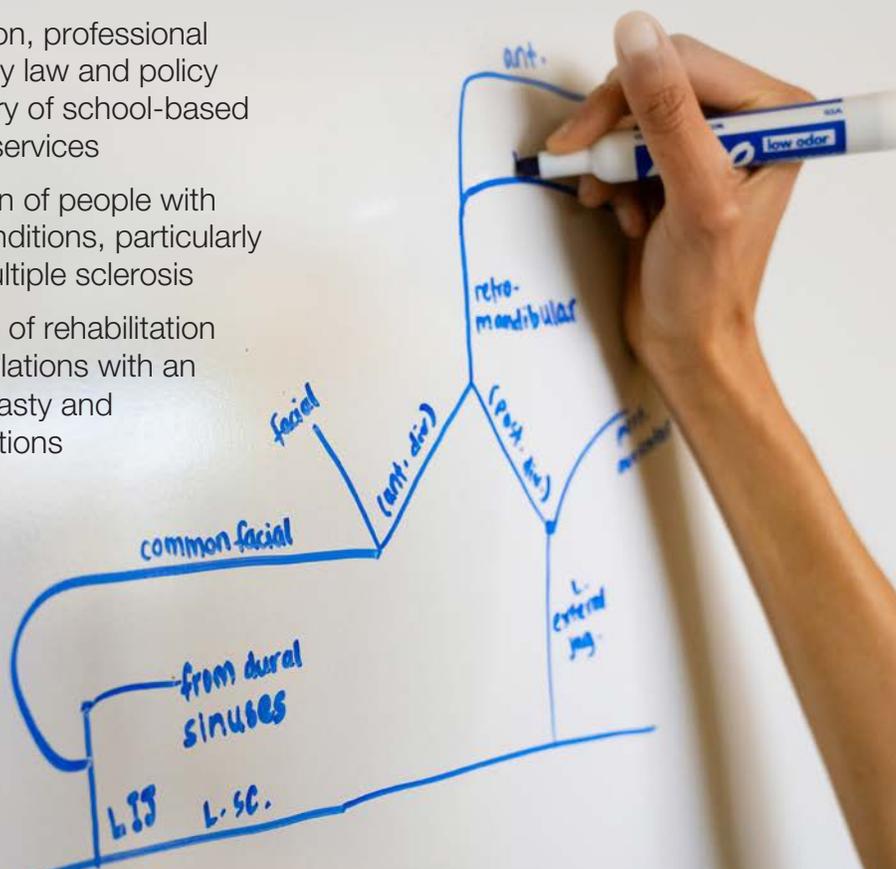
Many of our faculty are involved in research initiatives advancing the profession that are funded both nationally and locally. Faculty collaborate with other departments on the Anschutz Medical Campus, the surrounding community and even include student involvement.

Examples of current faculty research include:

- Finding innovative methods to improve rehabilitation of orthopaedic conditions with a specific focus on knee osteoarthritis and joint replacement
- Developing meaningful and innovative models of care that advance health equity for traditionally underserved populations of children with developmental delay or disability
- Clinical research in the field of rehabilitation in people with multiple sclerosis and other neurological conditions
- Rehabilitation to improve functional outcomes after dysvascular amputation
- Clinical research in areas of general shoulder pain, biceps tendinopathy, regional interdependence and dry needling
- Physical therapist education, professional development, and disability law and policy associated with the delivery of school-based PT and early intervention services
- Improving physical function of people with neurological and other conditions, particularly Parkinson disease and multiple sclerosis
- Enhance the effectiveness of rehabilitation in older adult patient populations with an emphasis on joint arthroplasty and medically complex populations

"I work at the CU PT Program because of my colleagues and the sense of community."

"As a graduate/alum of the program, I saw firsthand how unique the Anschutz Medical Campus is...I also witnessed how innovative and supportive the CU DPT faculty was and am lucky to now call them my colleagues."



Application Process

Applicants must apply online using the Physical Therapists Centralized Application Service (PTCAS) application at www.ptcas.org. See the PTCAS website for specific application fees, dates and instructions. Be sure to refer to the PT Program website for important dates and other details regarding the application process. It is important to plan for your eventual application with several options to consider, such as:

- Requesting a review of your transcript prior to your last few years of undergraduate or graduate classes by contacting CU PT Admissions at 303-724-9144 or pt.admissions@cuanschutz.edu
- Attending a group tour, PT Preview Day, Pre-Health Day or the APTA Virtual Fair
- Working with your college advisor
- Reviewing prospective student information on the APTA website

HOLISTIC REVIEW

Our application process includes a holistic review that looks closely at all components of an application. Reviewers attend closely to strengths that are identified in several application areas reflected by accurate application documentation and thoughtful essays. Your application is the only way that the PT Program learns about who you are before decisions are made about invitations to interview, so make it count!



To view the competitive cumulative GPA and GRE scores based on previous application cycles, please visit dptstatistics.CUPhysicalTherapy.org

PREREQUISITES & OTHER REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY

While the road to PT school is different for each prospective student, the requirements are the same. Applicants must complete a bachelor's degree prior to matriculation in the summer semester. Any major is acceptable, provided that prerequisite courses are completed. However, biology, kinesiology and exercise science are the most common majors.

Prerequisite courses (42 semester hours total), many of which are science-based, must be completed prior to the start of the program. Only one science prerequisite course may be in progress in the spring semester prior to matriculation.

Other application requirements:

- ✓ Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- ✓ 3 References (see website for required references)
- ✓ 45 Observation Hours in three settings (see website for required settings)
- ✓ General Record Exam (GRE)
- ✓ TOEFL for English as a Foreign Language Applicants
- ✓ Completion of PTCAS Application
- ✓ \$100 supplemental Fee





Tuition & Fees

The PT Program boasts some of the lowest tuition rates in the nation. Leadership has consistently worked with the University of Colorado Board of Regents to keep tuition rates as low as possible. Students in non-resident status (as determined by the Office of the Registrar at the time of admission), are typically able to establish residency after the first year of the program provided that specific requirements are met. If residency status is established, out-of-state students will only pay non-resident tuition rates for the first year (46 credit hours) and qualify for resident tuition for the second full year and third half year.

Total tuition (not including cost of living or other fees) for the 116-credit DPT curriculum is approximately \$59,000 for students in resident status and approximately \$84,000 for students in non-resident status for whom residency is established after the first year of the program. Tuition and fees are subject to change at any time.



\$84,000 Non-Resident Tuition

\$59,000 Resident Tuition

Other associated costs and fees include, but are not limited to: cost of books, housing and student health insurance, public transportation fee, fees related to matriculation and student activities.

Now, more than ever, as costs continue to soar across the nation, tuition and fees are an important area of research for prospective students. Most students apply for Federal Aid and pursue scholarship opportunities. The Financial Aid Office provides resources for prospective students to help them navigate the options for funding their education and also provides resources to help alumni manage debt after graduating.

Scholarships

SCHOLARSHIPS CHANGE LIVES

The University of Colorado Physical Therapy Program provides a variety of scholarships to both prospective and current students to make physical therapy education more financially feasible.

Prospective Student Scholarships

Prospective student scholarships are awarded to individuals based on merit, diversity, and commitment to practice in specific areas such as rural communities.

Diversity and Inclusion

The CU PT Program is committed to recruiting and supporting a diverse student body, embracing race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, religion, political beliefs and socioeconomic status. The definition of diversity also includes life experiences, record of service and employment and other talents and personal attributes.

- Physical Therapy Program Diversity Scholarships
- Joanne Posner-Mayer Diversity Scholarships
- University of Colorado Medicine Diversity Scholarships

Rural Scholarships

The CU PT Program is committed to improving the access to health care in general, and in particular, physical therapy services in rural communities.

- Physical Therapy Program Rural Scholarships
- University of Colorado Medicine Rural Scholarship

Merit Scholarships

Merit scholarships recognize individuals for exceptional academic achievements, volunteer and work experiences, leadership and extracurricular activities.

- Physical Therapy Program Merit Scholarships
- University of Colorado Medicine Merit Scholarships

Current Student Scholarships

Current student scholarships recognize individuals based on academic and clinical excellence, involvement in professional activities and financial need.

- Herbert J. and Sandy Levy Endowed Memorial Scholarship Award
- National Western Stock Show Association Scholarship Trust
- University of Colorado Medicine Scholarships
- American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) Scholarship
- Patrick and Carla Grant Physical Therapy Rural Scholarship Fund

Additional Scholarships

- Bookstein and Krapfl Endowed Physical Therapy Scholarship Fund
- Denise Stelzner, PT, MBA Endowed Scholarship Fund
- Hutchison Scholarship Endowment
- Larmore Family Endowed Scholarship Fund



“I am beyond grateful for the opportunity to attend this program. Not only has my scholarship affected me in the present, but the degree I earn at CU Anschutz will ultimately help me impact the lives of thousands of rural residents throughout the Rocky Mountain region that I am committed to assisting.”

- Jake Groh, Class of 2021

“Scholarships send a message that diversity and inclusion in healthcare matters, and that our differences are not only seen and heard, but they are valued.”

- Chloe Graves, Class of 2021

SCHOLARSHIP AND ENDOWMENT BOARD

The Physical Therapy Scholarship & Endowment Board was established in 2012, providing robust scholarships in perpetuity for students enrolled in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at the University of Colorado. Members of the Board include University leadership, program staff, alumni and community members.

MISSION STATEMENT

Ensure money is never the obstacle to bringing the best students and leading-class faculty, research and practice to the CU Physical Therapy Program.



SCHOLARSHIP GROWTH

\$1,000 in 2012

\$200,000 in 2018-2019

“As the first in my family to earn a bachelor’s degree, and now the first to pursue a graduate degree, I have faced much uncertainty in regards to funding my education. Being awarded a scholarship helps to mitigate the financial burden placed on me, and allows me to focus more of my time and energy on helping patients and further developing my clinical skills.”

-Karissa Sandoval, Class of 2021

HOW DO I APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS?

Prospective student scholarship application information is sent out in invitations to interview. Current student scholarship application information is sent out to all students as available.





Colorado & Denver

In 2019, Denver was ranked #2 on the *U.S. News and World Report's* list of the 100 Best Places to Live in the United States. With 300 days of sun, endless outdoor activities, a thriving cultural scene and beautiful scenery all year, it's no surprise that the Mile High City attracts potential PT students. Whether it's hitting the slopes in late-May (Yes, you read correctly – some ski resorts stayed open until June 2019!), hiking as the leaves begin to change in September, watching the sun set at a concert at Red Rocks Amphitheater – or all of the above – there's truly something for everyone in Colorado.

“Colorado stood out to me because it’s a beautiful place to explore and there is a lot of growth happening. There is a great culture of balance between work and play here which helps me get out and take care of myself during stressful times. Being able to be close to nature and have tons of interesting events nearby makes Denver a great place to live and learn.”

- Mitsuyoshi Smyth, Class of 2019

Admission Inquiries

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General Inquiries

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Physical Therapy Program

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
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