Admissions Criteria for University of Maryland Baltimore Physical Therapy Program

(This information was obtained during an open house information session held in September 2014) please visit the UMB website for the most up-to-date and detailed information
http://pt.umaryland.edu/pros.asp

e-mail: ptadmissions@som.umaryland.edu

phone: 410-706-7721

All students are required to have completed a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution (the major can be in any discipline).

Step I

Apply using PTCAS, website http://www.ptcas.org/applicationinstructions, send all official transcripts from each college attended as well as reference letters and GRE scores

Step II

Fill out the supplemental application (no fee) UMB PT school will email you the application

Admission is Rolling/ strongly recommended to apply well before the application deadline

The deadline for Fall 2015 admission is October 1, 2014.

PTCAS open the application in July, first reviews of files are done July 15th

If you are asked to attend an interview, group interviews are done each month starting in September until class is filled.

Prerequisite course work (*All prerequisite course work must be completed prior to beginning the program)

Biology with lab (not botany or environmental science)
Anatomy & Physiology I with lab
Anatomy & Physiology II with lab
General Chemistry I with lab
General Chemistry II with lab
General Physics I with lab (calculus or non-calculus based)
General Physics II with lab
Statistics (any discipline)
Psychology course (highly recommended to complete abnormal psychology or developmental psychology)
2 courses in human behavior (can be any course in sociology or an additional psychology course)
*a minimum grade of C is required in the prerequisite course work. Competitive applicants have a B+ or higher. If you repeat a prerequisite course the admissions committee is looking to see that you received a B+ or higher the second time since the material is no longer new to you. The admissions committee reviews the entire application; they are looking at your transcripts to see if you took a rigorous course load. They look at your cumulative GPA/look for the pattern and history of your grades over time. They look heavily at the GPA of your science courses and they are looking at the depth and breadth of your volunteer experiences.

*The GRE's are required.

*Community Service is required and is a very important part of the application.
Volunteer, non-pt related experience (should be on-going)

Examples include: involvement in student organizations such as fraternity, sorority, student government, student ambassador, student tutor, faith-based groups, volunteering at a hospital or homeless shelter, or nursing home, meals on wheels, etc.
They are looking to see if you have taken on any leadership roles.

*A minimum of 100 hours of observing a licensed PT in the US is required (to stand out you should go above and beyond this requirement).
The hours must be completed within the past two years (can be volunteer or paid experience).
They are looking for hours done over time (recent and on-going).
You should observe over the scope of practice: acute care, in-patient, out-patient, skilled nursing facility, etc.
Observe different populations: infant, children, adults, seniors
Different locations such as rural, urban and suburban

An essay is required, should be one page and include your personal characteristics and motivation factors that led you to pursue PT (proof read for grammar errors, reread, and have someone else read, spell check!) If you had an academic blip you can briefly address it in your essay.

Three letters of recommendations are required
1. Licensed PT from where you spent time observing and being engaged with the person
2. Classroom professor- the faculty member that knows you best and can attest to your academic performance in the class
3. Community service reference from where you did your volunteer non-pt related community service

Curriculum

The program is completed in three years/ begins in the summer (end of May) and goes year round excluding school breaks. Classes usually start at 8am and end around 4pm.
Year three you are fully immersed in clinicals.
Students are required to do three 11 week internships (unpaid) in 3 different settings: medically complex, out-patient, and in-patient rehab.
*One internship must be a non-local setting (this allows you to get a more well-rounded experience by seeing how PT is practiced in different states; you get to experience how care is delivered and perceived).

Year I is Basic Science I, doing gross anatomy dissection, osteology, embryology and functional anatomy. During the first year you are usually in lab 3 days a week from 8am-4pm and 2 days of lecture 10am-2pm.
First year students are paired with a “Big Sibling” who is a second year student and will serve as a mentor/resource

**Strong pass rate on certification exam 96% passed first attempt in 2014**
100% of students obtained jobs within 6 months of taking the exam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013 class profile</th>
<th>2014 class profile</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>783 applied</td>
<td>732 applied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>144 selected for interview</td>
<td>136 selected for interview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 offers were made for admission</td>
<td>90 offered admission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accepted students 50-60</td>
<td>60 enrolled students</td>
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</tbody>
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**GPA Ranges for 2014**

4.0-3.4 (cumulative GPA)
4.0-3.4 (Prerequisite GPA)

**GRE range for 2014**

Scores should be within the 50th percentile

151-154 Verbal
151-154 Math