



CAREER PATH

Health

CAREER CLUSTER
Health Sciences

CAREER PATHWAY
Therapeutic Services



PHYSICAL THERAPIST

Assess, plan, organize, and participate in rehabilitative programs that improve mobility, relieve pain, increase strength, and decrease or prevent deformity of patients suffering from disease or injury.

Knowledge and Skills Needed

In addition to courses required for high school graduation, essential skills and knowledge needed for a career as a physical therapist are reinforced by taking rigorous and relevant courses, as well as participating in work-based experiences and student organization activities.

(See the Sample Personal Plan of Study for suggested coursework, activities, and knowledge and skills to pursue in preparation of an occupation in this Career Cluster.)

Education Requirements

Occupation	Percent of Missouri employees aged 25 to 44 in the occupation whose highest level of educational attainment is:		
	High School or Less	Some College	Bachelor Degree or More
Physical therapists	1.8%	8.8%	89.3%
Health diagnosing and treating practitioners	1.3%	11.4%	87.4%
Healthcare practitioner and technical	9.9%	31.0%	59.1%

Most Common Educational Level: Master's degree

Note: Be sure to learn whether your occupation has a specific requirement for education or licensing. Apprenticeships are available for more than 240 occupations. Visit www.oa.doleta.gov/bat.cfm

National and State Wage Information

Location	Pay Period	2007		
		Entry*	Median	Experienced**
United States	Hourly	\$27.83	\$33.54	\$39.49
	Yearly	\$57,900	\$69,800	\$82,100
Missouri	Hourly	\$24.10	\$29.82	\$36.06
	Yearly	\$50,100	\$62,000	\$75,000

Based on (*) lower 25% and (**) upper 25% percentile of wages

National and State Employment Trends

Physical Therapist	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2006	2016		
United States	172,900	219,800	+ 27%	6,760
Missouri	3,650	4,570	+ 25%	130

*The estimate for Job Openings includes both turnover that results from people who leave the occupation (e.g. quit, retire, death) and new jobs that are created.

Educational Opportunities

Note: This list may not be all inclusive. For more information about Missouri schools and programs, visit www.dhe.mo.gov

A T Still University of Health Sciences

Kirkville, MO
(660) 626-2121
www.atsu.edu

Maryville University of Saint Louis

Saint Louis, MO
(800) 627-9855
www.maryville.edu

Missouri State University

Springfield, MO
(417) 836-5000
www.missouristate.edu

Rockhurst University

Kansas City, MO
(816) 501-4000
www.rockhurst.edu

Saint Louis University

- Main Campus
Saint Louis, MO
(314) 977-2222
www.imagine.slu.edu

Southwest Baptist University

Bolivar, MO
(800) 526-5859
www.sbniv.edu

University of Missouri - Columbia

Columbia, MO
(573) 882-2121
www.missouri.edu

Washington University in St Louis

Saint Louis, MO
(314) 935-5000
www.wustl.edu



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