Physical therapists are driven to improve lives by restoring and protecting the body’s physical function through highly individualized care. Physical therapy is a rapidly evolving profession, and the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program at GA-PCOM provides students with the right combination of knowledge, skills, attitudes and values to grow along with it.

The DPT program was founded in response to a national need for physical therapists, especially in the Southeast. PCOM students earn a three-year Doctor of Physical Therapy degree, which empowers them not only to understand and practice physical therapy, but also to actually shape the future of health care.

Our Doctor of Physical Therapy program equips students with the technical skills and knowledge needed to work in a variety of health care settings, including hospitals, clinics, schools and sports facilities. Training in critical thinking and evidence-based practices, paired with a variety of opportunities for clinical learning and assessment, provides the experience necessary to practice care on the front lines of health. PCOM’s collaborative environment, family atmosphere and academic support nurture student success.

The DPT program’s location at Georgia Campus, which is also home to an osteopathic medicine program, the School of Pharmacy and a physician assistant and biomedical sciences department, gives students opportunities for interaction with other health care professionals. This helps to develop the collaborative approach needed to advise and consult with health care providers in the field. The osteopathic tradition complements our physical therapy program by further emphasizing a campus-wide focus on wellness-oriented, whole-person care at every stage of life.
The curriculum combines an integrated, team-oriented approach to health professional education.

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine students are highly engaged in their communities through a wide variety of volunteer activities.

Osteopathic medicine emphasizes total wellness — in body, mind and spirit. In every discipline, we learn to treat the whole human by considering physical, environmental and psychological aspects of a problem.

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine has been at the forefront of medicine for more than a century, and Georgia Campus was founded in 2005 with the same underlying principles.
The DPT program is designed to be completed in three years. The curriculum includes both coursework and experiential training in a variety of settings. This approach effectively trains students in critical thinking and evidence-based practices, providing knowledge and experience beyond the classroom. As part of 140 credit hours of coursework, students gain essential real-world understanding through 36 weeks of full-time clinical education. In their third year of study, students engage with specific areas of interest through electives.

**AREAS OF FOCUS**
- Foundational Sciences
- Physical Therapy Sciences
- Evidence-Based Practice
- Professional Engagement
- Clinical Experience

**CURRICULUM BREAKDOWN**

**YEAR ONE**
4 terms dynamic classroom and lab work

**YEAR TWO**
8-week summer clinical education
3 terms dynamic classroom and lab work

**YEAR THREE**
8-week summer clinical education
Electives
Final clinical experience (full 20-week rotation can be split into 8-week and 12-week segments)

For the latest accreditation status, please visit: [www.pcom.edu/academics/programs-and-degrees/physical-therapy](http://www.pcom.edu/academics/programs-and-degrees/physical-therapy)
PHYSICAL THERAPY +

EXPERTISE IN FLEXIBILITY AND MOVEMENT SCIENCE

Students gain unique access to faculty, advisement and networking across a variety of medical disciplines, as well as the opportunity to observe these disciplines firsthand.

THE PCOM EXPERIENCE

- Highly experienced faculty in physical therapy practice and education
- Focus on the clinical perspective
- Wellness orientation
- 12,000-square-foot dedicated facility
- Clinical learning and assessment laboratories designed for education and research
- Opportunities to practice and serve the community in real-world settings
- Students receive experiential training during all three years
- Students will be certified in ergonomic assessment
- Students will be certified in personal training
- Physical therapy students have access to a clinical learning and assessment laboratory (Simulation Center), they practice skills using standardized patients and they learn applied anatomy in a cadaver lab

TRAIN TO SUCCEED

PCOM students are educated and trained to succeed in many capacities in one of the fastest-growing professions in health care. The role of the physical therapist is continuing to evolve in today’s world. In fact, according to the U.S. Department of Labor, in the next five years, the field is expected to grow by 34% between 2014 and 2024, and by 40% in Georgia.

Not only are physical therapists in high demand, but they also achieve a high level of job satisfaction. PCOM trains students to work one-on-one with patients to improve their quality of life by providing wellness-oriented care and promoting healthy lifestyles in a flexible, versatile and rewarding field.
Since opening in 2005, our modern facilities offer many resources for students as we train them to become excellent pharmacists, physicians and physician assistants.

Our main campus facility is the 150,000-square-foot Old Peachtree building, which features large and small lecture halls and classrooms, conference areas and study spaces. This space also houses research and multiuse basic science laboratories, an anatomy laboratory, a clinical learning and assessment center, two pharmacy practice labs, a compounding laboratory and a large osteopathic manipulative medicine practice suite.

Students at GA-PCOM are deeply involved in the community, volunteering their time and talents to serve, educate and mentor both young and old. The campus is also home to the Georgia Osteopathic Care Center, an osteopathic manipulative medicine clinic, which is open to the public.
APPLYING TO PCOM

We review our applications the same way our students take on challenges — with a holistic approach. Transcripts and test scores are important; however, we evaluate our prospective students as complete individuals.

Prior to matriculation, each applicant must meet the following requirements:
• Satisfactory completion of a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university
• Satisfactory completion of prerequisite courses
• Submission of an official score report from the Graduate Record Examination – General Tests

To find out more about our admissions requirements, please visit pcom.edu/admissions.

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