Answer your calling to deliver the best care.

CREIGHTON PHYSICAL THERAPY
Two Doctor of Physical Therapy Programs—One Creighton!

Embark on a transformative journey in physical therapy at Creighton University’s campus in Omaha and Phoenix.

Our original Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program was founded in Omaha and is a national and international leader, offering you a lifetime of challenge, discovery, scholarship and service. Our program in Phoenix builds on the many successes and rich history of our established sibling program in Omaha. Join a close-knit community of professionals, including students, faculty, researchers and practitioners. We work together to advance physical therapy and make a difference in people’s lives.

As a pioneer in DPT education, Creighton’s curriculum is learner- and patient-centered, grounded in our Jesuit, Catholic values of compassion and excellence. Our physical therapy programs incorporate our values of caring for the whole person, improving patients’ lives and promoting human dignity.

Our visionary faculty, with significant leadership roles in the field, will guide you through state-of-the-art facilities, fostering solid clinical reasoning and adaptive learning. Whether it’s the program in Omaha or Phoenix, you become part of a legacy that sets the standard for physical therapy education. In just eight semesters, you’ll be equipped for autonomous practice and prepared to make a lasting impact on patients and communities worldwide. You’ll graduate with the confidence and preparedness that ensures no destination is out of reach. Our focus on interprofessional education connects you with medical students, nurses, physician assistants, occupational therapists, pharmacists, behavioral health and other health science students.

$70,000 or above starting salary for the majority of our graduates

OMAHA

#9 physical therapy program
IN THE NATION (TOP 4% OF ALL ACCREDITED PROGRAMS)
U.S. News & World Report

100% of students employed
WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF GRADUATION

2 Programs
1 Creighton
Physical Therapy Care Abilities

PROFESSIONAL FORMATION AND CRITICAL SELF-REFLECTION
The student will use a process of deliberative self-reflection to enhance their understanding of self and engage in continued professional formation. Professional identity formation reflects the following core values: accountability, altruism, compassion, excellence, integrity, professional duty and social responsibility.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS
The student will read, write, speak, listen and use media and technology to communicate effectively. The students will demonstrate respectful, positive and culturally appropriate interpersonal behaviors in the counsel and education of patients and families, as well as when communicating with other healthcare professionals.

CRITICAL THINKING AND CLINICAL JUDGMENT
The student will acquire, comprehend, apply, synthesize and evaluate information, integrating these abilities to identify, resolve and prevent problems and make appropriate decisions. The student will demonstrate the behaviors of the scholarly clinician by developing and utilizing the process of critical thinking and systematic inquiry for clinical reasoning, decision-making and exercising sound, critical judgment.

LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
The student will consistently strive to expand their knowledge and skills to maintain professional competence and contribute to the body of knowledge. The student will demonstrate the ability to gather, interpret and evaluate data to assess the suitability, accuracy and reliability of information from reference sources.

ETHICAL FOUNDATION AND MORAL AGENCY
The student will practice ethically, fulfilling an obligation to demonstrate moral responsibility and social justice. The student will identify, analyze and resolve ethical problems.

SOCIAL AWARENESS, LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY
The student will provide service to the community and the profession, assume responsibility for proactive collaboration with other healthcare professionals in addressing patient needs and be prepared to influence the development of ethical and humane healthcare regulations and policies that are consistent with the needs of the patient and society.

PATIENT EXAMINATION
The student will perform a thorough patient interview with appropriate medical history and review of systems as well as a physical examination using appropriate tests and measures.

PATIENT EVALUATION AND PHYSICAL THERAPY DIAGNOSIS
The student will interpret the results of the physical therapy examination and other diagnostic procedures, synthesize pertinent data and then formulate an accurate physical therapy diagnosis. The evaluation process also may identify the need for consultation with or referral to other healthcare providers.

PATIENT PROGNOSIS
The student will predict the level of optimal improvement that a patient may attain through intervention within a given time.

PATIENT INTERVENTION
The student will design an appropriate, customized plan of care consistent with the physical therapy diagnosis and prognosis and the patient’s family’s expectations and goals. The student will also assume responsibility for delegating patient care activities and supervising those entrusted with them.

PATIENT RE-EXAMINATION/RE-EVALUATION
The student will perform an accurate re-examination and re-evaluation to determine changes in patient status and to modify or redirect physical therapy intervention. This process also may identify the need for consultation with or referral to other healthcare providers.

PATIENT OUTCOMES
The student will track the results of physical therapy management, which may include the following domains: pathology; impairments; functional limitations; participation; risk reduction/prevention; wellness; community and societal resources and patient satisfaction.

SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT
The student will identify the specific contribution of physical therapy management within the health care system and the influence of health care policy on that system. In addition, the student will demonstrate knowledge and be able to effectively interact within the independent framework of the healthcare team in a complex society. The student will extend their responsibility for physical therapy beyond individual patients to include care of communities and populations.
CL Werner Center for Health Sciences Education
OMAHA CAMPUS

Creighton develops students through interprofessional, team-based education for compassionate care, inspiring them to focus on patients’ minds, bodies, and spirits. We designed our curriculum and constructed the new CL Werner Center for Health Sciences Education building to reflect our Jesuit values.

The CL Werner Center for Health Sciences Education prepares our graduates for collaborative care. Advanced technology and equipment, as well as carefully designed instructional space provides the environment for students to step seamlessly from the classroom to clinics and medical centers.

Overall, the Omaha campus enrolls over 3,000 students in health professions schools and colleges, with an additional estimated 1,500 students pursuing undergraduate degrees leading to professional school admission. More than half of our entire student body pursues health sciences careers. Sixty percent of our incoming first-year students arrive at Creighton to study the health sciences, with one-third choosing pre-medical majors. The health sciences are integral to Creighton’s mission.

The CL Werner Center integrates our resources, build proficiency in our students, and prepare them for complex social environments to meet the evolving demands of clinical practice.

"I have been challenged and have grown so much in just two years. I have developed the skills I need to communicate effectively with interdisciplinary colleagues and have made strides in developing the clinical skills needed to treat patients."

MARISSA NOLAN, CLASS OF 2024

Highlights of the Building

6,800 sq. ft. teaching lab

Two rehabilitation - research labs totaling 7,650 sq. ft.

Eight shared classrooms

Other features:
- Home Care lab
- Simulation labs and standardized patient suites
- Small group meeting spaces
- Learning commons
- Socializations spaces throughout
- Skywalk to health sciences areas
"I have been pushed to my limits and outside my comfort zone in the classroom and the clinic. I have gotten a lot of support from academic success and other students in my program. My cohort has become an extended family."

DANIELLE KEIM, CLASS OF 2025
Residency Programs
Creighton University Department of Physical Therapy's American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education-accredited residency programs provide post-professional clinical residency education in specialty PT areas like pediatric, orthopedic, women’s health, sports, neurologic and geriatric in Omaha.

Resident experiences can include clinical practice, clinical mentoring, and teaching in your specialty plus opportunities for research and scholarly activity. The residency program is one year long.

Specialty Practice
Take the time to pursue your passion for sports, public health or performing arts. Sharpen your skills in pediatric oncology or at a burn center. Our longer clinical experiences allow you the time to explore your interests and find your niche. With academic medical partners in Omaha, Phoenix, and throughout the country, you can gain hands-on experience in a variety of settings.

Clinical Opportunities

Omaha and Phoenix—Two Programs, One Creighton

Our program dedicates weeks more clinical education than the national average PT program because it maximizes opportunities for Creighton students to develop next-level professional and interprofessional competence. We focus on developing each student’s professional expertise, technical skills, application of theory, clinical reasoning and deliberate and moral action. Additionally, we prioritize interprofessional socialization and education. Clinical experience is critical for developing these skills, so we expose our students to more hours than most programs.

When Does Clinical Education Occur?
A six-week clinical experience occurs at the end of the third semester. The fifth semester concludes with another six-week experience. After completing the didactic curriculum, seventh semester consists of a 16-week experience followed by another 16-week experience in semester eight. The last two experiences are frequently split to include different types of patients at the same site.

Where Are Creighton’s Sites Located?
The Department of Physical Therapy has over 450 clinical agreements with nearly 1,000 clinical sites in 45 states and the Dominican Republic. Our clinical education faculty work closely with you to determine what opportunities best fit your educational and professional goals. You’ll have significant support as you move through a well-thought-out program of experiences. Sites are contacted in the spring and offer slots for the following year.
Dedicated to Service
At Creighton University, service to others is not just a value; it’s a way of life for our physical therapy faculty, students and staff. Embodying our university’s mission, we actively engage with local and international communities, making a positive impact through our dedication to service. Service is intentionally woven throughout our curriculum.

Creighton has a department devoted to connecting students with diverse and meaningful service opportunities: the Center for Interprofessional Practice, Education and Research (CIPER). Our PT students help alleviate health disparities by serving people in need through the Institute for Latin American Concerns (ILAC), Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago and Wounded Heroes Foundation: Military Sports Camp, Special Olympics and many other events. Additionally, Phoenix PT students help provide improved access and quality of care to those most in need at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (Svdp), Virginia G. Piper Medical Clinic and health systems in the Greater Phoenix area through the Arizona Safety Net System—a collaboration of more than 40 clinics providing services to those most in need.

Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) are Jesuit Values
Inspired by the Catholic and Jesuit tradition, our Creighton community believes each human being is a profound gift from God, deserving of dignity and opportunity. The School of Pharmacy and Health Professions established a Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee to promote belonging. We foster an inclusive culture where students, staff, and faculty can thrive every day at Creighton University. By embracing JEDI principles, we honor our community’s rich tapestry of backgrounds, beliefs and values. We understand that this empowers us individually and equips our students to become healthcare practitioners who provide patient-centered care. Our goal is to prepare them to advocate for the unique needs of every patient they serve. Together, we are shaping a future where diversity and inclusivity are integral to healthcare, positively impacting both individual lives and our society as a whole.

Education in the Jesuit tradition
As a practitioner in healthcare, physical therapists see the importance of combining their practice with faith, service and spirituality. You’ll find these ideas in the physical therapist oath that you take your first month of class and in many of the Jesuit values that encourage:

• Service
• Developing the whole person
• Respecting each person as an individual
• Striving toward excellence and the greater good
• Promoting justice and serving communities as women and men for and with others
• Reflecting critical thought and responsible, ethical action
Leadership Through Teaching

We prepare the next generation of physical therapists who understand their professional obligation to meet society’s present and future health needs.

Our experienced faculty are national and international leaders in their areas of expertise. Our 30+ physical therapy faculty members hold national and regional leadership positions and institutional roles within the world of PT. They are committed to leadership in DPT education through academic excellence, innovation, scholarly contributions to the profession, service to the local and international community and an unwavering commitment to fostering moral agency and professional values within our graduates.

The Creighton Difference

At Creighton Physical Therapy, our Jesuit values and tradition drive our mission—to improve the human experience and promote physical and mental well-being. We do that by providing an exemplary education to our students, contributing to research in our profession and providing service to those in need.

- Our faculty is nationally and internationally known
  Skilled experts in many practice and research areas while maintaining leadership roles in professional associations.

- A scientifically grounded clinical model
  Our residency programs, specialization tracks and 450+ clinical partnerships illustrate Creighton’s commitment to developing advanced practitioners.

- Diverse, industry-leading research
  Educational theory, translational practice, and rehabilitation in biomechanical sciences—our research impacts the profession and engages students.

- Promoting social justice by minimizing health disparity
  Service opportunities through physical therapy clinical practice improve healthcare in diverse environments locally and globally.

“Creighton prides itself on community and service, which are two things that I am extremely passionate about. Having attended Creighton for my undergraduate studies and participated in numerous programs that promote Creighton’s mission, I have seen the great strides the University has made in fostering a more holistic community.”

CHISOM OGBOZOR, BS’21, CLASS OF 2024
About Omaha

Omaha offers the perfect blend of cosmopolitan sophistication and suburban relaxation. Omaha boasts a thriving economy with a population of nearly 1 million in the metro area. The city is home to four Fortune 500 companies, making it a major regional economic hub between Chicago, Denver, Kansas City and Minneapolis.

Forbes has praised Omaha for its "modern culture" and called it "one of the most technologically advanced cities in the country."

Despite that, Omaha remains incredibly affordable, with the cost of living 8% lower than the national average. Most attractions, including the airport, are less than a 20-minute drive from Creighton.

Omaha offers many amenities, from a thriving food scene, entertainment districts, the renowned Henry Doorly Zoo and all-new Kiewit Luminarium. Omaha boasts world-class health care and excellent public and private schools throughout the city. We're on the "Best" lists for affordability, livability and opportunity.

Whatever you're seeking, you'll find it in Omaha.

About Phoenix

Phoenix, also known as the Valley of the Sun, is the capital of Arizona. It is the fifth-largest city in the country and one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas. Phoenix is renowned for its hot desert climate. It experiences especially high temperatures during the summer months, with temperatures often exceeding 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius). The city enjoys mild winters, making it a popular destination for those seeking a warm retreat.

The surrounding desert landscape provides ample opportunities for outdoor activities. Phoenix boasts numerous hiking trails, mountain ranges, and scenic desert areas. Popular outdoor destinations include Camelback Mountain, South Mountain Park, and Papago Park. Phoenix has a vibrant cultural and art scene, a sports hub with professional teams in major sports leagues, and a diverse culinary scene with a mix of international cuisines and southwestern flavors. The city has a thriving food culture, from upscale dining establishments to food trucks and farmers' markets.

Phoenix serves as a gateway to various natural wonders. Within a few hours' drive, visitors can explore the majestic Grand Canyon, the red rocks of Sedona and the picturesque landscapes of Flagstaff and Prescott. The downtown area has undergone a revitalization, resulting in a thriving urban core with modern high-rise buildings, entertainment venues and bustling nightlife.
“Choosing Creighton was an obvious choice, as I knew it would provide the ideal environment to nurture my aspirations and foster my growth as a future physical therapist. The passion for excellence and the commitment to making a difference in the world of PT drew me in!”

CARLY GRAY, CLASS OF 2025
For more information:
call 402.280.2662 or visit creighton.edu/PT