

Title 5, California Code of Regulations
Division 5 - Board of Trustees of the California State Universities
Chapter 1 -- California State University
Subchapter 2 – Educational Programs
Article 1 – General Function

§ 40050.3. Function: Instruction Leading to the Doctor of Physical Therapy Degree.

Notwithstanding Section 40050, the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree may be awarded independently of any other institution of higher education, provided that the program leading to the degree satisfies the criteria in section 40515.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 66042, 66600, 89030 and 89035, Education Code. Reference: Sections 66042, 89030 and 66600, Education Code.

Title 5, California Code of Regulations
Division 5 - Board of Trustees of the California State Universities
Chapter 1 -- California State University
Subchapter 2 – Educational Programs
Article 7 – Graduate Degrees

§ 40515. The Doctor of Physical Therapy Degree.

(a) A California State University program leading to a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree may be offered independently of any other institution of higher education. California State University Doctor of Physical Therapy programs shall:

- (1) provide curriculum grounded in evidence-based practice, and
- (2) prepare graduates to enter the field of physical therapy practice, and
- (3) be consistent with the requirements of the professional accrediting body.

(b) Each campus offering a program leading to a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree shall establish requirements for admission to the program. The requirements for admission shall include, at a minimum, the requirements stated in Section 41022.

(c) The program leading to the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree shall conform to the following specifications:

(1) The curriculum shall include learning experiences that balance research, theory, clinical education and practice. The core curriculum shall provide professional preparation focusing on critical thinking and decision making, including but not limited to: foundational sciences, clinical sciences, and behavioral sciences; professional practice; patient/client management; and practice management.

(2) The postbaccalaureate pattern of study shall be composed of at least 90 semester units (135 quarter units) earned in graduate standing. At least 72 semester units (108 quarter units) required for the degree shall be in courses organized primarily for doctoral students, and the remaining units required for the degree shall be in courses organized primarily for doctoral students or courses organized primarily for master's and doctoral students.

(3) No fewer than 60 semester (90 quarter units) shall be completed in residence at the campus awarding the degree. At the discretion of the appropriate campus authority, courses required for California State University Doctor of Physical Therapy programs that are completed at another CSU campus may apply toward the residency requirement at the CSU campus that awards the degree.

(4) A doctoral qualifying examination or doctoral qualifying assessment shall be required.

(5) The pattern of study shall include successful completion of a doctoral project that is expected to contribute to an improvement in physical therapy practice, policy or client outcomes.

(A) The doctoral project shall demonstrate the student's doctoral-level mastery of current evidence-based practice. It shall demonstrate critical and independent thinking and a command of the research literature.

(B) The written component of the doctoral project shall demonstrate originality, evidencing critical and independent thinking. It shall be organized in an appropriate form and shall identify the research problem and question(s), state the major theoretical perspectives, explain the significance of the undertaking, relate it to the relevant scholarly and professional literature, identify the methods of gathering and analyzing the data, and offer a conclusion or recommendation.

(C) An oral defense of the doctoral project shall be required.

(D) No more than eight semester units (12 quarter units) shall be allowed for the doctoral project.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 66042, 66600, 89030, and 89035, Education Code. Reference: Sections 66042, 66600, 89030, and 89035, Education Code.

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§ 40516. The Doctor of Physical Therapy Degree: Requirements.

(a) Advancement to Candidacy. For advancement to candidacy for the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree, the student shall have achieved classified graduate standing and met such particular requirements as the chancellor and appropriate campus authority may prescribe. The requirements shall include a qualifying examination or other qualifying doctoral assessment.

(b) To be eligible for the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree, the candidate shall have completed a program of study that includes both a qualifying examination or other qualifying assessment and a doctoral project that is consistent with the specifications in section 40515 and that is approved by the appropriate campus authority. A grade point average of 3.0 (grade of B) or better shall have been earned in courses taken to satisfy the requirements for the degree, except that a course in which no letter grade is assigned shall not be used in computing the grade point average.

(c) The student shall have completed all requirements for the degree within five years of achieving classified standing in the doctoral program. The appropriate campus authority may extend the time for completion of the requirements if:

- (1) the student is in good standing,
- (2) the extension is warranted by compelling individual circumstances, and
- (3) the student demonstrates current knowledge of research and practice in physical therapy, as required by the campus.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 66042, 66600, 89030, and 89035, Education Code. Reference: Sections 66042, 66600, 89030, and 89035, Education Code.

Title 5, California Code of Regulations
Division 5 - Board of Trustees of the California State Universities
Chapter 1 -- California State University
Subchapter 3 – Admission Requirements
Article 8 – Admission of Post Baccalaureate and Graduate Students

§ 41022. Admission to Doctor of Physical Therapy Programs.

(a) An applicant may be admitted with classified graduate standing to a program leading to a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree established pursuant to Section 40515 if the applicant satisfies the requirements of each of the following numbered subdivisions:

(1) The applicant holds an acceptable baccalaureate degree earned at an institution accredited by a regional accrediting association, or the applicant has completed equivalent academic preparation as determined by the appropriate campus authority.

(2) The applicant has completed all required prerequisite coursework for the campus program(s) to which the applicant has applied with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00.

(3) The applicant must have been in good academic, professional and clinical standing at the last institution and if applicable, in the last entry-level physical therapist educational program attended.

(4) The applicant has met any additional requirements established by the chancellor in consultation with the faculty and any additional requirements prescribed by the appropriate campus authority.

(b) Only those students who continue to demonstrate a satisfactory level of scholastic, professional, and clinical competence shall be eligible to continue in Doctor of Physical Therapy programs.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 66042, 66600, 89030, and 89035, Education Code. Reference: Sections 66042, 66600, 89030, and 89035, Education Code.