

**Lock Haven University
Health Science Department
Pre-Physical Therapy Track
Frequently Asked Questions**

What is the intent of the Pre-PT Track?

The purpose of the Health Science/Pre-PT Track is to prepare students to enter graduate studies within the field of Physical Therapy.

Can students obtain a job as a physical therapist after graduation from LHU?

No, not as a Physical Therapist. The Pre-PT Track at LHU is designed as a preparatory program. Most Physical Therapy Education Programs require the student to obtain an undergraduate degree before entering the professional phase of Physical Therapy education. There are a limited number of jobs available as Physical Therapy Aids for graduates without formal training in Physical Therapy.

Do I have to go through the Pre-PT Track in order to go to PT school?

No. Most Physical Therapy Education Programs do not require a specific undergraduate major as long as the necessary prerequisites are fulfilled.

What degree(s) will I need to become a physical therapist?

Students will receive a Bachelor of Science in Health Science from Lock Haven University once the requirements for graduation are fulfilled. The majority of Physical Therapy Education Programs are now offering a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree. The DPT is an entry-level clinical doctorate degree. Typically, students can complete the degree at LHU in four years with an additional three years required for the Physical Therapy Degree.

Where do physical therapists work?

Physical Therapists can work in a variety of settings, including: hospitals, extended care facilities, clinics, and school districts. Physical therapists can specialize in a variety of fields.

What is the average starting salary for a physical therapist?

The average starting salary for a physical therapist is between \$40,000 and \$50,000 depending upon geographic location and setting.

For more information, see:

www.lhup.edu/health_science/physicaltherapy/