

Health Science Cluster



Planning, managing and providing therapeutic services, diagnostic services, health informatics, support services and biotechnology research and development.

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Physical Therapists

Seniors recovering from hip-replacement surgery, newborns with birth defects, athletes with injuries, young adults with brain disorders: All of these people have trouble using their muscles. Physical therapists use exercises and other techniques to get their patients moving again and how to get around using crutches, wheelchairs, and other devices.

If you are interested in a career where you create a client treatment plan and serve as a teacher, coach and confidant, a career as a **physical therapist** may be for you.

Physical therapists prevent and treat conditions that limit a person's ability to move and function.

Are You Ready To...?

- Use tests to measure strength, range of motion, and more
- Develop a treatment plan for each patient
- Teach patients how to use crutches, wheelchairs, and other devices
- Coach patients through sometimes grueling exercises
- Lift and move equipment and patients
- Work with doctors, social workers, and others
- Keep up with advances in your field

It Helps To Be...

Interested in helping others and a clear communicator. Teaching and explaining is a big part of the job. Being physically strong will help, too.

A Day In The Life...

- Plan, prepare, or carry out individually designed programs of physical treatment to maintain, improve, or restore physical functioning, alleviate pain, or prevent physical dysfunction in patients.
- Perform and document an initial exam, evaluating data to identify problems and determine a diagnosis prior to intervention.

Salary and Opportunity in the Austin-area

Median Hourly Wage: \$45.07

*That comes out to more than
\$93,737 a year.*

**In 2016, we had
753 Physical Therapists.
By 2026, we'll need 999.**

Could you be one of the 246?

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Physical Therapists

After High School...

In addition to a high school diploma, many employers look for physical therapists with a **master's degree**.



Top 5 Industries for Physical Therapists

1. Offices of Other Health Practitioners
2. General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
3. Home Health Care Services
4. Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals
5. Nursing Care Facilities (Skilled Nursing Facilities)

For more Career Profiles, visit our website:

[http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/YouthServices/
CareerPlanning.aspx](http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/YouthServices/CareerPlanning.aspx).

Related Majors

- Athletic Training
- Exercise Science
- Health Sciences, General
- Massage Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Therapeutic Recreation

Related Industry Certifications

- Cardiopulmonary Certified Specialist
- Certified Hand Therapist
- Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist
- Geriatric Certified Specialist
- Orthopedic Certified Specialist

Related Careers

- Coaches and Scouts
- Massage Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Physical Therapist Assistants
- Podiatrists
- Surgeons

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