

# PHYSIOTHERAPY

## NATURE OF THE WORK

Physiotherapists assess patients to determine a physical diagnosis, plan and implement treatment programs to maintain, improve or restore physical functioning and alleviate pain. They assess patients' physical abilities; plan programs of physiotherapy, including therapeutic exercise, manipulations, electrotherapy, acupuncture, massage and hydrotherapy, maintain clinical and statistical records and develop health promotion programs.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREREQUISITES

- Students will have completed a minimum of five university preparatory grade XII level courses with an overall average of 70 percent or higher and no individual grade below 60 percent.
- Grade XII academic English with a grade level of 65 percent or higher and grade XI academic mathematics are required together with at least two grade XII courses from the following: biology, chemistry, global geography, global history, mathematics, modern languages and physics.
- The remaining two grade XII subjects may be taken from the above or from other university preparatory subjects approved by the provincial department of education and acceptable to the University/College where the program of study is offered. Those courses include: accounting, computer-related studies, economics, geography, geology, law, modern world problems, home economics (human ecology), music, political science and sociology.

## UNIVERSITY LEVEL PREREQUISITES

- You must have completed a 4-year undergraduate degree from a recognized university with successful completion of the following university-level prerequisite course, or equivalent:
- 3 credits in each of Physics, English, statistics, research methods, biomechanics and human anatomy as well as 6 credits in each of biology or chemistry, psychology or sociology, physiology and liberal arts.

## REQUIREMENTS

Physiotherapists need a university degree in physiotherapy and a minimum of six months supervised clinical placements. Physiotherapists must be licensed by the Nova Scotia College of Physiotherapists and must have passed the Physiotherapy National Exam (both written & practical) to practice in Nova Scotia.

## WHERE THE PROGRAM IS OFFERED

Dalhousie University offers the only accredited physiotherapy educational program in the Atlantic Region. The Dalhousie School of Physiotherapy offers a 27 month Master's Entry-Level Program (effective 2006)

## Contact Information

Dalhousie University  
5869 University Avenue  
Forrest Building, Fourth Floor  
Halifax NS B3H 3J5

Telephone: 902-494-2524

Fax: 902-494-1941

E-mail: [physiotherapy@dal.ca](mailto:physiotherapy@dal.ca)

[www.dal.ca/~ptschool/index.html](http://www.dal.ca/~ptschool/index.html)

## **EARNING POTENTIAL**

Physiotherapist Salary Scale - 2008

\$50,201 - \$63,393

## **GENERAL**

To work in this field you should have an interest in health and in caring for the special needs of people. Ingenuity, initiative and imagination are needed to adapt activities to individual needs. You should be patient, self-disciplined and resourceful. The ability to inspire confidence and to motivate clients is important. A strong sense of responsibility, good judgment and communication skills are also necessary. Physical stamina may be necessary. There is an ongoing need to continually update knowledge and skills.

*For additional information please visit [www.physiotherapy.ca](http://www.physiotherapy.ca) & <http://nsphysio.com>*