



Duke Doctor of Physical Therapy



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Clinical Education

The DPT program's clinical education component offers students the opportunity to practically apply their didactic education. This experience is a pivotal element of the DPT program. Designed to go hand-in-hand with the program's didactic coursework, the clinical education program offers collaborative learning experiences that engage students, clinical instructors, patients, interdisciplinary practitioners, administrators and academic faculty. During the first two years, students participate in the *Student Team Experience in Practice* (STEPS™) program, where they go to clinical sites in teams of four, working with carefully selected and trained clinical instructors. These clinical instructors spend half of the day in a patient care setting with the student, and the rest of the day participating in clinical problem solving and mentoring exercises. Students are in STEPs™ for one full week in fall and spring, and two weeks in the summer, returning to the same clinical setting and working with the same clinical instructor for the entire experience.

In this environment, students gain experience in administration, education, research and community service. Clinical education internships ensure that students develop the skills and abilities needed to preserve patient safety, promote best practices and uphold fiscal responsibility.

Internship Locations

With internship locations throughout the United States, sites are selected and approved by Duke's Clinical Education Academic Directors based on each site's mission and how they meet the specific requirements of the DPT division.

Three consecutive, 12-week internships during the third year take students to a broad variety of locations. While internships vary from year to year, clinical internships are available in:

- 203 clinical affiliating hospitals, rehabilitation centers and private practices
- 32 states including Hawaii and the District of Columbia



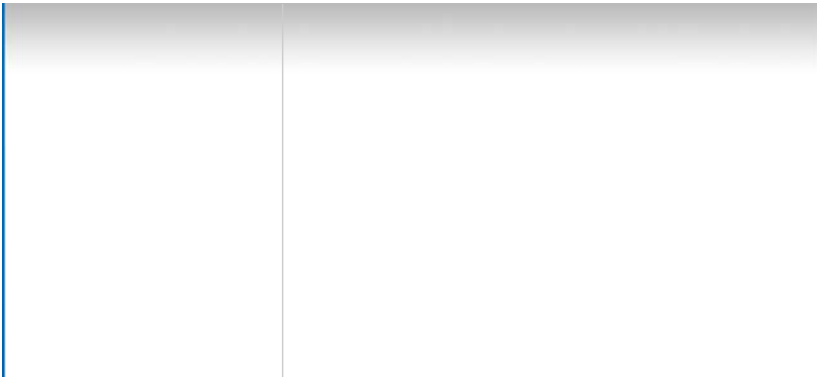
Dr. J. Kyle Covington - Associate Director of Clinical Education



Duke DPT students spend almost 4,000 hours working with patients before they graduate.



Each program year, Duke DPT students receive instruction in a variety of clinical settings.



Hands-on clinical studies help distinguish the Duke DPT program from others throughout the country.

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Questions, Comments or Concerns? Please email the webmaster.

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