In recent years, most physical therapy programs in the United States have converted to graduate programs, primarily becoming D.P.T. granting. Entry into these programs is highly competitive, and prerequisites vary. The minimum requirements for application to most physical therapy programs include 90 units, but many are now requiring a B.S. or B.A. degrees. Prerequisite requirements typically include extensive course work in biology, chemistry and physics, as well as statistics and courses in behavioral sciences. Because of these requirements, students often choose majors in a science or health-related field, such as Exercise Science, Athletic Training or Biology. However, any major is acceptable, as long as specific undergraduate prerequisites for individual schools are completed. A typical first-year student curriculum at Towson University might include chemistry, biology and mathematics.

TU provides advising to assist students with their undergraduate preparation for this field. Students may choose to meet periodically with a CHP pre-Physical Therapy advisor who can assist in planning academic schedules that will optimize their chances of acceptance into competitive and screened physical therapy programs.