

Physical Therapists

Occupational Profile

IS THIS FOR YOU?

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model) by people who tend to succeed in this career:

- **Realistic** – You are an "doer". You like physical activities and projects. You like to find the answers to problems by doing hands-on work instead of talking about solutions.
- **Investigative** – You are a "thinker". When you have a problem, you like to analyze it and look at different ways to solve it. You like to work by yourself, and you don't like explaining your ideas to other people.
- **Social** – You are a "helper". You like being around people and helping them with problems. Socializing is fun for you.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

- **Achievement** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to use your best abilities. You want to see the results of your work and get a feeling of accomplishment.
- **Independence**—It's very important to you that your work allows you to make decisions on your own. You want to try out your own ideas and work with little supervision.
- **Support**—It's very important to you to know the company stands behind its workers and has competent, considerate and fair management.
- **Working Conditions**—It's very important to you that your work satisfies your needs in areas like salary, job security and your working style preferences, such as working alone, staying busy all the time or having variety in your work tasks.
- **Recognition**—It's very important to you that your work satisfies your need for prestige and leadership opportunities, as well as opportunities for advancement.
- **Relationships** – It's very important to you that you have friendly co-workers. You would like to be of service to others without compromising your sense of right and wrong.

Aptitudes reflect a person's ability to acquire skills and knowledge. The following aptitudes are important for success in the career:

- **General Learning Ability**
- **Verbal Aptitude**
- **Form Perception**
- **Finger Dexterity**



WHAT THEY DO

Prepares and dispenses medications, following prescriptions issued by physicians, dentists, or other authorized medical practitioners. Belongs to the Health Science cluster; and Therapeutic Services and Diagnostic Services pathways.

SKILLS YOU NEED

Basic Skills:

- Reading Comprehension
- Active Listening
- Writing
- Speaking
- Science
- Critical Thinking
- Active Learning
- Learning Strategies
- Monitoring

Transferable Skills (applicable in other careers): High level

- Giving health care instructions
- Operating medical diagnostic equipment
- Planning health care treatments
- Working as a member of a health services team

Medium level

- Treating physical or mental problems

Workplace Skills:

High level

- Coordination
- Instructing
- Social Perceptiveness

Medium level

- Complex Problem Solving
- Equipment Selection
- Judgment and Decision Making
- Persuasion
- Service Orientation
- Time Management

Additional skills for this occupation may be found at <http://www.iowaworkforce.org/pubs/careers/cps> .

Source: <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2012 Estimated Employment	2022 Projected Employment	2012-22 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	1,758,205	1,955,480	197,275	1.1	61,665
Total Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	84,995	100,885	15,890	1.9	3,345
Physical Therapists	1,700	2,240	540	3.2	95

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

2015 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Average Wage	Average Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Experienced Wage	Experienced Salary
Total, All Occupations	19.77	41,122	9.55	19,858	24.88	51,755
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	32.07	66,705	16.54	34,407	39.83	82,853
Physical Therapists	36.49	75,895	30.14	62,684	39.66	82,501

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education	Work Experience	Job Training
Doctoral/Professional Degree	None	None

Physical therapists need a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree. The Iowa Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy Examiners website at http://access.bridges.com/ext/cp/custom_state_data/iowa_licensed_occupations/29-1123.htm provides specific licensure and support information for the state of Iowa.

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0> and <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	n.a.
Locating Information	n.a.
Reading for Information	n.a.

This ACT-developed credential demonstrates achievement and a certain level of workplace employability skills. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6).

Source: <http://www.act.org/workkeys/analysis/occup.html>

ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

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PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

(Where are Physical Therapists Employed?)

Ambulatory Health Care Services
Hospitals
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities
Self Employed
Educational Services

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>