

**Department of Physical Therapy Procedure Regarding Service Hours**

Physical Therapy is a doctoring profession which includes teaching and service. In order to develop entry-level practitioners in this doctoring profession, the Department of Physical Therapy requires that students perform service hours throughout their time in the program. This semester requirement of a minimum of 20 hours includes service both within the university (10 hours) and off-campus within the community (10 hours).

Students are required to perform service hours and use a log to track these hours. At the end of each semester, students will submit their completed log to the designated course instructor. Students who fail to complete the required service hours each semester will be given a grade of Incomplete (I) for the semester course. The courses to which these hours are linked are listed below:

- DPT I Fall Semester: Professional Issues & Clinical Decision-Making I
- DPT I Spring Semester: Prof. Issues & Clinical Decision-Making II
- DPT II Fall Semester: Orthotics
- DPT II Spring Semester: Prosthetics
- DPT III Fall Semester: Clinical II
- DPT III Spring Semester: Administration

The purpose of this requirement is to assist students with establishing balance for life while in the academic setting. The pursuit of life-long learning, community service and promotion of the profession are part of the philosophy of the Department of Physical Therapy. Providing students the opportunity to practice this in a sheltered environment is meant to establish habits for life. Students are encouraged to establish relationships with community and professional organizations for future opportunities.

Below is a sample of the format from the official log to be used. The electronic version can be downloaded at the department website.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Supervisors Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Hours:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Organization and Activity</b>	<b>Check one below:</b> <b>On Campus</b> ____ <b>Off Campus</b> ____
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**Cumulative Hours:** On Campus \_\_\_\_\_ Off Campus \_\_\_\_\_

A list of approved activities is provided below. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive but rather a guide for recommended activities. Any student requiring clarification about an intended activity to meet this requirement may confirm the activity with the instructor of the designated course.

**Department of Physical Therapy Sample Service Hours Activities**

**Examples of activities off-campus would include activities to assist with the mission of non-profit organizations such as:**

- Kinetic Kids programs -- assisting with weekly sessions for specific sports and / or annual events such as bicycle training and equipment fairs for children with special needs
- Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts of Greater San Antonio
- Rotary Club
- Optimists Club
- Habitat for Humanity
- San Antonio Historical Preservation Society
- San Antonio Museum fund-raisers
- Physical Therapy Alumni Association
  
- **Organizing** fund-raising events (walk-a-thons, bike-a-thons etc) for non-profit organizations such as:
  - Muscular Dystrophy Association
  - Muscular Sclerosis
  - American Diabetic Association
  - American Autism Society
  - American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)
- Specific events could include
  - Charity fund raising or social events (church bazaars, dinners etc)
  - City sponsored beautification projects
  
- Profession-specific Organizations such as:
  - American Physical Therapy Association to include Texas Physical Therapy Association
  - Examples of activities on-campus would include:

**Examples of activities on-campus would include:**

- Organizing / assisting with set-up for Student Government Association
  - Burger-Burn
  - Chili Cook-off
  - And others
  
- Assisting with School of Allied Health Professions activities
  - Health Fair
  - School Picnic, making posters etc
  - And others
  
- Department of Physical Therapy Activities include
  - Set-up / dismantle power cords for classes
  - Physical Therapy Olympics
  - UT Austin Health Fair
  - And others