The UCSF/SFSU Admissions Response to COVID-19

UCSF/SFSU Graduate Program in Physical Therapy prides itself in utilizing a holistic admissions process. Many of our admission requirements serve not only to help us better understand our applicants, but also to give our future students the educational and experiential foundation that leads to their success in our program and their career as Physical Therapists.

In this unprecedented time, we understand that our prospective applicants are working through and responding to a multitude of changes in their daily lives and academic journeys. We will periodically revisit our admissions requirements and processes to best respond to these changes and support our applicants. Please find below recent updates to our policies.

April 17, 2020

Optional PTCAS Essay Question

PTCAS is including an optional question to allow applicants to share how the COVID-19 pandemic has specifically impacted their journey toward DPT education, either personally or educationally. We strongly encourage you to respond to this question to help the admissions committee better understand your application and experiences.

Prerequisite Coursework

For courses taken in Spring 2020 and Summer 2020 we will waive the letter grade requirement. We will accept courses that meet the unit and content requirements as listed on our Prerequisite Coursework page, but are graded on a Pass/No Pass or Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis. Our program recommends that these courses are taken for a letter grade if possible, but given the constraints students and universities are experiencing in Spring 2020 and Summer 2020, we will accept Pass/Satisfactory grades for these prerequisites.

Additionally, for these courses we will also waive the requirement that labs are completed in-person. Our program strongly recommends that, when safe, these labs should be taken in-
person. However, we understand the constraints of online and remote learning and the importance of social distancing during this time.

**GRE Testing**

With testing facilities closing in parts of the country and scheduled test dates being canceled or postponed, we acknowledge the additional difficulty of taking or re-taking the GRE test. We will accept the new at-home GRE testing being offered by ETS in place of in-person exams. More information on the home GRE testing is available on the ETS website [LINK][1]. Additionally, this year we will not disqualify an application for missing GRE test scores.

**Transcripts**

PTCAS has made the decision to accept applicant-supplied, unofficial transcripts for the remainder of the 2019-20 application cycle for applicants who are unable to obtain an official transcript from their registrar’s office due to campus closures. Unofficial transcripts will be accepted for purposes of application processing and verification only. Official transcripts will still be required later on for purposes of making final offers of admissions and prior to matriculation into the program.

**PT Observation Hours**

Since applicants may have difficulty obtaining or completing shadowing experiences as facilities adjust to providing care during this public health crisis, we will still consider applications that do not meet the minimum number of observation hours (100). We recognize that many clinics may currently not provide observation hours, or it may be difficult to obtain a variety of observation experiences.

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**Source URL:** http://ptrehab.ucsf.edu/ucsf/fsu-admissions-response-covid-19

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