The UCSF Orthopedic Physical Therapy Program is accredited by the American Physical Therapy Association as a postprofessional residency program for physical therapists in orthopedic physical therapy.

Residents are exposed to a rich curriculum and mentoring experience that integrates the clinical expertise of practitioners both within and outside of the UCSF Outpatient Faculty Practice. The Residency includes collaboration with the UCSF/SFSU Graduate Program in Physical Therapy and access to the breadth of resources and clinical expertise available within the UCSF Health System.

The mission of the Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency Program is to provide a
comprehensive orthopedic curriculum including mentoring and teaching experiences to facilitate the advanced clinical development of physical therapists who will provide exceptional evidence-based and patient-centered physical therapy services, and become future educators of the next generation of physical therapists.

The UCSF Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency Program is committed to training and supporting physical therapists from all backgrounds, including traditionally underrepresented groups, to enhance the diversity of our residency training programs and to meet the needs of the diverse, multi-ethnic populations we serve.

Policies and Procedures

The UCSF Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency Policies and Procedures can be found here:


Program Goals and Objectives

To date, our residency program has a 100% passing rate of the OCS exam and 100% graduation rate.

The program will:

Goal 1: Support the Mission and Values of the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science.

Objectives:

- Offer a post-professional residency program to enhance the advanced educational opportunities in orthopedics for physical therapy health care providers.
- Foster professional development and teaching opportunities for faculty and medical center employees within the UCSF Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science.

Goal 2: Prepare the residents to meet the criteria for Specialist Certification in Orthopedics set by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists.
Objectives:

- Deliver a curriculum that meets the standards set forth by the Orthopedic Description of Specialty Practice.
- Conduct regular journal clubs to enhance the residents’ ability to critically assess literature and current evidence to support advanced physical therapy practice.
- Provide opportunities for self-assessment and advancement in clinical practice.

Goal 3: Assist residents and faculty in providing advanced patient-centered and evidence-based care to better serve both the community and the profession.

Objectives:

- Provide academic resources to facilitate faculty and resident development.
- Provide mentorship to elevate clinical reasoning and enhance patient care.
- Promote interdisciplinary collaboration between health care providers to better facilitate patient care and professional development.

Goal 4: Facilitate development of residents as clinical educators.

Objectives:

- Provide opportunities for teaching within the UCSF/SFSU Graduate Program in Physical Therapy and in the community.
- Provide learning resources to develop teaching skills.
- Provide constructive feedback and assessment of teaching methods.