Our Hospital

The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, founded in 1855, was the first hospital in the United States dedicated to the care of children. Today, CHOP is one of the leading pediatric hospitals and research facilities in the world and is consistently recognized as one of the nation’s best pediatric hospitals by both Parents magazine and U.S. News & World Report.

CHOP has the only Level I pediatric trauma center in Southeastern Pennsylvania and serves as a regional, national and international referral source for patients requiring cutting-edge medical, surgical and rehabilitative care.

Contact Us

To apply for the Pediatric Residency Program, visit www.chop.edu/ptresidency.

Inquiries should be addressed to:
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The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia is credentialed by the American Physical Therapy Association’s American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education as a post-professional clinical residency program for physical therapists in pediatrics.

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The Physical Therapy Pediatric Residency Program

The Department of Physical Therapy’s Pediatric Residency Program is a post-professional clinical and didactic education program designed to significantly advance the physical therapy resident’s preparation as a practitioner of choice in the field of pediatric physical therapy.

The program combines opportunities for ongoing clinical mentoring with a scientific basis for advanced practice. At the end of the experience, the resident will be academically and clinically prepared to pass the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties’ (ABPTS) Pediatric Clinical Specialist examination.

Eligible applicants must:
• Be licensed or eligible for licensure in Pennsylvania
• Have at least one year of experience as a physical therapist
• Have at least six months of experience working in pediatrics (a new professional who has a minimum of six months of pediatric clinical education experience may be considered)
• Be graduates of an accredited Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

Our Mission

The mission of the Department of Physical Therapy’s Pediatric Residency Program is to create specialists in the field of pediatric physical therapy. The residency program will develop expert clinicians with advanced skills in critical and innovative thinking as well as patient-centered, evidence-based and autonomous practice. Graduates will exemplify professionalism, compassion, accountability, altruism, integrity, ethical conduct and social responsibility, and will contribute to the profession and to healthcare through their leadership, clinical excellence, teaching, consultative activities, and active pursuit of research and lifelong learning.

The LEND Program

Residents will also participate in the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) program. The LEND program consists of modules on community education, family collaboration and interdisciplinary clinical programs. The LEND program is supported by a grant from the federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

Our Goals

Residency graduates will:
• Demonstrate the ability to provide state-of-the-art, evidence-based, family-centered, culturally sensitive care
• Possess advanced skills in clinical decision making and critical inquiry
• Deliver clinical excellence and demonstrate broad expertise in all areas of pediatric physical therapy
• Exhibit the professional and interpersonal skills necessary to be effective leaders
• Serve as a resource for the pediatric professional community
• Effectively educate colleagues and physical therapy students in the area of pediatric physical therapy
• Critically evaluate current scientific literature and demonstrate the ability to contribute to the body of research in physical therapy
• Be academically and clinically prepared to pass the ABPTS pediatric clinical specialist certification
• Demonstrate professional core values and growth through mentorship, continuing education, and lifelong clinical and academic learning
• Be recognized as a practitioner of choice in the field of pediatric healthcare

Our Department

The Department of Physical Therapy is committed to:
• Leading the world in the practice and advancement of physical therapy by combining family-centered patient care, high-quality professional education, and innovative clinical research
• Providing state-of-the-art, evidence-based, culturally sensitive patient care
• Developing expertise through clinical, academic, residency and fellowship training
• Lifelong learning and professional growth through mentorship, continuing education and collaboration with educational institutions
• Generating a body of literature that supports evidence-based practice in physical therapy

Our core faculty has more than 80 years of combined clinical and teaching experience.

More than 70 full- and part-time physical therapists provide care to patients across the CHOP Care Network. This health system includes the acute care hospital, the inpatient rehabilitation program, and outpatient services including general outpatient rehabilitation, a sports medicine service line and a day hospital program. Physical Therapy care is provided at the Main Campus and Specialty Care Centers and clinics in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The department includes more than 40 ABPTS-certified clinical specialists in Neurology, Orthopedics, Pediatrics and Sports Medicine, as well as more than 35 American Physical Therapy Association-credentialed clinical instructors. The core faculty has more than 80 years of combined clinical and teaching experience.