

An individual must meet the qualifications/pre-requisites for entrance into the program prior to applying for Mercy Scholars.

After being accepted into a specified program, it is then the individual's responsibility to notify Human Resources of their interest in applying for Mercy Scholars.

As part of the selection process for Mercy Scholars, an application, acceptance letter into desired program from the college, previous official transcripts, & references are required. In addition, applicants must complete a job shadow experience, & assessment tool. Once all are completed an interview will be scheduled.

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**Physical Therapist:** Physical therapists improve the mobility, relieve the pain, and prevent or limit the permanent physical disabilities of patients suffering from injuries or disease. Their patients include accident victims and disabled individuals with conditions such as multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, nerve injuries, burns, amputations, head injuries, fractures, low back pain, arthritis, and heart disease. Therapists evaluate a patient's medical history; test and measure their strength, range of motion, and ability to function; and develop written treatment plans. Therapists also teach and motivate patients to use crutches, prostheses, and wheelchairs to perform day-to-day activities and show them exercises to do at home. Some physical therapists treat a wide variety of problems; others specialize in such areas as pediatrics, geriatrics, orthopedics, sports physical therapy, neurology, and cardiopulmonary physical therapy.

**Education:**

Physical therapists are typically educated at major colleges and universities through four-year programs. Graduate programs are also available. Below is a list of Colleges in Iowa that offer this degree.

- Clarke College 1550 Clark Drive Dubuque, IA 52001  
Admissions: 800-383-2345 or [admissions@clarke.edu](mailto:admissions@clarke.edu).
- University of Iowa 1-252 Medical Education Building Iowa City, 52242  
Phone: 319-335-9791 or [physical-therapy@uiowa.edu](mailto:physical-therapy@uiowa.edu)
- St. Ambrose University 518 W. Locust St. Davenport, IA 52803  
Phone: 563-333-6403 or [www.sau.edu](http://www.sau.edu)
- Des Moines University – Osteopathic Medical Center  
3200 Grand Avenue Des Moines, IA 53012  
Phone: 515-271-1400 or [www.dmu.edu](http://www.dmu.edu)

**Stated above are suggested colleges only to obtain this degree. A Mercy Scholars applicant can choose any college they would like to, in order to, obtain this particular degree.**

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