



Physical Therapist Programs at SMU

Samuel Merritt University has one degree program leading to the Physical Therapist (PT) licensure: the Entry-Level Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. SMU's DPT program is accredited by the [Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education \(CAPTE\)](#). Graduates of Samuel Merritt University's DPT program are eligible to sit for the [National Physical Therapy Examination \(NPTE\)](#) certification exam in all US states, territories, and commonwealths, *with the exceptions noted below*. However, PT licenses are granted by the licensing authority in individual states and certain licensing boards may require applicants to taking a jurisprudence exam, a jurisprudence assessment module, and/or have other licensing requirements specific to that state. Prior to enrollment, prospective students must review the information below.

The [Physical Therapy Board of California](#) is the licensing authority for Physical Therapists in California and requires passing the NPTE as well as successful completion of the [California Jurisprudence Assessment Module \(CAL-JAM\)](#) for licensure. Samuel Merritt University will assist applicants and students as they determine licensure requirements in other states. Please contact Dr. Sharon Gorman (sgorman@samuelmerritt.edu), Chair, Department of Physical Therapy, for more information. Contact information for Physical Therapy state licensing boards outside of California can be found on the following page on [The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy website](#).

States/Territories/Commonwealths for which SMU's Physical Therapy program MEETS the educational requirements for licensure or certification:

- All US states, American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS LISTED BELOW.

States/Territories/Commonwealths for which SMU's Physical Therapy program DOES NOT MEET the educational requirements for licensure or certification:

- Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, and Republic of the Marshall Islands