



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ACADEMIC PHYSICAL THERAPY

ACAPT has adopted the following 8 parameters as baseline expectations for integrated clinical education to be disseminated for use by physical therapist educational programs. In the aggregate, the eight parameters define the factors essential to identifying clinical education experiences as integrated clinical education in physical therapist education.

These include:

1. Integrated clinical education may occur in any academic term prior to the completion of the didactic coursework leading to the completion of a terminal full time clinical education experience.
2. Integrated clinical education experiences will have specific desired outcomes that correspond to course and/or programmatic objectives.
3. Integrated clinical education experiences may be represented as a component of a didactic course or a standalone course that occurs in an aligned fashion with other didactic coursework.
4. Integrated clinical education experience time frames are developed by the academic program based upon the course and/or programmatic objectives. Integrated clinical education may include full time and/or part time experiences.
5. Integrated clinical education experiences may occur in a variety of learning environments including campus or community based clinical or non-clinical settings, based upon the course and/or programmatic objectives. Integrated full time clinical education experiences that qualify for a program's minimum number of clinical education weeks shall be completed in a physical therapy workplace environment or practice setting.
6. Integrated clinical education experiences shall include student assessments that are designed to link to the course or program objectives with expected student progression in professional behaviors, clinical knowledge, and/or skills.
7. Integrated clinical education experiences are coordinated by a faculty member of the academic program, in partnership with a coordinator from the clinical education site.
8. Integrated clinical education experiences are typically supervised by a course instructor and a preceptor. The preceptor may be an academic course faculty member, a clinical instructor, or other healthcare professional at the site the student is engaged in the experience, depending upon the course and/or programmatic objectives. Integrated full time clinical education experiences that qualify for a program's minimum number of clinical education weeks shall be supervised by a licensed physical therapist.