Pre-Health Sciences Tracks

4 years of undergraduate study + master’s or doctorate degree program

Students interested in physical therapy, occupational therapy or physician assistant studies have the opportunity to enroll in Clarkson’s Freshman Direct Entry program. This program is designed to attract the best, brightest and most promising students who wish to enter the field of healthcare. Freshman Direct Entry provides a guaranteed spot in our DPT in physical therapy, MS in occupational therapy or MS in physician assistant studies programs to select first-year applicants.

WHY PURSUE HEALTHCARE AT CLARKSON?

1 Facilities & Resources
SIMULATION SPACES: Our state-of-the-art Simulation Lab is an extension of the classroom that allows students to apply strategies learned in lectures to hands-on activities in a realistic environment. The “Sim Lab” consists of a fully functioning house and outdoor environment, complete with a vehicle. Mock hospital rooms also allow students to practice evaluations and interventions in acute care settings.

CADAVER LAB: An integral part of our undergraduate anatomy and physiology course is our Cadaver Lab, where students have the chance to work with an actual cadaver, something that isn't offered to undergraduate students at many other universities.

TRUDEAU INSTITUTE: The renowned Trudeau Institute, where the cure for tuberculosis was developed, offers Clarkson students a Biomedical Scholars Semester Program, an intensive living and learning experience that appeals to students interested in human health science and biotechnology.

2 Relevant Minors – For students who know that a career in the health field is in their future, we offer several minors that provide the right experience and coursework needed to meet their goals. Some minors that may be of interest include:
   Medicine & Health • Biomedical Engineering • Biomedical Science & Technology • Cognitive Neuroscience • Biology, Behavior & Society • Environmental Health Science • Psychology

3 Personalized Attention – We provide a team of staff from across the University to help our students plan course schedules, develop the credentials needed to get into graduate programs, study for placement exams and successfully apply to the programs of their choosing. Every student has a personalized experience to reach their individual goals.
WHAT IS A DIRECT ENTRY PROGRAM?
A direct entry program admits students as undergraduates to a specific healthcare program and guarantees them a seat in the affiliated graduate program upon completion of all undergraduate requirements and performance standards.

WHAT DIRECT ENTRY PROGRAMS DOES CLARKSON OFFER IN HEALTHCARE?
Clarkson offers direct entry to our Doctor of Physical Therapy, Master of Science in Occupational Therapy and Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies programs.

HOW DOES THE DIRECT ENTRY PROGRAM AT CLARKSON WORK?
Students in our direct entry programs will still pursue their chosen undergraduate major, while completing the same graduate program prerequisites under the special advising program of their choice. If the criteria and academic standards are met, a spot in the graduate program will be guaranteed.

“I was drawn to Clarkson’s Direct Entry program because I could study at the same college without interruption. I feel the Direct Entry program creates less stress for me knowing I have a guaranteed spot in the Physical Therapy program at Clarkson.”
Nilie Richardson ’25

DIRECT ENTRY PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
All students accepted into a direct entry healthcare program will be eligible to receive the following scholarships toward their undergraduate and graduate education.

CU HEALTH SCIENCES SCHOLARSHIP (UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL) – $20,000
This award is $5,000 per year ($2,500 per semester) for eight semesters during your time as an undergraduate student.

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP (GRADUATE LEVEL) – PT & OT: $20,000 PA: $15,000
This award is split evenly over each term during your graduate program.