

RCSI, UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES PHYSIOTHERAPY CANADIAN APPLICANTS



RCSI

UNIVERSITY
OF MEDICINE
AND HEALTH
SCIENCES

CANADIAN-APPLICANTS

At RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences, everything we do is designed to serve patients.

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland is a Medicine and Health Sciences University located in the heart of Dublin, with international campuses in Bahrain and Malaysia.

We have been educating North American students for almost half a century with over 20% of our international students coming from the US and Canada.

We are an innovative, world-leading international health sciences education and research university with undergraduate and postgraduate schools and faculties across the health sciences spectrum. At undergraduate level, we offer Medicine, Pharmacy and Physiotherapy programmes with both direct entry and graduate entry.

RCSI's BSc in Physiotherapy is a four-year degree programme for School Leavers and three years in duration for Graduate Entry students.

WHO WE ARE



The programme is open to applications from students from all over the world and, as with other programmes at RCSI, we have a very international student body. You will be a fully qualified Physiotherapist upon completion of our programme. Many of our alumni have gone on to practice back in Canada as well as many other countries across the world.

"I have had such a great experience here at RCSI to date. The classes are great and the professors really care about your success. The school is relatively small, but that's what creates a great sense of community within the student population, and it's one of many things I really like about RCSI."

James Wright

Physiotherapy, Class of 2023



No. 2

UNIVERSITY GLOBALLY for
'Good Health and Wellbeing'



TOP 250

RANKED Ranked in the world's
Top 250 Universities



+4,000

STUDENTS, FROM OVER
60 COUNTRIES



RCSI is one of only a few prestigious universities worldwide to focus exclusively on the health sciences.

WHY CHOOSE RCSI?

A SINGULAR FOCUS ON HEALTHCARE

Healthcare is all we do. Every decision, every lecture, each practical demonstration and research study focuses on enhancing human health. You will be part of our dynamic community of inspiring international educators, experienced clinicians and ground-breaking researchers – all working to improve health outcomes.

We are unique in offering the entire medical education spectrum, from undergraduate and postgraduate to continuous professional development.

This big-picture view helps us understand, more than most, what it takes to develop 21st-century healthcare professionals, and we shape our offering accordingly.

REPUTATION AND INDEPENDENT PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

RCSI is one of the top 250 (top 2% universities worldwide in the 2022 Times Higher Education World University Rankings and ranks 2nd out of all universities in the Republic of Ireland. RCSI ranks joint second in the world by THE on the basis of our contribution to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 'Good Health and Well-being'.

Unlike most health sciences schools, which are part of large multi-faculty, government-funded universities, RCSI is an independent, not-for-profit institution. This independence allows us to pursue our own priorities in the pursuit of excellence in healthcare education, training and research.

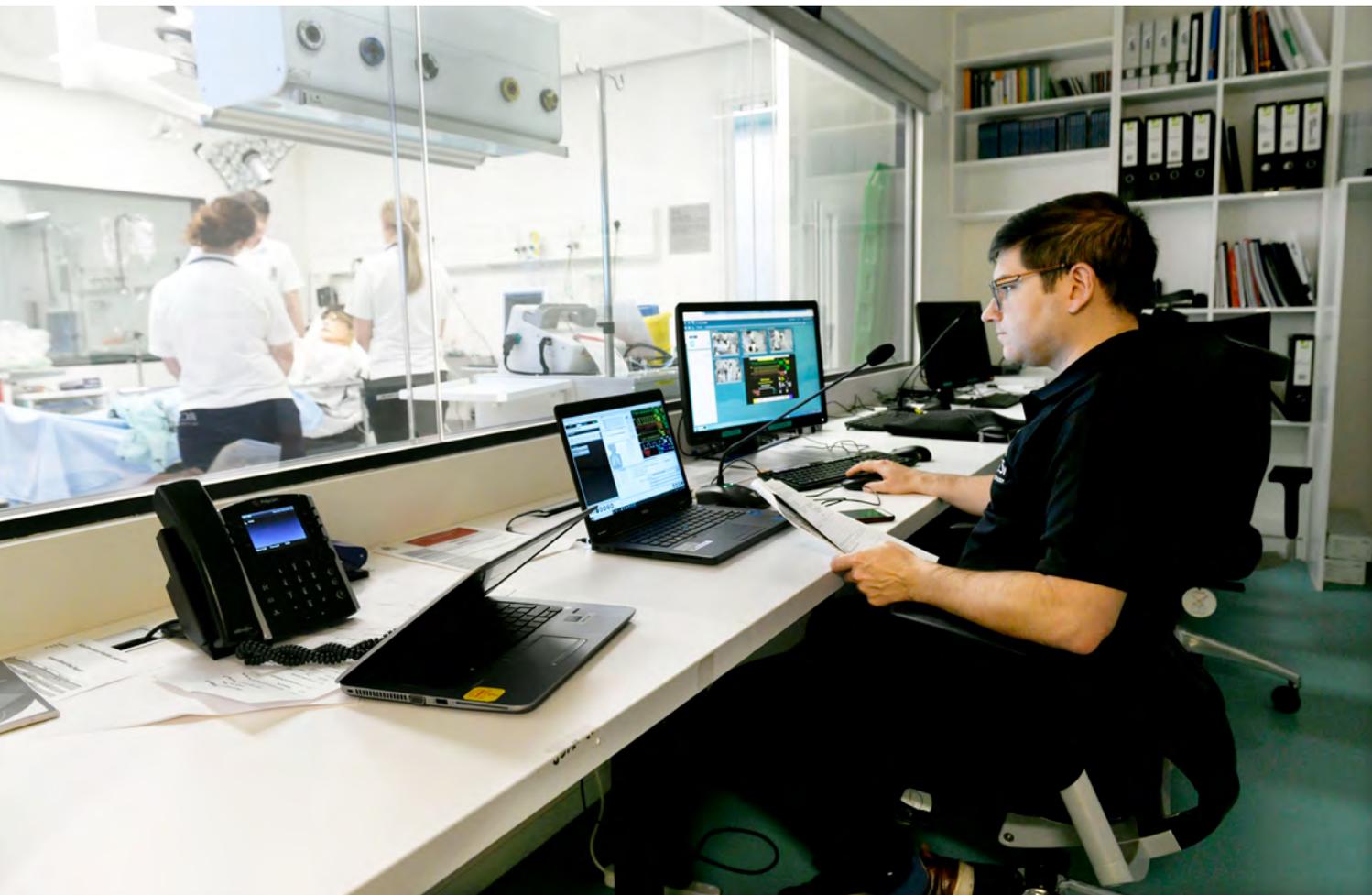
HIGH-IMPACT RESEARCH

We have the highest research citation rate in Ireland and our field-weighted citation is double the world average. That means we do not just teach at RCSI, we are deeply committed to exploring and solving healthcare's greatest demands, as they exist today.

Our insights enhance patient treatment and care, while attracting the very best healthcare professionals in their fields to teach at RCSI. We strategically invest in our researchers and research facilities to deliver on our mission of leading the world to better health.

EXPERIENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Our Physiotherapy students have the opportunity to participate in the RCSI Research Summer School and to volunteer with RCSI charity partners in South East Asia.



EARLY PATIENT CONTACT AND HANDS-ON TEACHING ENVIRONMENT

We are home to Europe's largest clinical simulation facility. From the earliest stages, you will combine classroom learning with hands-on experience in simulated and real clinical environments at a variety of clinical settings in our affiliated sites.

Early patient contact is a vital element of our programmes at RCSI. From the start of your training, you will apply what you learn in the lecture theatre to patients and clinical situations in RCSI teaching hospitals. These early clinical experiences are a combination of patient case studies, consultation labs, medical actors, volunteer patients and high-fidelity clinical simulator technologies.

RCSI's undergraduate and graduate entry programmes are noted for their contemporary curricula and immersive teaching methods. Our faculty are award-winning academics, clinicians and researchers who have been independently recognised by prestigious institutions including the Health Research Board (HRB), the Royal Irish Academy (RIA) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

Our approach to teaching recognises the importance of balancing medical knowledge with experiential learning. Internationally, RCSI has an outstanding reputation for innovation in surgical training, medical education and scientific research.

Our leading clinicians are your leading tutors.

NFO: **Level 8**AWARD: **BSc Physiotherapy
(Hons) (NUI & RCSI)**AWARDING BODY:
National University of IrelandDURATION: **3 or 4 years**

Our internationally recognised RCSI Physiotherapy programme is designed to provide you with training and education in a variety of clinical settings. Upon completion of the Physiotherapy programme, you will be a fully qualified Physiotherapist.

Our small class sizes provide you with access to hands-on, one-to-one practical and clinical training with academic staff. You will study alongside your future colleagues in Medicine and Pharmacy, ensuring the multidisciplinary nature of patient care is reflected in your education. For approximately two-thirds of the programme, you will be based on RCSI's main campus in Dublin city centre, learning clinical skills, which you will put into practice for the remaining one-third

when you are primarily based in a clinical setting. Your placement blocks are interspersed with blocks of learning in the academic setting to facilitate real-time assimilation of new knowledge.

This education model allows for the immediate real-world application of students' developing clinical skills, under the supervision of dedicated clinical tutors.

It is an option to complete some of these placements in your home country, our practice education team has supported our North American students in this regard.

As an RCSI Physiotherapy graduate, you will be career ready and in high demand with a highly portable degree.

PHYSIOTHERAPY





LARISA SLIPENKYJ

Physiotherapy, Class of 2019



"I am from Canada and I am a graduate of RCSI's Physiotherapy Class of 2019. The question I get asked the most when I tell people I chose to study in Ireland is "why"? I always knew that I wanted to study abroad and RCSI offered me the best opportunity to do this.

The physiotherapy program offers small class sizes, a well balanced mix of theoretical learning and hands on experience. Dublin is a great city to live in and it was easy finding suitable accommodation. The placements are delivered in different cities throughout Ireland giving you an opportunity to live and experience all of Ireland.

The 3 years I spent at RCSI went quickly but by the end of my course I felt confident with the skills and theory I learned to begin working. RCSI education is considered to be similar to Canadian physiotherapy schools which provides an easier transition back to Canada. Most of all, I made lifelong friends that provide me with a great excuse to keep going back to visit. I was welcomed into the warm and supportive community at RCSI, and I will always refer to Dublin as my second home."

FOUNDATION YEAR

Foundation Year provides you with a solid grounding in the biomedical sciences and professionalism plus the necessary IT skills to operate effectively within the University's virtual learning environment (VLE).

The course is delivered as a series of stand-alone 5-credit modules taught in a single semester, and integrated, systems-based modules, delivered across 2 semesters.

The Introduction to Physiotherapy Practice module provides you with an appreciation of the array of clinical specialties and settings in which physiotherapists work.

It also presents the first opportunity for a clinical visit.

Elective opportunities facilitate your growing awareness of the crucial roles that communication, culture, collaboration, critical thinking, medical ethics, information literacy, project management and self-reflection play in the professional practice of physiotherapy. They also provide students with an opportunity to work collectively with the Medicine and Pharmacy students.

FIRST SEMESTER

Fundamentals of Medical Physics

Fundamentals of Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Fundamentals of Human Biology

Musculoskeletal System, Nervous System, Skin, Special Senses, Reproduction and Endocrine Systems

Cardiovascular, Respiratory, Immune, Gastrointestinal and Excretory Systems

Professionalism in the Health Sciences

Biomedical Laboratory Sciences

SECOND SEMESTER

Disease Diagnostics and Therapeutics

Introduction to Physiotherapy Practice

Musculoskeletal System, Nervous System, Skin, Special Senses, Reproduction and Endocrine Systems

Cardiovascular, Respiratory, Immune, Gastrointestinal and Excretory Systems

Professionalism in the Health Sciences

Biomedical Laboratory Sciences



YEAR 1

Year 1 provides you with a sound base of scientific knowledge that underpins the practice of physiotherapy.

You gain an understanding of the structure, function and inter-relationship of systems in the human body by studying Anatomy and Physiology.

Year 1 also focuses on acquisition of the knowledge and basic skills required to assess and treat people with common musculoskeletal conditions.

FIRST SEMESTER

Anatomy
Neuromusculoskeletal I
Physiology
Methods of Enquiry
Physics

SECOND SEMESTER

Neuromusculoskeletal II
Neuroscience Anatomy
Health Psychology
Professional Development I
Clinical Placement 1

JAMES WRIGHT
 Physiotherapy, Class of 2023


"Upon graduation I am planning to move back to Canada to practice. I have always been set on practicing in the private MSK setting; however, since going on a recent placement in a stroke rehabilitation ward my eyes have opened up to the possibility of neurological physio".



This practical course will provide you with clinical and critical thinking skills to meet the demands of a rapidly changing health sector.

YEAR 2

Year 2 builds on what you have already studied by further consolidating the knowledge and skills of physiotherapy practice.

The focus this year is on the application and analysis of problems and their effects in core clinical areas, e.g. cardiovascular/respiratory, neurology and musculoskeletal. You gain an understanding of the research process and develop an ability to appraise and evaluate research and scientific literature. Blocks of clinical education alternate with academic modules in a variety of clinical settings. In the clinical environment, you develop an understanding of the context of physiotherapy practice.

FIRST SEMESTER

Advanced Musculoskeletal I

Neuroscience Psychology

Neuroscience Anatomy

Respiratory/Cardiovascular I

Neurology I

Professional Development II

Clinical Placement 2

SECOND SEMESTER

Advanced Musculoskeletal II

Respiratory/Cardiovascular II

Neurology II

Clinical Placement 3

Clinical Placement 4

YEAR 3

Final year focuses on the integration of the knowledge you've already obtained in the programme and understanding an advanced level of practice. Modules in final physiotherapy cover more specialised areas of practice, e.g. sports physiotherapy, women's health, care of the elderly and paediatrics.

Your ability to evaluate and undertake research is also developed further by completing a research protocol.

In the clinical setting, you encounter a more diverse and complex range of client groups in your final year.

Throughout the programme, clinical education is a central element, and you will undertake 1,000+ hours on a full-time block basis. This helps you gain essential clinical experience under the supervision of physiotherapy clinical tutors and senior physiotherapy clinicians.

FIRST SEMESTER

Physiotherapy Across the Lifespan I (sports physiotherapy, women's health, paediatrics)

Research Methods II

Clinical Placement 5

Clinical Placement 6

SECOND SEMESTER

Complex Clinical Case Management

Physiotherapy Across the Lifespan II (Care of the Elderly)

Research Methods II

Clinical Placement 7



International graduates of the RCSI Physio programme have a one-year stayback visa option should you wish to practice in Ireland.

CAREER SUPPORTS

RCSI has been educating North American students since the 1970's. We understand that for most North American students, the priority is to get back to North America after graduation.

To maximise your success in this regard, RCSI faculty and students work together to ensure that candidates are completely ready when applying for positions back home upon graduation.

The University provides a variety of resources, many of which sit with the CoMPPAS Office (Centre of Mastery: Personal Professional & Academic Success), to assist you throughout your studies.

CoMPPAS TEAM

The CoMPPAS office is home to a dedicated multi-disciplinary team of specialists working collaboratively to facilitate and empower students to achieve their personal, academic and professional goals. The services provided by CoMPPAS are available to all students, allowing them to maximise their potential and enhance their performance.

Careerhub is our online platform which provides access to your career portfolio, resources, events, workshops and consultations. This provides the platform for us to work with you individually to develop a bespoke career strategy.

Everything is designed around your needs as a student and particular supports are given to our students wishing to return and practice in North America.

Not only do the CoMPPAS Team at RCSI support you throughout your journey at the university, they also provide support to our graduates for up to 3 years post-graduation.

YOUR FUTURE



At RCSI, helping you to build your career and to realise your potential as a healthcare professional is our number one priority.

APPLICATION ESSENTIALS

All North American candidates who are domiciled in the USA or Canada in the year in which they are applying to RCSI should apply through our Admissions partner, The Atlantic Bridge Programme from 1 August onwards.

The Atlantic Bridge Programme, based in California, manages the applications process for all North American applicants on behalf of RCSI.

Our intention is to provide applicants with an enhanced application service by basing our admissions service in North American time zones.

The Atlantic Bridge website [atlanticbridge](http://atlanticbridge.com) provides comprehensive information for North American applicants, including information on Entry Requirements, Financial Aid, Residency, Moving to Ireland and a useful FAQ section.

US and Canadian nationals who are not domiciled in North America in the year in which they are applying, apply directly to RCSI from 1 November using the Non-EU online application system managed by the RCSI Admissions Office at rcsi.com/Dublin

PHYSIOTHERAPY

NFQ

Level 8

AWARD

**BSc Physiotherapy (Hons)
(NUI & RCSI)**

AWARDING BODY

National University of Ireland

DURATION

3 or 4 years

The Graduate Entry Physiotherapy programme is 3 years in duration.

CANADIAN HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Applicants must present a minimum average score of 80% in Grade 12, which must include minimum scores of 75% in two of the following subjects: Chemistry or Biology and Physics, Mathematics or Calculus.

AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Applicants must present a minimum overall average GPA of 3.0 in Grade 12, including minimum GPA of 3.0 in two of the following subjects: Chemistry or Biology and Physics, Mathematics or Calculus.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) DIPLOMA

Applicants must attain a minimum score of 32 IB Diploma points (inclusive of bonus points) to include three subjects at Higher Level and three subjects at Standard Level.

Subjects taken must include English, Mathematics* and at least one laboratory science subject.

**Both Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches and Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation are acceptable for application to RCSI*

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Students who hold (or expect to hold by July prior to entry) a competitive GPA* from a four-year undergraduate bachelor degree, preferably in a science-related field, are eligible to apply as graduate entry students.

** The Admissions Committee review all transcripts on an individual basis and there is some flexibility on the GPA score as course load and scoring systems can vary from one application to another. Graduate entry students, complete the course in 3 years*



[Click here for more information](#)

[1. Physiotherapy \(BSc\)](#)

[2. Physiotherapy \(BSc\) – Graduate Route](#)



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OF MEDICINE
AND HEALTH
SCIENCES

RCSI LEADING THE WORLD TO BETTER HEALTH

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W: [rcsi.com/dublin](https://www.rcsi.com/dublin)

The information in this booklet is intended as a guide to persons seeking admission to RCSI and shall not be deemed to constitute a contract between RCSI and an applicant or any third party. Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this publication and RCSI shall not be bound by any errors or omissions and cannot accept liability in respect therefore. October 2021.