



Accommodations for Learning – Physical Therapy

McGill's Physical Therapy program works with [Student Accessibility and Achievement](#) to provide accommodations for learning for students with documented disabilities, mental health conditions, chronic health conditions, or other impairments (temporary, permanent, or episodic). All accommodations must allow for the assessment of the essential skills, attributes, and core competencies required for program completion and professional practice (please refer to the [Essential Skills and Attributes](#) document for the program).

All accommodations must be organized with Student Accessibility and Achievement¹. **Students requiring accommodations are strongly encouraged to [contact this office](#) prior to the start of the school year** or within the first two weeks of the Fall semester. This advanced planning will help to ensure that appropriate accommodations can be organized before they are needed. Students may, however, contact Student Accessibility and Achievement at any time.

Students are also encouraged to [sign up for exams/assessments](#)² as soon as their accommodations have been set by an advisor at Student Accessibility and Achievement. This must be done for each individual exam/assessment and can be done as soon as the date of the exam/assessment is known. For assessments during the semester, dates are generally provided in each course outline. For final written exams, dates are generally shared with students at least a month prior to the exam period. For practical exams scheduled at the Steinberg Centre for Simulation and Interactive Learning, also known as Objective Structured Clinical Exams (OSCE), dates for both midterm and final exams are generally known prior to the start of the semester and will be provided by the course coordinator/instructor (available accommodations are described below).

Students who anticipate needing **accommodations for clinical placements** must communicate with the Associate Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education (AACCE – Martha Visintin, martha.visintin@mcgill.ca) at least 4 months prior to the start date for the placement (i.e., no later than the start of the Winter U3/QY term for the first placement in Summer M1). The AACCE will meet with the student to determine the information required by the clinical site. Once the student has provided written consent for this information to be shared, a meeting will be arranged between the student, AACCE, a Student Accessibility and Achievement advisor, and a representative from the clinical site to determine what accommodations can be provided. Students who are registered with Student Accessibility and Achievement but **do not anticipate needing accommodations during clinical placements** are strongly encouraged to meet with the AACCE to ensure that this decision is based on all relevant information.

¹ *No accommodations will be provided without the involvement of Student Accessibility and Achievement.*

² *Accommodations for exams may not be possible if a student has not made the request at least 14 days before the exam date for a written exam, and at least 28 days before the exam date for a practical exam/OSCE.*



Accommodations for Practical Exams/OSCEs

Student Accessibility and Achievement, the Physical Therapy program, and the Steinberg Centre for Simulation and Interactive Learning (SIM Centre) have approved a set of reasonable accommodations for practical examinations/OSCEs.

The following accommodations can be authorized by a Student Accessibility and Achievement advisor:

- Additional time to read the scenario and/or questions for each station, prior to the start of the simulated patient encounter.
 - Typically, three (3) minutes will be given, based on a standard reading/preparation time of two (2) minutes.
 - No additional time is provided during the simulated patient encounters.
- Audio recordings of the scenario and/or questions that students are required to read prior to entering the examination room / beginning the simulated patient encounter (these are typically posted on the door of the examination room as well as inside the room).
- Modifications to the physical requirements of the station / simulated patient encounter that do not affect the ability of the examiner to assess the essential skills and attributes being examined in the station.
- A rest break after every third or fourth station, for exams with six (6) or more stations. The duration of the break is determined by the exam organizers based on the setup of the exam.
 - Typically, the break will be the same duration as one exam station (12-13 minutes).

Should these accommodations not meet your needs, please contact an advisor at Student Accessibility and Achievement.