By this time, you should have reached out to individuals regarding letters of recommendation.

Mid-June: PTCAS goes LIVE; Start Early…this takes a while. Able to submit early July!

July: Applications sent to programs once paid for and submitted. Programs choose when to review apps.

Early Decision: Deadlines may vary, so check each program’s websites!

Factors to Consider Before Applying

1. **Competitive GPAs:** Cumulative GPA and science/BCPM GPA both at or above 3.5? If not, may consider post-bacc. programs.

2. **Competitive GRE Score:** Composite score at or above the national average (Approx. 307 -Combined QR and VR)? If not, retake?

3. **Extracurricular Involvement**
   - **Shadowing:** Able to shadow a variety of professionals in various settings?
   - **Clinical Experience:** Work or volunteer experience, ideally with direct patient contact?
   - **Volunteering (Non-Medical):** Any service or volunteer work in the local community or your hometown?
   - **Research:** Did you participate in undergraduate research?
   - **Other** (Student org. involvement, non-medical work, athletics, study/travel abroad, etc.)

4. **Personal Statement:** Draft or Final Draft completed?

5. **Letters of Recommendation:** Requested and tentative date of application has been communicated to writers?

*Remember, quality is always better than quantity, and long-term involvement is usually more meaningful than short stints.*

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**Physical Therapy School Application Timeline**

**Fall prior to App. Year**

**Application Year: Winter - Spring - (Fall may be in either final year at UCSB or First Gap Year)**

- Mid-June: PTCAS goes LIVE; Start Early…this takes a while. Able to submit early July!
- July: Applications sent to programs once paid for and submitted. Programs choose when to review apps.
- Early Decision: Deadlines may vary, so check each program’s websites!
- Some programs have additional questions that need to be answered as part of the primary app., while others may send separate requests to complete secondary app. questions.
- GRE test dates run year-round, but be mindful of individual program deadlines.