2020-2021 Scholarship Opportunities

DPT Program Applicants:

Prior to your admission to the program:

- **WICHE** – Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education: Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP)
  - Requirements –
    - Prospective DPT student.
    - NOTE: Interested students from participating states MUST pre-register with their respective state certifying officer during the summer prior to their anticipated admission to UNLVPT
  - UNLV’s DPT program is an approved WICHE – PSEP program for Hawaii, Wyoming and Alaska.
    - Residents from those states are eligible for WICHE programs from those states, and are encouraged to contact their respective state directly for details of the WICHE program and to pre-register
  - Typically, WICHE funded students must agree to practice in a medically underserved region of their home state for a predetermined amount of time.
    - Scholarship amounts: vary.
      - The Hawaii, Wyoming and Alaska WICHE programs typically provide an annual award that is equivalent to the out-of-state tuition for the duration of the DPT program.
  - For more information and deadlines please refer to the WICHE website
    - [PSEP](https://www.wiche.org) (Professional Student Exchange Program)
    - For current information and application materials for the Professional Student Exchange Program, contact your State Certifying Officer.
Currently enrolled UNLV DPT students:

All UNLVPT department-sponsored scholarships* have the following minimum eligibility requirements:

1. Student must be a registered and active UNLVPT student
2. Student must maintain at minimum a 3.0 UNLVPT cumulative program GPA
3. Student must be in good standing (i.e. not on probation for academic, professional behavior, or clinical performance issues). The student must be in good standing at both the time of application as well as the term of planned disbursement of any proposed award/scholarship.
4. Must be an active member of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)
5. Student must demonstrate financial need
   a. Financial need is determined one either the student’s FAFSA, or for those students who are not eligible to submit a FAFSA, the student’s Alternate Need Determination Form
      i. Resources can be found at:
         1. UNLV Financial Aid Checklist
         2. UNLV Financial Aid Forms

The current year 2020-21 FAFSA covers the following academic terms:

- Fall 2020
- Spring 2021
- Summer 2021

*See Financial Aid Frequently Asked Questions below to plan ahead for next year.

Physical Therapy Department Scholarship Opportunities:

**UNLVPT Scholarship**

Requirements -
- First, second and third year DPT students.

Application Process -
- Current students are emailed application instructions and a digital link to submit their application one week prior to the start of the fall semester annually.
- The scholarship committee will assess the quality of each application in terms of merit as evidenced by the student’s two-page maximum curriculum vitae (CV).
  o Students receive both a sample application-scoring rubric as well as sample CV with the application instructions.
- Scholarship amount:
  o Varies from $500 up to $4,000 depending on quality of application and available scholarship budget.
  o Around 50% of enrolled DPT students receive a UNLVPT scholarship each year.
UNLVPT Rural Health Scholarship*

Requirements -
- First, second, and third year DPT students may apply each fall.

Application Process -
- Student must submit a UNLVPT Rural Health Scholarship Questionnaire that reflects adequate preparation, planning, and commitment to a rural clinical education experience in NV.
- Student must complete a rural clinical experience at a UNLVPT pre-approved clinical site.
  - A list of pre-approved rural clinical sites will be available for students at annual clinical education workshops.
- Once accepted for a clinical experience at an approved site, the student must submit a budget to the UNLVPT scholarship committee.
- Scholarship amounts:
  - up to $2,000 for DPT 761
  - up to $5,000 for DPT 762, 763, or 764

UNLVPT Underserved Continuing Education (UCE) Scholarship*

Requirements –
- Second and third year DPT students may apply.
- Student must demonstrate proof of application for available GPSA funding mechanisms (see https://www.unlv.edu/gpsa/sponsorship-awards)
- Student must submit an application to the scholarship committee.
- Scholarship amounts:
  - up to $1,500

WICHE – Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education: Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP)

Requirements –
- Prospective DPT student.
  - NOTE: Interested students from participating states MUST pre-register with their respective state certifying officer during the summer prior to their anticipated admission to UNLVPT
- UNLV’s DPT program is an approved WICHE – PSEP program for Hawaii, Wyoming and Alaska, residents from those states are eligible for WICHE programs from those states. Applicants should contact their respective state directly for details of the WICHE program and to pre-register
- Typically, the WICHE funded student must agree to practice in a medically underserved region of their home state for a predetermined amount of time.
- Scholarship amount: TBD.
The Hawaii, Wyoming and Alaska WICHE programs typically provide an annual award that is equivalent to the out-of-state tuition for the duration of the DPT program.

**Kitty Rodman Award of Excellence**

Requirements –
- Second year DPT student
- Must have documented financial need
- Must complete an application
- Must have a minimum cumulative (graduate) UNLV GPA of 3.5
- Must be in good standing in the DPT program
- Must submit a one page statement explaining their professional goals
  - Application link and instructions will be provided to eligible students via email by the scholarship committee during each spring semester
- Scholarship amount:
  - $1,000

**External Scholarship Opportunities:**

**Non-UNLV Scholarships:**

**APTA Financial Resource Guide:**
- List of scholarships, awards, fellowships, and grants for students and physical therapists, including a section specifically listing information for students who are minorities. [http://www.apta.org/currentstudents/scholarshipsawards/]
Financial Aid

Frequently Asked Questions

Current applicants to the DPT program during the 2020-21 application cycle:

When should I fill out the FAFSA for fall 2021?

☐ The 2021–22 FAFSA form will be available on Oct. 1, 2020. You should fill it out as soon as possible on or after Oct. 1 at the official government site, https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa.

I anticipate needing financial aid during summer 2021, how do I apply?

Will you receive financial aid as an undergraduate student during academic year 2020-21?

☐ Yes, you need to ensure that you have submitted an updated FAFSA application for funding during summer 2021 that reflects that you will be a graduate student at UNLV. You can do this through your current FAFSA. https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa.

☐ You also need to complete a Summer 2021 Financial Aid Application located at: https://www.unlv.edu/finaid/forms

☐ If no, and you have already completed a 2020-2021 FAFSA that indicated that you plan to attend UNLV as a graduate student during the 2020-21 academic year, you should complete and submit a Summer 2021 Financial Aid Application located at: https://www.unlv.edu/finaid/forms

I have already competed my 2020-21 FAFSA and indicated I will attend UNLV as a graduate student, how will I know what I qualified for?
Once your FAFSA file is processed by the UNLV office of financial aid and scholarships, you will be able to view your anticipated award package on your MyUNLV account. Accepted students are encouraged to check their MyUNLV account often throughout the spring 2021 semester and to accept their award packages early.

What do I do when I receive my award package?

If this is your first loan with UNLV, you need to complete the Financial Aid Process as outlined at: [https://studentaid.gov/h/complete-aid-process](https://studentaid.gov/h/complete-aid-process)

- Unsubsidized Federal Loans – Log in to your MyUNLV student center account, go to the Accept/Decline awards section and accept the award.

- Graduate Plus Loan – Find info regarding Graduate PLUS Loan Applications at: [https://studentaid.gov/app/launchPLUS.action?plusType=gradPlus](https://studentaid.gov/app/launchPLUS.action?plusType=gradPlus) additional info available at: [https://www.unlv.edu/finaid/loans/graduate-plus](https://www.unlv.edu/finaid/loans/graduate-plus)

When do my loans disburse?

- Unsubsidized Federal Loan – This loan disburses 10 days before the beginning of the semester to your student account. You should receive any refunds during the first week of school.

- Graduate Plus Loan – Since this loan is based on credit, disbursement depends on when you applied for the Graduate Plus Loan, and when the Financial Aid Office received approval from Department of Education.
Continuing UNLV DPT students:

When should I fill out the FAFSA for fall 2021?

☐ The 2021–22 FAFSA form will be available on Oct. 1, 2020. You should fill it out as soon as possible on or after Oct. 1 at the official government site, https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa.

Has your residency or living situation changed?

Residency changes such as your living situation (on-campus, with a parent, or off-campus) as well as how you are classified for tuition purposes (in-state or out-of-state) must be reported.

☐ If no, your award package will likely remain the same throughout the 2020-21 Academic Year.
☐ If yes, update your FAFSA application online to reflect your new living situation and notify the UNLV office of Financial Aid and Scholarships.

Example 1: You are residency status has changed from in-state to out-of-state for tuition purposes.

Example 2: You previously listed "living with parent" on FAFSA, but now have your own house/apartment.

NOTE: These changes can affect the amount of financial aid you qualify for.

** You are responsible for updating the office of financial aid & scholarships of such changes in your status.