S2S 2027 Application Process for Performing Arts Specialty Clinical Experience

Athletico Physical Therapy is proud to offer a Specialty Clinical Experience in the Performing Arts. A limited number of placements are available for DPT students completing their final clinical rotation. This rotation offering is primarily Outpatient Orthopedics with exposure to patients in a performing arts environment. Selected students will be placed with a Clinical Instructor who specializes in treating performing artists, specifically dancers. Students will treat the general orthopedic population, but will have exposure to adolescent dancers, pre-professional dancers, and professional dancers. The student and clinical instructor may treat patients in the clinic, onsite at a dance studio, or provide backstage coverage for performances. The student may be giving lectures or providing screenings for a performing arts population. This is a specialty rotation, and an application is required. Please learn more about our Performing Arts program here: Athletico's Performing Arts Program

Requirements:

- ❑ **Application items to upload:**
  - Resume
  - Letter of Intent
  - Letter of Recommendation from a faculty member
  - Completed DCE Acknowledgement Form
- ❑ Final Clinical Experience for 2027
- ❑ Strong Orthopedic background and knowledge of dance terminology
- ❑ Exemplary professional behavior and communication skills

Interested applicants should submit their application packet electronically at this link by March 27, 2026. Click here to Apply.

Applications will be reviewed by Athletico's Student Clinical Education Team, as well as the Performing Arts Program Manager. Top applicants will undergo a virtual interview in May/June, and final decisions will be announced by June 17, 2026. This is a competitive application process.

Terms:

- Final clinical experience is defined as a terminal experience immediately preceding graduation.
- Athletico Physical Therapy will accept applications from academic programs which we do not currently hold a contract with. If the applicant is chosen, Athletico will execute a one-time contract.
- If an applicant does not receive a Performing Arts Specialty Clinical, they may still be considered for a general outpatient orthopedic placement at the request of the DCE.

Deadline for Applications: March 27, 2026
Decisions will be announced by: June 17, 2026

S2S Performing Arts Locations

Location	Approximate Caseload
Chicago, IL, or surrounding area up to 1 hour driving distance	15-40% Performing Arts
Grand Rapids, MI	15-25% Performing Arts
St. Louis, MO, or surrounding area up to 1 hour driving distance	10% Performing Arts
Ankeny, IA	30% Performing Arts
Fort Worth/Dallas, TX	5-10% Performing Arts

Performing Arts Specialty Clinical Experience Letter of Recommendation

Materials due by: March 27, 2026

Name of Applicant: _____

Please provide your views on the following by placing "X" in the appropriate column below.

	Very Weak	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Very Strong
Applicant's capacity for analytic thinking and problem-solving					
Ability to work effectively with others					
Communication and interpersonal skills					
Commitment to learning					
Sense of responsibility and professional obligation					
Motivation					
Accountability for actions, decisions, and behaviors					
Demonstrates technical competency in basic manual and joint mobilization skills					

Please attach a brief written statement elaborating further on the above qualities and describing what distinguishes this applicant from other candidates applying for Athletico Physical Therapy's Performing Arts Specialty clinical experience.

Please return this rating form and the written letter to the applicant. The applicant will turn in with their other materials electronically as one application packet.

Name (please print): _____

Signature (electronic acceptable): _____

Date: _____

Phone: _____

DCE Acknowledgement Form

Student's name: _____

Dates of Final Clinical experience: _____

DCE's name: _____

DCE's email: _____

Please indicate which specialty experience the student is applying for:

Cheerleading/Gymnastics	
Endurance Athlete	
Manual Therapy	
Pelvic Health	
Performing Arts	
Sports	

The Athletico team is excited that your student has elected to apply for a specialty clinical experience with us in 2027. As the DCE, we want to be certain you are aware of the student's application and Athletico's timeline. Please discuss with the student their top geographic choices based upon the options available in the application. **Applications are due by March 27, 2026.** The top candidates will have a virtual interview in May or early June. Final decisions will be sent via email by **June 17, 2026.** You will be cc'd on all correspondence between Athletico and the student throughout the process.

If a student is not selected for a specialty experience, they may still be considered for a general outpatient orthopedic placement at your request. Athletico will gladly assess availability for a general outpatient placement based upon the student's desired geographical location.

If you have any questions regarding Athletico's Student to Specialist clinical experiences, please contact clinicaleducation@athletico.com. Thank you for assisting your student with this application process.

Please return this acknowledgement form to the applicant. The applicant will submit this form with their other materials electronically as one application packet.

Signature of DCE _____ Date _____

Letter of Intent

In one page or less please answer the following:

1. Why are you interested in a Performing Arts Specialty Clinical Experience with Athletico Physical Therapy?

2. What are your goals during your Performing Arts Specialty clinical experience?

3. What are your post-graduation career goals?

4. What sets you apart from other candidates applying for a Performing Arts Specialty clinical experience with Athletico?

