



REHABILITATION SECTOR IN UKRAINE

THE EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE MARKET

AT A GLANCE: MARKET SNAPSHOT



Ukraine's **Education and Workforce Market** is rapidly evolving to address soaring demand for rehabilitation professionals. Driven by new academic standards, international best practice alignment, and government-led reforms, ongoing investment is building a workforce capable of meeting complex health needs from war-related injuries and chronic illnesses. Persistent workforce shortages are fueling ongoing expansion of training programs and partnerships.



Certification & Curriculum: Physical therapists are required to hold both a **bachelor's degree** (human health, physical rehabilitation, or physical therapy/occupational therapy) and a **master's degree** in physical therapy or rehabilitation. Programs are universally accredited and overseen by the Ministry of Education and Science. Standards and requirements for these academic programs were updated in 2024.



Continuous Professional Development (CPD): Since 2019, CPD credits are **mandatory** for all clinicians, and a new digital system launched in 2024 for ongoing professional education and accreditation.



Digitalization of Learning and Workforce Impact: The shift to remote and digital learning—accelerated by wartime disruption and ongoing program modernization—has increased access for physical therapy students, but **resource and operational challenges are reducing opportunities for hands-on training**, threatening the quality and consistency of rehabilitation education and workforce readiness.



Workforce Needs for PMG Expansion: PMG rehabilitation services, slated for future expansion, require tailored multidisciplinary teams for **outpatient, inpatient, and infant care settings**—reflecting the diverse staffing needs across patient groups and service environments.



Integration with Primary Healthcare: New policies promote embedding and integrating rehabilitation professionals into primary healthcare teams to improve patient care quality and efficiency.



Workforce Shortage: Ukraine is experiencing a severe clinician shortage, just **0.67 physical therapists per 10K people** versus a European average of **12.8 physical therapists per 10K people**. The Ministry of Health plans to attract more than **9,000 new specialists** to the rehabilitation system over the next two years.



Urgent Need for Rehabilitation Experts: With **~250,000 people** currently needing rehabilitation due to war-related injuries, Ukraine needs an expansion of training programs & enrollment in physical rehabilitation courses.

Education and Workforce By The Numbers

~3K Practicing
Physiotherapists in
Ukraine

60+ Universities &
Institutes with Therapy
and Rehabilitation
Programs

9K+ New Specialists
Targeted Over Next 2
Years

MARKET TRENDS & OPPORTUNITIES

To respond to growing demand for services, Ukraine urgently needs more rehabilitation professionals. Education lags, and scaling training is critical. Digital tools help expand learning, but hands-on experience is limited. Interdisciplinary approaches and ongoing development are gaining importance.

- **Expand Digital Training:** U.S. educational technology firms can deliver online and hybrid courses, certifications, and continuing education, partnering locally to provide hands-on practice in underserved areas.
- **Exchange & Fellowship Programs:** U.S. hospitals and universities can launch fellowships, exchanges, and mentorships to strengthen skills and share best practices.
- **Interdisciplinary Curriculum:** U.S. and Ukrainian partners can jointly design integrated programs for physical therapy, psychology, and social work.
- **International-Aligned Certification:** U.S. companies can support and advocate for the development of certifications that meet EU and Ukrainian standards, boosting mobility and recognition.