

# Interview Amelia F.



Name: Amelia Franklin

Position (job title), and where they are working:

Physical Therapist, Excel Rehab in Virginia

Education (what degrees or certifications they have):

Doctorate in physical therapy (DPT)

What inspired you to get into your current field?

- Her father was the head of the emergency and admissions at a hospital.
  - She always knew that she wanted to work with people.
- Her father set her up to shadow a friend of his, who was a physician. She followed him around for the day and noticed that they were more or less just delegating tasks like a traffic cop.
  - Dr. Amelia asked who the people were that were ‘actually’ doing tasks and talking to the patients.
  - The physician then told her that they were OTs and PTs
  - She looked into both positions and then decided that she wanted to be a physical therapist.

How did you get to this current job position? What path did you take?

- One of her neighbors tore every ligament in her knee during a skiing incident, ruining her meniscus as well.
- Her neighbor went to a PT office close to where they lived, and told Dr. Amelia to check it out.
  - The office was only 5 minutes away from her house
  - She applied and got the job there, and has been working there for 3 months.

What are your basic roles and responsibilities?

- She evaluates and assess patient when they first come in to determine their diagnosis
- Then creates a treatment plan for the patient to follow through with, changing things as needed until they have achieved their goals and they get to 'graduate.'

What is your favorite (or most rewarding) aspect about the job?

- She loves talking to people/making connections.
- When patients achieve their goals and they get to go back to normal life.

What is the most surprising aspect of your career ?

- Psychological component
  - There is a huge psych component to her jobs, between pain and whatever else a person might be going through during their rehab journey.

What is the most challenging aspect of your career?

- Currently, it is managing her caseload without a tech.
- For her current position they see two patients an hour
  - They have no techs as far as sets ups and breakdown and running through exercises, cleaning tables, she is doing all of those things.
- In PT you are going to become a good multitasker.
  - But she feels that she now has to become a multitasker to the nth degree.

What advice would you give to someone getting into the health field?

Dr. Amelia strongly suggested that once you have chosen a field you are interested in, to go ahead and shadow that specific field. But in various scenarios, say you choose nursing, go to various clinics or hospitals and see how it differed at these different locations. She also said if you are interested in nursing she is helping the nursing staff or who else they work with because maybe you are not yet aware of these other positions. If you happen to find a position that interests you in that aspect. To then also shadow those people to be sure that it's truly that one field that you're interested in.