

PREPARING FOR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SCHOOL

Students must earn a bachelor's degree prior to admission to physician assistant (PA) school. Pre-physician assistant is not a major. There is no preferred major. In addition to earning a bachelor's degree, students must complete the courses required by the PA schools to which they plan to apply. Additionally, some schools require completion of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).

- Requirements at individual PA schools vary.
- Students are responsible for knowing and completing the requirements of their major and the PA schools they plan to apply to.
- Early and regular consultation with a health professions advisor is recommended.

PREREQUISITE COURSES

<u>COURSE #</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
ENGL 100	Expository Writing I	3
ENGL 200	Expository Writing II	3
BIOL 198	Principles of Biology	4
BIOL 341 & 342	Human Body (A&P)	4/4
OR		
KIN 360	Anatomy & Physiology	8
BIOL 450	Genetics	4
BIOL 455	Microbiology	4
CHM 210	Chemistry I	4
CHM 230	Chemistry II	4
CHM 350*	General Organic Chemistry	3
CHM 351*	General Organic Chemistry Lab	2
BIOCH 521**	Biochemistry	3
PSYCH 110	General Psychology	3
STAT 325	Statistics	3

*Some schools require CHM 531 - Organic Chemistry I, CHM 550 - Organic Chemistry II, and CHM 521 - Organic Chemistry Lab.

** Some schools require BIOCH 522 - Biochemistry Lab. Check with the specific school to which you plan to apply regarding their

RECOMMENDED COURSES

<u>COURSE #</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
CLSCS 105	Latin & Greek for Scientists (Medical Terminology)	2
FNDH 720	Adm. Health Care Org.	3
PHILO 365	Medical Ethics *	3
PSYCH 505	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSYCH 520	Lifespan Personality Dev.	3

OTHER COURSES TO CONSIDER

<u>COURSE #</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
ANTH 315	Intro to Medical Anthropology	3
BIOL 330	Public Health Biology	3
BIOL 365	Practicum-Cadaver Team	Varies
COMM 480	Intercultural Communication	3
ECON 688	Economics of Healthcare	3
EDSP 415	Manual Communication	3
FNDH 400	Human Nutrition	3
GERON 315	Introduction to Gerontology	3
HIST 520	Death & Dying in History	3
HIST 534	Social History of Medicine	3
PSYCH 470	Psychobiology	3
PSYCH 518	Health Psychology	3
PSYCH 630	Human Neuropsychology	3
SOCIO 510	Social Welfare as a Soc. Inst.	3
SOCIO 541	Wealth, Power, & Privilege	3
SOCWK 320	Dynamics of Working with Older Adults	3
THTRE 665	Drama Therapy with Special Populations	3

DIRECT PATIENT CARE EXPERIENCE

Some PA programs require or highly recommend patient care experience and some require experience that is paid. Some examples include working as a certified nurse/medication aide (CNA/CMA), health educator, emergency medical technician (EMT), and home health aide.

NON-ACADEMIC COMPONENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION

In addition to a competitive GPA and GRE score, competitive applicants have:

- Shadowed Physician Assistants in multiple settings.
- Demonstrated a commitment to service through participation in volunteer activities. It is not necessary to limit volunteer service to health-related organizations.

Research, leadership, and direct patient care experience also may enhance competitiveness.

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To Make an Appointment:
Please call 785-532-5500 or visit the Dean's Office, 119 Justin Hall, and schedule an appointment with the receptionist at the front desk.