

Master of Science in Pre-Physician Assistant Studies at NSU Muskogee

The Pre-Physician Assistant/Associate Programs are designed to meet the requirements for the Master of Health Science in Physician Assistant (at NSU). The applicant must have earned a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college with a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Students must take the general test of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) prior to the October 1 application deadline. All course prerequisites must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.

Enrollment Abbreviation	Course Name	Hours	Completed
PSYC 1113	General Psychology	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 1013 (Lecture) BIOL 1011 (Lab)	Introductory Biology I	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 3314	Human Physiology	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 3224	Microbiology	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 2154	Human Anatomy	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 3114, 4133, 3324, 4514, 4543, 3124, 4164, 4354, or 4214	Genetics, General Virology, Pathophysiology, Histology, Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Medical Microbiology, Immunology, or Animal Parasitology	6	<input type="checkbox"/>
CHEM 1123 (Lecture) CHEM 1131 (Lab)	General Chemistry I	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
CHEM 1223 (Lecture) CHEM 1231 (Lab)	General Chemistry II	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
CHEM 3123 (Lecture) CHEM 3132 (Lab)	Organic Chemistry I	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
MATH 1513	College Algebra	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
MATH 1113	Statistics	3	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Requirements

- Students are required to take a 3 credit hour 200 level or higher PSYC course
- Any of the 6 credit hour Health related upper division courses list above must be completed within 7 years of matriculation into the NSU PAS program
- Students may apply with outstanding prerequisite courses as long as they demonstrate a plan to complete those courses and have no more than 2 prerequisite courses in progress after December 31st of the year prior to entering the program

For additional information contact
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Physician Assistant (often referred to as a Physician Associate or PA) is a professional member of the health care team qualified by intense basic science and clinical training to function under the supervision of a physician. The Physician Assistant is not a physician replacement, but works as an efficient way for physicians to extend health care service to you and your family.

Employment Opportunities

Tasks depend on the supervising physician's practice setting and specialty, the laws of Oklahoma and the individual situation. Tasks may include: obtaining a patient's accurate medical history, performing a thorough physical examination, performing routine diagnostic tests such as PAP smears and EKG's, diagnosing and treating common medical problems, writing medical orders in hospitals, ordering medications according to Oklahoma law, initiating emergency treatment, assisting in surgery, debridement, suturing and caring for superficial wounds, making hospital rounds and providing you and your family with education pertaining to the disease process and treatment plan. Physician Assistants are trained to function in a variety of settings such as private offices, clinics, hospitals, emergency departments, HMO's, neighborhood health centers, industry branches of the armed services and federal and state facilities.

Minimum Application Requirements

The Admissions Committee bases its decision upon an applicant's overall GPA, science GPA, number of overall and science credit hours, personal interview scores, types and quality of healthcare experience, personal references, score on the general test component of the GRE, and the applicant's written statement on why they want to be a Physician Assistant. The application process is highly competitive. Completion of all pre-requisites does not guarantee that an applicant will be offered an interview for final selection.

An earned bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university including the prerequisites listed below. **All prerequisites must be completed by the end of the spring semester prior to starting the PA Program.**

1. A minimum, cumulative undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
2. A minimum science GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale as calculated by CASPA
3. Good standing with the college or university last attended or currently enrolled
4. Complete application for admission at caspa.liaisoncas.com
5. Three letters of reference (one or more should be from a physician or PA)
6. Submit a one page, typewritten statement on "Why I Wish to Become a Physician Associate" and a resume
7. Must take the general test component of the GRE. All GRE scores must be received by the PA Program by the October 1 deadline; therefore applicants are encouraged to take the test no later than September 1st. Information regarding GRE can be obtained at www.gre.org
8. Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended must be submitted directly to CASPA. For applicants offered an interview, updates to grades for courses may be completed after the application deadline
9. Be formally admitted to NSU and the Graduate College by submitting an application, GRE score, and official transcripts to the University Registrar

It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure all requirements are turned in prior to the October 1 deadline. You can check the status of your application at caspa.liaisoncas.com

The NSU PA Program will admit up to 20 students selected by an admissions committee. The PA program lasts for 24 months, consisting of 12 months of didactic training on the Muskogee campus and 12 months of rotations at various hospitals, clinics, and doctor's offices within the state.

Contents of this publication are subject to revision without notice. The provisions of this publication do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied between any applicant, student, or faculty member of the Physician Assistant Program at Northeastern State University.

ARC-PA Accreditation Status Northeastern State University Physician Assistant Studies Program has applied for Accreditation – Provisional from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). Northeastern State University Physician Assistant Studies Program anticipates matriculating its first class in June 2017, pending achieving Accreditation – Provisional status at the September 2016 ARC-PA meeting. Accreditation – Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when a program holding accreditation – provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students.

For PA information from Northeastern State University, goto: <https://academics.nsuok.edu/healthprofessions/Degree-Programs/Graduate/Physician-Assistant-Studies>

Shadowing: For a list of PA's (*either program*) to shadow, goto: <http://pashadowonline.com/>