

Physician Assistant

Pre-Professional Advising
907-474-6396

Physician assistants are health care professionals licensed to practice medicine with physician supervision. As part of their comprehensive responsibilities, PAs conduct physical exams, diagnose and treat illnesses, order and interpret tests, counsel on preventive health care, assist in surgery, and in most states can write prescriptions.

Becoming a PA typically requires a master's degree, and a bachelor's degree is usually required to be admitted to a program. Some schools offer programs that allow students to finish a bachelor's degree while working toward the Master's of Physician Assisting. Becoming a certified PA will take at least 5-6 years of college.

Admission to PA school is competitive, so take advantage of any course work or experience that may give you an added edge. Most schools require or strongly recommend health care experience as a prerequisite. To be considered for admission, students should take the Graduate Record Exam and complete a curriculum that includes general chemistry (CHEM F105X, F106X), general biology (BIOL F115X, F116X), anatomy and physiology (BIOL F111X, F112X), microbiology (BIOL F342), entry-level, developmental and abnormal psychology (PSY F101, F240, F345), as well as English (F111X, F211X or F213X). Careful planning is necessary because course requirements differ among schools.

Students considering a career as a physician's assistant can learn more at www.uaf.edu/advising/degree/preprof/physasst.html and should see an academic advisor in the Academic Advising Center.

Baccalaureate Core Requirements

All degrees (e.g. B.A., B.S., etc.) require additional courses. Refer to specific degree and program requirements.

COMMUNICATION (9)

Complete the following:

ENGL F111X (3) _____
ENGL F190H may be substituted.

Complete one of the following:

ENGL F211X OR ENGL F213X (3) _____

Complete one of the following:

COMM F131X OR COMM F141X (3) _____

PERSPECTIVES ON THE HUMAN CONDITION (18)

Complete all of the following four courses:

ANTH F100X/SOC F100X (3) _____
ECON F100X OR PS F100X (3) _____
HIST F100X (3) _____
ENGL/FL F200X (3) _____

Complete one of the following three courses:

ART/MUS/THR F200X, HUM F201X OR ANS F202X (3) _____

Complete one of the following six courses:

BA F323X, COMM F300X, JUST F300X, NRM F303X,
PS F300X OR PHIL F322X (3) _____

OR complete 12 credits from the above courses PLUS

- two semester-length courses in a single Alaska Native language or other non-English language OR
- three semester-length courses (9 credits) in American Sign Language taken at the university level.

MATHEMATICS (3)

Complete one of the following:

MATH F103X, MATH F107X, MATH F161X OR STAT F200X. (3-4) _____
** No credit may be earned for more than one of MATH F107X or F161X.*

OR complete one of the following*:

MATH F200X, MATH F201X, MATH F202X,
MATH F262X OR MATH F272X (4) _____

**Or any math course having one of these as a prerequisite.*

NATURAL SCIENCES (8)

Complete any two (4-credit) courses:

ATM F101X (4) _____
BIOL F100X (4) _____
BIOL F103X (4) _____
BIOL F104X (4) _____
BIOL F111X (4) _____
BIOL F112X (4) _____
BIOL F115X (4) _____
BIOL F116X (4) _____
CHEM F100X (4) _____
CHEM F103X (4) _____
CHEM F104X (4) _____
CHEM F105X (4) _____
CHEM F106X (4) _____
GEOG F205X (4) _____
GEOS F100X (4) _____
GEOS F101X (4) _____
GEOS F112X (4) _____
GEOS F120X (4) _____
GEOS F125X (4) _____
MSL F111X (4) _____
PHYS F102X (4) _____
PHYS F103X (4) _____
PHYS F104X (4) _____
PHYS F115X (4) _____
PHYS F116X (4) _____
PHYS F175X (4) _____
PHYS F211X (4) _____
PHYS F212X (4) _____
PHYS F213X (4) _____

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION RESEARCH (0-1)

Successful completion of library skills competency test OR
LS F100X or F101X prior to junior standing (0-1) _____

UPPER-DIVISION WRITING AND ORAL COMMUNICATION (0)

Complete the following:

Two writing intensive courses designated (W) (0) _____
One oral communication intensive course designated (O) (0) _____

OR two oral communication intensive courses designated (O/2), at the upper-division level (see degree and/or major requirements) (0) _____

TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED 38-39