

PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT ADVISEMENT WORKSHEET 2018-2019

OU Health Science Center - Oklahoma City

University of Central Oklahoma

Health Professions Advisor

Department of Biology

200 Howell Hall

(405) 974-5733

Required Courses for the OUHSC-OKC Physician Associate Program

Non-Science:

English Composition I; English Composition II; U.S. History; Government; College Algebra (or higher); Psychology; Psychology elective (not sociology);

English, History, and Government are waived upon completion of a Bachelor's degree. Always check with OUHSC to verify.

Science:

General Chemistry I; General Chemistry II; Human Anatomy; Human Physiology; Microbiology; at least one of the following biology courses: Pathogenic Microbiology, Immunology, Genetics or Virology

All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of C or better. No more than one science and one non-science prerequisite can be in progress after December 31 prior to matriculation at the OUHSC PA program.

UCO Courses that Meet Required Courses for OUHSC

ENG 1113	English Composition
ENG 1213	English Composition and Research
HIST 1483	History of the U.S. to 1877
	OR HIST 1493 History of the U.S. Since 1877
POL 1113	American National Government
MATH 1513	College Algebra or higher level math classes (ie. MATH 2153 Bio-Calculus)
PSY 1103	General Psychology
PSY XXXX	Psychology elective, (ie. PSY 2103 Social Psychology or PSY 2833 Developmental Psychology)
CHEM 1103	General Chemistry I. Concurrent enrollment in CHEM 1112 is required.
CHEM 1112	General Chemistry I Recitation/ Laboratory
CHEM 1223	General Chemistry II. Concurrent enrollment in CHEM 1232 is required.
CHEM 1232	General Chemistry II Recitation/ Laboratory
BIO 2504	Human Anatomy and Laboratory
BIO 2604	Human Physiology and Laboratory. Concurrent enrollment in BIO 2604L is required.
BIO 2604L	Human Physiology Laboratory
BIO 3054	Microbiology for Majors and Laboratory (Recommended since it is a prerequisite for BIO 4515 and 4413)
	OR BIO 2314 Introduction to Microbiology and Lab

ONE of the following:

BIO 4515	Pathogenic Microbiology and Immunology and Laboratory
	OR
BIO 4414	Virology and Laboratory
	OR
BIO 3303	Genetics

Many of these courses above have prerequisites, so please check before making your course plan. If you have any questions regarding prerequisites, please meet with an academic advisor in the Nigh Advisement Center. If you have specific requests regarding prerequisites being waived, please contact the Biology department chair.

Minimum Admission Requirements: Admission to the program requires completion of prerequisite course work and submission of all application materials. The department admissions committee will review application materials and may require additional information from each applicant. Successful completion of minimum admission requirements does not assure that an interview will be granted. Interview invitations do not insure acceptance to the program. Applicants are considered only for the summer semester, with classes beginning the 1st of June. The application deadline is **October 1** for admission to the next class entering the following June. To be considered for admission to the Physician Associate Program an applicant must:

1. CASPA application.
2. Three letters of reference (centered on CASPA application). (These are submitted as part of the application)
3. Personal statement (uploaded to CASPA application). Official transcripts sent directly from all schools attended.
4. Resume-follow directions for required resume template on website
5. GRE general test scores submitted through CASPA (taken within 5 years).
6. CASPer non cognitive test- <https://takecasper.com>

AT OUHSC, a recently admitted class had the following academic averages: GPA: 3.74; Science GPA: 3.69. GPA last 60 hours: 3.81 Applicants are urged to investigate physician assisting as a career prior to application in such ways as observation or working with a PA during a typical day and investigating advantages and disadvantages of the discipline (80 shadow hours are recommended including primary care, emergency medicine, and a specialty; 115 was the average shadowing hours for last year's entering class). It is highly recommended to visit OUHSC for an advisement session and for applicants to set up appointments to shadow OUHSC PA students (see the OUHSC website).

The program at OUHSC lasts for 27 months, consisting of fifteen (15) months of didactic training in the Health Sciences Center campus. The remaining 12 months of rotations are performed at various hospitals, clinics, and other care centers within the state.

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PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

The physician assistant (P.A.) is a professional member of the health care team qualified by academic and clinical education to provide a broad range of patient care services under the supervision of a licensed physician. P.A.s are formally trained to perform many of the routine but time-consuming tasks physicians usually perform. They take medical histories, perform physical examinations, order laboratory tests and x-rays, make preliminary diagnosis, and give inoculations. They also treat minor injuries by suturing, splinting and casting. In nearly all states of the U.S. except for Kentucky, physician assistants may prescribe medications (each state has their own set of restrictions).

P.A.s always work under the supervision of a physician. The proximity of supervision; however, depends upon the locality. For example, some P.A.s work in rural or inner city clinics where a physician may be available only one or two days each week and make "house calls" or go on "hospital rounds" to check patients and report back to the physician. P.A.s assist physicians in specialty areas, such as family practice, internal medicine, general and thoracic surgery, emergency medicine, and pediatrics. P.A.s specializing in surgery, provide pre- and post-operative care and may work as first or second assistants during major surgery.

OPPORTUNITIES: Employment opportunities are expected to be excellent for physician assistants, particularly in areas or settings such as rural and inner city clinics that have difficulty attracting enough physicians. Employment of P.A.s is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations through the year 2016 due to anticipated expansion of the health care services industry and an emphasis on cost containment. Physicians and institutions are expected to employ more P.A.s to provide primary care and assist with medical and surgical procedures, thus freeing physicians to perform more complicated and revenue-generating tasks. The public and third-party payers also seem to approve of P.A.s use. For example, Medicare now allows physicians to bill the government for services provided by their P.A.s to hospital and nursing home patients. The growth of HMOs and group medical practices should also lead to more jobs for P.A.s.

STARTING SALARIES: According to the American Academy of Physician Assistants, the national median salary for P.A.s is approximately \$102,000.

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For more information about PA's and PA programs: www.aapa.org and www.paeaonline.org/index.php?ht=d/sp/i/25515/pid/25515

For PA information for the OUHSC-OKC PA Program visit:

www.oumedicine.com/familymedicine/academic-information/pa-program---okc

To apply to OUHSC-OKC and other programs, use CASPA: <http://portal.caspaonline.org/>

Contact information: phone: (405) 271-2058 email: infookc-pa@ouhsc.edu