

PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT INFORMATION



Specialty	Average Salary
Physician Assistant	\$90,000

SOURCES: ExploreHealthCareers.org
The American Almanac of Jobs and Salaries
Occupational Outlook Handbook 2012-13

WHAT DO PA SCHOOLS EVALUATE?

- Academic Record
- GRE Score
- Letters of Evaluation (Advisory Committee)
- Personal Statement (CASPA Application)
- Experience
- Interview

Check out <http://pafocus.org/>,
<https://portal.caspaonline.org/>, and
<http://www.wku.edu/wkuhpa> for more info

WKU COURSES FOR PRE-PA EMPHASIS*

BIOL 120/121 Biological Concepts I (4)
BIOL 122/123 Biological Concepts II (4)
BIOL 224/225 Animal Biology (4)
BIOL 226/227 Microbial Biology & Diversity (4) or
BIOL 207/208 General Microbiology (4)

BIOL 131 Human Anatomy & Physiology (4) and
BIOL 231 Adv. Human Anatomy & Physiology (4)
or
BIOL 321 Comparative Anatomy (4) and
BIOL 330 Animal Physiology (3)

CHEM 120/121 College Chemistry I (5)
CHEM 222/223 College Chemistry II (5)
CHEM 314 Introductory Organic Chemistry (5) or
CHEM 340/341 Organic Chemistry I (5)

PSY 100 Introductory Psychology (3)
PSY 199 Developmental Psychology (3)
SOCL 100 Introductory Sociology (3)

AH 290 Medical Terminology (2)
BIOL 382 Introductory Biostatistics (3) or
MATH 183 Statistics (3)

Courses that will assist in your first year in PA
school include: Biochemistry, Cell Biology,
Histology, and Genetics.

* "Pre-PA" is not a major, but is a concentration.

APPLICATION TIMETABLE

Study for the GRE	Now! At least 4 months prior to attempting the test.
Register for the GRE	Register early (60-90 days prior) for the date and location you desire (seats are limited). Cost, \$195.
GRE	The computer-based GRE is given year-round.
CASPA Online App.	Primary application to PA school, you may begin working on it in April, and it should be submitted by July 1 st (deadlines vary). Cost, \$175+ \$50/school.
Letters of Evaluation	After you complete your application, contact your advisor.
Secondary Applications	Submit as soon as you can adequately complete.
Interviews	Offers as early as mid-January with interviews occurring in February
Acceptances	As early as March but as late as May

OTHER INFORMATION

- There are 196 accredited PA education programs in the U.S. and District of Columbia.
- You will view your unofficial Verbal and Quant GRE scores at the test center (computer-based)
- Scholarships and other forms of Financial Aid are available, most students take out loans
- You should get 1000 hours experience, volunteer, shadow and/or work in a health setting
- Join Alpha Epsilon Delta, the pre-health professions honor society
- Most PA programs award a master's degree over about 27 months

PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT ADVISORS: Drs. Ken Crawford and Kerrie McDaniel, Biology; Mr. Christopher Crutchfield, OCSE