

Admissions Requirements and Statistics for Physician Assistant Programs, PA

Physician Assistant Program

- Physician Assistants perform general medical tasks, such as taking medical histories, examining and treating patients, and ordering lab tests and x-rays.
- They also can prescribe medication and treat minor injuries.
- They are licensed to practice medicine with physician supervision.
- The program began with former Navy hospital corpsmen and Army combat medics from the Vietnam War, and was based upon the fast-track training of medical doctors during World War II.
- In the armed forces today, Physician Assistants are front-line medical providers and officers.

Physician Assistant Program Timeline:

- 2-3 years of graduate school leading to a Master Degree in Physician Assistant Studies
- After graduation physician's assistants will complete their board certification
- PA's are not required to complete a residency, but they may choose to do a formal residency in a specific field.

Admissions Test:

GRE (Graduate Record Examination) – a general graduate program admissions test

- Verbal section – 30 questions, multiple choice, scaled from 200-800
- Quantitative section – 28 questions, multiple choice, scaled from 200-800.
- Analytical writing section – 2 essays, graded from 0-6 in half-point increments

Suggested Studies (According to the American Academy of Physician Assistants)

Course requirements vary from school to school

Anatomy

Biological Sciences

Chemistry

College Math

Computer Sciences

English

Humanities/Psychology

Medical Terminology

Nutrition

Organic Chemistry

Physiology

Social Science

Statistics

Admissions information for MUSC in 2010:

-Early admissions or Regular admissions

-Admissions decisions are based on GPA, GRE score, letters of recommendation, interviews, previous accomplishments and character traits that are desirable in future PA's

-“ Class selection preference will be given to interviewees with direct "hands-on" patient care experience.

Additional value may be added to an applicant for experiences that demonstrate diversity of life experiences or extensive knowledge of health delivery, such as regional or international mission work, volunteer work with charitable or other health care support service, military service, proficiency with foreign language(s), health professional training or certifications, unique leadership positions, or biomedical research activities. “

-Prerequisites: 3 hours mathematics, 3 hours statistics, 8 hours General Chemistry, 3 hours Organic or Bio chemistry, 4 hours Biology, 4 hours anatomy, 4 hours physiology, 4 hours microbiology, 3 hours general psychology, 6 hours behavioral science, 12 hours humanities

Admissions information for East Carolina University in 2010:

- Prerequisites: one year of general chemistry, one year of anatomy and physiology, one semester of microbiology, one semester of statistics, one semester of psychology, one semester of genetics, and one semester of medical terminology.
- Admissions factors: GPA, GRE score, character traits, and clinical experience is recommended but not required
- In-state Tuition: \$17,955 (Preference is given to residents of North Carolina)
- Out-of-state Tuition: \$56,333 (must be from South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, or Virginia)

Admissions information for the Medical College of Georgia in 2010:

- Admissions factors: GPA, science GPA, GRE score, letters of recommendation, Georgia residence
- Required courses: General Psychology, one year Biology, one year General Chemistry, one semester Organic chemistry, one semester human anatomy and physiology, one semester microbiology, 3 hours of statistics, 3-4 hours of college-level mathematics
- 100-150 interviews for 40 slots
- out-of-state students are accepted, but preference is given to Georgia residents
- Clinical experience, volunteer work and exposure to the PA field is recommended
- Application due date is October 15th