



# PRE-PATHOLOGISTS' ASSISTANT PREPARATION

AT EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

NAME	
E NUMBER	
CATALOG	

SP20

A Pathologists' Assistant (PathA) is a highly trained, allied health professional who provides various services under the direction and supervision of a pathologist. Pathologists' Assistants interact with pathologists in a manner similar to physician's assistants in surgical and medical practice, carrying out their duties under the direction of their physicians. PathAs are academically and practically trained to provide accurate and timely processing of a variety of laboratory specimens, including the majority of pathological specimens. They must pass a national certifying examination (American Society for Clinical Pathology, or ASCP) which is open only to graduates of accredited PathA programs.

The PathA degree is a Masters-level degree based on a curriculum involving both classroom instruction and clinical rotations, usually requiring 20-24 months for degree completion.

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

This is a list of general requirements for admission to PathA programs. It does not include all requirements for a bachelor degree from EIU.

### CHEMISTRY\*: 12 HRS

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
<b>CHM 1310G</b> General Chemistry I	3		
<b>CHM 1315G</b> General Chemistry I Lab	1		
<b>CHM 1410G</b> General Chemistry II	3		
<b>CHM 1415G</b> General Chemistry II Lab	1		
<b>CHM 2440</b> Organic Chemistry I	3		
<b>CHM 2445</b> Organic Chemistry I Lab	1		

### BIOLOGY\*: 8 HRS

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
<b>BIO 1500</b> General Biology I	4		
<b>BIO 3300</b> Microbiology	4		

### REQUIRED OR HIGHLY RECOMMENDED (DEPENDING ON SCHOOL)

<b>BIO 1550G</b> General Biology II	4		
<b>BIO 2210</b> Anatomy & Physiology I	4		
<b>BIO 2220</b> Anatomy & Physiology II	4		
<b>BIO 3120</b> Molecular & Cellular Biology	4		
<b>BIO 3200</b> Genetics	4		
<b>BIO 3210</b> Immunology	4		
<b>BIO 3624</b> Histology	4		
<b>CHM 2840</b> Organic Chemistry II	3		
<b>CHM 2845</b> Organic Chemistry II Lab	1		
<b>CHM 3450</b> Biochemistry I	3		
<b>NUR 2613</b> Medical Terminology	3		
<b>PHI 2500G</b> Intro to Ethics	4		
<b>PHY 1151G</b> Principles of Physics I	3		
<b>PHY 1152G</b> Principles of Physics I Lab	1		

Therefore, students entering a PathA program have already completed a baccalaureate degree, usually in the sciences. The average entrant has competitive scores on the GRE, and has a minimum grade point average of 3.00/4.00. In addition to a competitive GRE score and GPA, some PathA programs require observation hours in anatomic pathology in various settings including surgical, forensic and laboratory settings. Attributes such as demonstrated caring attitude toward others, communication skills, emotional stability under stress and problem solving ability are important selection factors.

There are currently 10 NAACLS accredited PathA programs in America. It is very important when you begin your program to identify which programs you plan to apply and plot out their requirements accordingly.

### MATH\*: 9 HRS

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
<b>MAT 1271G</b> College Algebra	3		
<b>MAT 2110G*</b> Brief Calculus	3		
<b>MAT 2250G*</b> Elementary Statistics	4		

\* Additional prerequisite classes may be required. See Undergraduate Catalog.

† Recommended by some PathA Programs

**Departmental Exit interview required prior to graduation.**

## RESOURCES:

**American Association of Pathologists' Assistants** [www.pathassist.org](http://www.pathassist.org)

**University of Maryland**

[medschool.umaryland.edu/pathology/pa/app\\_pre.asp](http://medschool.umaryland.edu/pathology/pa/app_pre.asp)

**Wayne State University** [cphs.wayne.edu/program/apa-bs.php](http://cphs.wayne.edu/program/apa-bs.php)

**Rosalind Franklin University** [www.rosalindfranklin.edu/Default.aspx](http://www.rosalindfranklin.edu/Default.aspx)

**Duke University**

[pathology.duke.edu/academic-programs/pathologists-assistant-program](http://pathology.duke.edu/academic-programs/pathologists-assistant-program)

**Drexel University**

[drexel.edu/medicine/academics/graduate-school/pathologists-assistant-patha/](http://drexel.edu/medicine/academics/graduate-school/pathologists-assistant-patha/)

**West Virginia University** [medicine.hsc.wvu.edu/pa/](http://medicine.hsc.wvu.edu/pa/)

**Quinnipiac University** [www.quinnipiac.edu/](http://www.quinnipiac.edu/)

**Eastern Virginia Medical School** [www.evms.edu/education/masters\\_programs/pathologists\\_assistant\\_masters\\_program/](http://www.evms.edu/education/masters_programs/pathologists_assistant_masters_program/)

**Loma Linda University** [medicine.llu.edu/education/pathologists-assistantprogram](http://medicine.llu.edu/education/pathologists-assistantprogram)

**University of Toledo** [www.utoledo.edu/med/depts/path/PA%20Program.html](http://www.utoledo.edu/med/depts/path/PA%20Program.html)

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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