



Pre-Physician Assistant Preparation

Physician assistants (PAs) practice medicine under the supervision of licensed physicians, and they are qualified to perform approximately 80% of duties commonly done by primary care physicians. PAs, however, practice in almost all health care settings and in many medical and surgical specialties. They must pass a national certifying examination which is open only to graduates of accredited PA programs.

The PA degree is a Masters-level degree based on a curriculum involving both classroom instruction and clinical rotations. Therefore, most students entering a PA program have already completed a baccalaureate degree, usually in the sciences. The average entrant has had approximately four years of health care experience (experience is required by many programs), competitive scores on the GRE, and has a grade point average of 3.40/4.00. Attributes such as demonstrated caring attitude toward others, communication skills, emotional stability under stress and problem solving ability are important selection factors.

Typical Requirements			
English		Biology	
ENG 1001G	3	_____	Comp & Language
ENG 1002G	3	_____	Comp & Literature
CMN 1310G	3	_____	Intro to Speech
Chemistry		Behavioral/Social Sciences	
CHM 1310G	3	_____	Gen Chem
CHM 1315G	1	_____	Gen Chem Lab
CHM 1410	3	_____	Gen Chem II
CHM 1415	1	_____	Gen Chem II Lab
CHM 2440	3	_____	Org Chem
CHM 2445	1	_____	Org Chem Lab
CPR certification		Math	
Medical Terminology		MAT 1330	2 _____ Trigonometry
		MAT 1400	3 _____ Pre Calculus
		MAT 1441	5 _____ Calculus
		MAT 2250G	4 _____ Statistics
		BIO 1100	4 _____ Gen Bio
		BIO 1300G	4 _____ Animal Diversity
		BIO 2001G	4 _____ Human Physiology
		BIO 2200	4 _____ Anatomy
		BIO 3300	4 _____ Microbiology

Each PA program has different requirements it is very important to identify early which programs you plan to apply and plot out their requirements accordingly

<p>INFORMATIVE WEBSITES:</p> <p>Association of Physician Assistant Programs - http://www.aapa.org</p> <p>Physician Assistant Education Association – www.paeaonline.org</p> <p>Midwestern University - http://www.midwestern.edu/x477.xml.</p> <p>Northwestern University – http://www.familymedicine.northwestern.edu/pa_program/</p> <p>Rosalind Franklin University - http://www.rosalindfranklin.edu/Default.aspx,</p> <p>Rush University - http://www.rushu.rush.edu/pa-program</p> <p>Southern Illinois University - http://mccoy.lib.siu.edu/~paprogram/</p>	<p>WHAT MAKES YOU UNIQUE FROM OTHER APPLICANTS?</p> <p>HEALTHCARE EXPERIENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteer or work: hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, assisted living centers, crisis nursery, rehab centers are a few examples. Working in an ER, ambulance rides are excellent opportunities Shadow physicians assistants, visit schools etc.... <p>LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE</p> <p>Physician assistants are leaders in many cases their communities certainly in their office,. Campus, church, and community organizations provide excellent leadership opportunities.</p>
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Contact Information: Pamela LeVine, Pre-Health Professions Advisor
 Eastern Illinois University, 2058 Life Science Bldg, 600 Lincoln Avenue
 Charleston, IL 61920 Phone: 217-581-3126 Email: plevine@eiu.edu