



PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PREPARATION

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
AT EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

LANGUAGE: 9 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
ENG 1001G Composition & Language	3		
ENG 1002G Composition & Literature	3		
CMN 1310G Speech Communication	3		

BIOLOGY: 20 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
BIO 1500 General Biology I	4		
BIO 3120 Molecular & Cellular Biology	4		
BIO 2210 Anatomy & Physiology I	4		
BIO 2220 Anatomy & Physiology II	4		
BIO 3300 Microbiology	4		

SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE: 9 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
PSY 1879G Intro to Psychology	3		
PSY 1838G Intro to Sociology	3		
PHI 2500G Intro to Ethics (Suggested)	3		

CHEMISTRY: 16 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
CHM 1310G General Chemistry I	3		
CHM 1315G General Chemistry I Lab	1		
CHM 1410G General Chemistry II	3		
CHM 1415G General Chemistry II Lab	1		
CHM 2440 Organic Chemistry I	3		
CHM 2445 Organic Chemistry I Lab	1		
2/10 area schools require the following courses			
CHM 2840 Organic Chemistry II	3		
CHM 2845 Organic Chemistry Lab II	1		

PHYSICS: 4 HRS required by some PA schools

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
PHY 1151G Physics I	3		
PHY 1152G Physics I Lab	1		

MATH: 9-12 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
MAT 1271G College Algebra	3		
BIO 4750 Statistic Anyl of Sci Data	3		
OR MAT 2250G Elementary Statistics	4		
MAT 2110G Brief Calculus	3		
OR MAT 1441G Calculus I	5		

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- CPR
- Medical Terminology
- Departmental Exit Interview (final semester)

NAME	
E NUMBER	
CATALOG	
AS/AA/ASA DEGREE	
TRANSFER HOURS	

F17

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 preferred PA degree is at the 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 see below), 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.

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.

WHAT MAKES YOU UNIQUE FROM OTHER APPLICANTS?

Healthcare Experience: Needs to be hands-on, Hours/Months of experience often specified by particular programs

- 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.
- Certified Nurses' Aide/EMT
- Military medic/Corpsman, Surgical Technician, Radiological Technician, Certified Laboratory Technician, Certified Pharmacy Technician, Phlebotomist, Athletic Trainer, Certified Physical Therapy Assistant
- Shadow physicians assistants, visit schools etc....

Leadership Experience

Physician Assistants are leaders in their communities and demonstrated leadership skills are a must. Campus, church, and community organizations provide excellent leadership opportunities.

RESOURCES:

Association of Physician Assistant Programs www.aapa.org

Physician Assistant Education Association www.paeaonline.org

Midwestern University www.midwestern.edu/x477.xml

Northwestern University www.familymedicine.northwestern.edu/pa_program/

Rosalind Franklin University www.rosalindfranklin.edu/Default.aspx

Rush University www.rushu.rush.edu/pa-program

Southern Illinois University www.siumed.edu/paprogram/

CONTACT INFORMATION:

PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONS ADVISING

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BE PREPARED: UPDATE THIS FORM BEFORE MEETING WITH YOUR ADVISOR