



Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program

Oregon Health & Science University

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The OHSU Physician Assistant Program is a 26-month, full-time course of study leading to a Master of Physician Assistant Studies degree. The program annually accepts a class of 42 students each year and is accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA).^{*} Please refer to the program web site at www.ohsu.edu/pa for additional information.

Program Prerequisites

To be considered for admission to the OHSU PA Program, applicants must have:

- A bachelor's degree
- Specific prerequisite courses (must receive a grade of C or above in prerequisite courses)
- Health care experience

Prerequisite	Requirement	Additional information
Overall GPA	Minimum 3.0	Minimum science (BCP) GPA of 3.0 is preferred
Bachelor's degree	Any major; complete by fall term prior to matriculation	
Overall BCP credits	Minimum 30 semester/40 quarter credits	Includes science prerequisites listed below
Human A&P with lab	2 semesters/3 quarters of combined A&P with lab OR 1 semester anatomy with lab and 1 semester physiology with lab	Must be complete within 5 years of planned matriculation* *See website for refresher requirement details if coursework is older than 5 years
Microbiology with lab	One course with lab ; minimum 3 semester or quarter credits	
Biology	Two courses; minimum 3 semester or quarter credits each	Fulfilled through any combination of: General/intro biology, cell biology, molecular biology, or genetics
Chemistry	Two courses; minimum 3 semester or quarter credits each	Fulfilled through any combination of: General/intro chemistry, organic chemistry, inorganic chemistry, biochemistry
General or Developmental Psychology	Minimum 3 semester or quarter credits	
Statistics or Biostatistics	Minimum 3 semester or quarter credits	

Prerequisite coursework is subject to change; refer to the OHSU PA Program website for the most up-to-date information

International Applicants

Please see our website for specific requirements if you have received your degree outside of the US/Canada.

^{*}The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) has granted **Accreditation-Continued** status to the **OHSU Physician Assistant Program** sponsored by **Oregon Health & Science University**. Accreditation-Continued is an accreditation status granted when a currently accredited program is in compliance with the ARC-PA *Standards*. Accreditation remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the *Standards*. The approximate date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA is **September 2025**. The review date is contingent upon continued compliance with the Accreditation *Standards* and ARC-PA policy.

Highly Recommended Coursework

Although we accept any level coursework to fulfill the prerequisites, upper division (300-400 level) biology and chemistry courses are highly recommended. Level of specific courses will vary by institution.

- Genetics
- Biochemistry
- Pharmacology
- Pathophysiology
- Immunology
- Other course that may be beneficial to a future health care provider (epidemiology, medical terminology, public health, etc.)
- Spanish language course(s)

Health Care Experience

Minimum 2,000 hours (about one year full time) of experience in a responsible health care position. Preference is given to those with direct patient health care experience. Hours are calculated as of the date an application is submitted. Some examples of health care experience include:

- Medical Assistant
- Certified Nursing Assistant (I or II)
- EMT
- Paramedic
- Surgery/OR Tech
- Emergency Room Tech
- Scribe
- Hospital Corpsman
- Phlebotomist
- PT Aide
- Clinical Research Assistant
- Peace Corps

The exact amount of direct patient care included in a position will be evaluated by the OHSU PA Program admissions committee at the time of application and will be based off of the description provided in the CASPA application.

Admissions Process Timeline

- Applications are available through the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) beginning in late April each year. Application submission deadline is **August 1**.
- Deadline: CASPA application with all supporting materials (official transcripts, letters of recommendation, etc.) must be **verified** by CASPA on or before **August 1**. Transcripts for courses in progress at the time of application may be received after the deadline. You may need to be prepared to submit your application 3-4 weeks ahead of the deadline to ensure it is verified in time.
- On-campus interviews: September – December
- Class selection: Rolling admissions decisions with final decisions by January.
- Program begins late June.

Estimated Costs

Figures provided are estimates for 2020-21 and are subject to change.

Tuition/Program Fees	\$10,503/qtr (\$94,527 - 9 qtrs total)
University Fees	\$599/qtr (\$5,391 total)
Major Medical **	\$1,575/qtr (\$14,175 total)
Dental Insurance **	\$118/qtr (\$1,062 total)
Books	\$1,250 (annually)
Laptop Computer	\$2,000 (one time)
Medical Equipment	\$900 (one time)
Memberships	\$145 (one time)

All potential applicants are encouraged to apply for federal financial aid through <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/> and visit the OHSU Financial Aid Office website <http://www.ohsu.edu/finaid/> for additional information.

***All students are required to demonstrate proof of coverage with major medical insurance and dental insurance at levels required by the University. A student may choose their own personal insurance plan as long as it is comparable to that offered by the University.*

Information in this document is reviewed annually and is subject to change pending final approval by the OHSU Board of Directors. Updated June 26, 2020