

PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT ADVISEMENT WORKSHEET 2020-2021
Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences - Tulsa

University of Central Oklahoma
Health Professions Advisor
Department of Biology
200 Howell Hall
(405) 974-5733

Applicants must have earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university prior to matriculation. All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of "B" or better. No more than one science and one non-science prerequisite can be in progress after December 31 prior to matriculation at the OSU-CHS PA program.

UCO Courses that Meet Required Courses for OSU-CHS (Check Prerequisites):

PSY 1103	General Psychology
PSY XXXX	Psychology elective, (i.e. PSY 2103 Social Psychology or PSY 2833 Developmental Psychology)
MATH 1513	College Algebra OR higher level math classes (i.e. MATH 2153 BioCalculus)
CHEM 1103	General Chemistry I. <i>Concurrent enrollment in CHEM 1112 is required.</i>
CHEM 1112	General Chemistry I Recitation/ Laboratory
CHEM 1223	General Chemistry II. <i>Concurrent enrollment in CHEM 1232 is required.</i>
CHEM 1232	General Chemistry II Recitation/ Laboratory
BIO 2504	Human Anatomy and Laboratory
BIO 2604	Human Physiology and Laboratory. <i>Concurrent enrollment in BIO 2604L is required.</i>
BIO 2604L	Human Physiology Laboratory
BIO 3054	Microbiology for Majors and Laboratory OR BIO 2314 Introduction to Microbiology and Lab
*BIO 2102	Bio. & Med. Terminology (recommended)

At least 2 semesters of 3000-4000 level science courses (Check Prerequisites):

BIO 3303 Genetics
BIO 4515 Path Micro & Lab
BIO 4134 Dev. Biology & Lab
*CHEM 3403 Biochemistry I (recommended)
BIO 3414 Histology & Lab
BIO 4414 Virology & Lab
BIO 4134 Developmental Biology and Lab
BIO 4774 Parasitology and Lab
BIO 4622 Methods of Human Dissection

Many of these courses above have prerequisites, so please check before making your course plan. If you have any questions regarding prerequisites, please meet with an academic advisor in the Nigh Advisement Center. If you have specific requests regarding prerequisites being waived, please contact the Biology department chair. AP/CLEP credits can be counted for pre-requisites if the credit has been accepted by UCO and is listed on the transcript.

Admission Requirements:

Admission to the program requires completion of prerequisite course work and submission of all application materials. The department admissions committee will review application materials and may require additional information from each applicant. Successful completion of minimum admission requirements does not assure that an interview will be granted. Interview invitations do not insure acceptance to the program. Applicants are considered only for the summer semester, with classes beginning in **July**. The application deadline is **October 1** for admission to the next class entering the following July. To be considered for admission to the Physician Associate Program an applicant must:

1. Complete application via CASPA
2. Complete prerequisite coursework at a regionally accredited university
 - a. No more than 1 science and 1 non-science course may be in progress at the time of application submission.
 - b. All prerequisite courses must be completed by **December 31st** of the year of application.
3. Obtain a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university before matriculation.
4. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
5. Submit a personal Statement.

6. 3 letters of recommendation
 - a. Recommend at least one letter from a healthcare professional
7. Complete the GRE exam within the past 3 years. Scores must be forwarded to CASPA.
8. Complete CASPer exam. Scores must be forwarded to CASPA.

Application Procedure:

The Admissions Committee thoroughly review all applicants' information. Preference will be given to:

1. Previous healthcare experience.
 - a. While healthcare experience is not required, it is highly recommended.
 - b. Direct patient care is encouraged before applying to the program.
 - c. Shadowing a PA in practice also provides benefit.
2. Community service experience.
 - a. Applicants who are active participants in their communities, especially in rural and underserved populations.
3. Residing in rural/underserved Oklahoma
4. Oklahoma residents

AT OSU-CHS, applicants must have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

OSU-CHS Program is a 28 month program, consisting of thirteen (13) months of didactic training and fifteen (15) months of clinical training. At the end of the program, students earn a Masters of Science degree in Physician Assistant Studies.

PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

The physician assistant (P.A.) is a professional member of the health care team qualified by academic and clinical education to provide a broad range of patient care services under the supervision of a licensed physician. P.A.s are formally trained to perform many of the routine but time-consuming tasks physicians usually perform. They take medical histories, perform physical examinations, order laboratory tests and x-rays, make preliminary diagnosis, and give inoculations. They also treat minor injuries by suturing, splinting and casting. In nearly all states of the U.S. except for Kentucky, physician assistants may prescribe medications (each state has their own set of restrictions). P.A.s always work under the supervision of a physician. The proximity of supervision; however, depends upon the locality. For example, some P.A.s work in rural or inner city clinics where a physician may be available only one or two days each week and make "house calls" or go on "hospital rounds" to check patients and report back to the physician. P.A.s assist physicians in specialty areas, such as family practice, internal medicine, general and thoracic surgery, emergency medicine, and pediatrics. P.A.s specializing in surgery, provide pre- and post-operative care and may work as first or second assistants during major surgery.

OPPORTUNITIES: Employment opportunities are expected to be excellent for physician assistants, particularly in areas or settings such as rural and inner city clinics that have difficulty attracting enough physicians. Physicians and institutions are expected to employ more P.A.s to provide primary care and assist with medical and surgical procedures, thus freeing physicians to perform more complicated and revenue-generating tasks. The public and third-party payers also seem to approve of P.A.s use. For example, Medicare now allows physicians to bill the government for services provided by their P.A.s to hospital and nursing home patients. The growth of HMOs and group medical practices should also lead to more jobs for P.A.s.

STARTING SALARIES: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national median salary for P.A.s is approximately **\$112,260**.

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For more information about PA's and PA programs:

www.aapa.org

www.paeaonline.org/index.php?ht=d/sp/i/25515/pid/25515

<http://www.arc-pa.org/accreditation/accredited-programs/>

For PA information for the OSU-CHS PA Program visit: <https://health.okstate.edu/pa/index.html>

To apply to OSU-CHS and other programs, use CASPA: [CASPA / Applicant Login Page Section \(liaisoncas.com\)](https://caspa.org/)

Contact information: phone: (405) 918-8449 email: physician.assistant@okstate.edu