

# Master of Physician Assistant Studies Degree Program



**Established 1972**

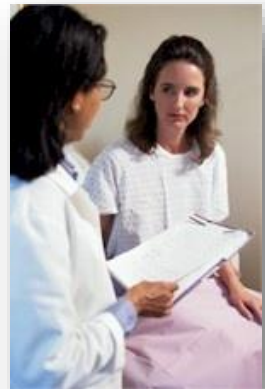
# Definition

## Physician Assistants:

- A PA is a medical provider who is nationally certified and state licensed to practice medicine. Today there are more than 100,000 certified PAs in the United States.

# Physician Assistant Roles

- Take medical histories
- Perform physical examinations
- Order and interpret diagnostic studies
- Prescribe medication
- Develop and implement treatment plans
- Confer with physicians and other clinicians
- Provide patient education



# National Demographics

- Approximately 100,000 PAs in clinical practice in 2014
- ~8,000 PAs in Texas (2016)
- 68% female
- 25.5 PAs/100K population in TX (ranks 38)



# Employment Outlook

- Among “5 Fast Growing Jobs Worth a Career Change in USA Today (8.24.16)
- Rated “Best Career for Millennials” by Forbes.com in 2016
- PA: Best Jobs For 2016 And Beyond (AOL)
- Forbes.com rated the Master of Physician Assistant Studies the best master’s degree in the U.S. in 2015



# Program Requirements

## **Application Deadline**

September 1<sup>st</sup>

## **Admitting Semester**

Summer (May)

## **Program Length**

30 continuous months

**Required minimum overall GPA: 3.0**

**Required minimum science GPA: 3.0**



# Admission Requirements

- Required courses must be completed by the date the application is submitted; A U.S. or Canadian-acquired Bachelor's degree must be obtained by May in the year of enrollment.
- Professional or volunteer hands-on patient care experience strongly recommended.
- Grade of "C" or higher in all required courses.
- Graduate Record Exam (GRE). The GRE is not required of applicants who have a U.S. acquired bachelor's and master's degree or higher.
- All prerequisite courses must have been completed within the past 10 years.

# Required Courses for Admission

- \*Human Anatomy/lab=4 semester credit hours
- \*Human Physiology/lab=4 semester credit hours
- Genetics=3 semester credit hours
- Psychology=3 semester credit hours
- \*General Chemistry/lab=8 semester credit hours
- \*Organic Chemistry/lab=4 semester credit hours
- \*Microbiology/lab=4 semester credit hours
- College Algebra (or higher)=3 semester credit hours  
(Statistics is acceptable)
  - \*For Science Majors





# Course Deadlines

- Required courses and those in progress must be completed by **the time of application is submitted.**
- All transcripts must be received by **September 1.**
- All other requirements (application, official GRE scores, letters of reference) remain **September 1.**

# Considerations

- Quality and quantity of academic preparation
- Health care experience
- Awards, honors, service, leadership
- Letters of reference
- Personal statement/Essay
- Interview for most competitive

# Competitive Applicants

- Bachelor's degree with greater than 50 semester hours in science courses
- Greater than 3.25 overall & science GPAs
- Hands-on patient care experience
- Evidence of Leadership
- Superior references
- Mature, insightful essay
- Evidence of community service
- Superior people skills



# What We're Looking For

Our students demonstrate....

A strong work ethic

Professionalism

Conscientiousness

Maturity

Commitment

Evidence of Service

Humility

# Admissions Process

- Early admissions confirmation offered to the most competitive candidates following interview dates.
- Early application is strongly encouraged. Do not wait until the deadline if application is otherwise complete.



# Class of 2019 Applicant Profile as of 4/21/17

1828 verified applications

162 interviewed

54 enrolling

40 women/14 men offered seats

5 non-Texas resident

# Class of 2019 Student Profile as of 4/21/17

Average age=24

Average Science GPA=3.70

Average Overall GPA=3.65

Average GRE (V & Q)=307

# Class of 2018 Applicant Profile

1564 verified applications

172 interviewed

48 enrolled

39 women/9 men offered seats

1 non-Texas resident



# Class of 2018 Student Profile

Average age=24

Average Science GPA=3.66

Average Overall GPA=3.66

Average GRE (V & Q)=311

# Class of 2017 Applicant Profile

1549 applicants

142 interviewed

42 enrolled

33 women/9 men

1 non-Texas resident

# Class of 2017 Student Profile

Average age=25

Average Science GPA=3.65

Average Overall GPA=3.68

Average GRE (V & Q)=309

# Student Attrition

- UTSW is consistently below the national average

**Total** (U.S. average, by percentage)

Graduated	94.1
Decelerated	3.0
Withdrawn/Dismissed	2.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

# Tuition Academic Year 2016/2017

## **Texas Resident:**

\$302.73/semester hour x 112 hours=\$33,905.76

## **Non-Texas Resident:**

\$710.73/semester hour x 112 hours=\$79,601.76

## **Fees:**

\$3,500 over 30 months

Includes: Student services

Medical services

Computer usage

Malpractice

BLS/ACLS course fee

Anatomy lab

Graduation

Books



# Tuition Plus Fees

## Texas Resident:

\$37,406 over 30 months or \$1,247/month  
(\$14,964/year)

## Non-Texas Resident

\$83,102 over 30 months or \$2,770/month  
(\$33,240/year)



# Earnings

Physician Assistant Income  
(2014 NCCPA Survey released 2016)

National average

\$98,387/year

Texas average

\$104,633



# Summer Semester 1

**13 Semester Hours Total**

Human Anatomy Lecture

Human Anatomy Lab

Human Physiology

Introduction to Human Neuroscience

Professional Practice Issues I





# Fall Semester

**16 Semester Hours Total**

Clinical Medicine I

Integration Skills I

Introduction to Pathology

Patient Evaluation I

Pharmacology I

Professional Development



# Spring Semester

**16 Semester Hours Total**

Clinical Medicine II

Clinical Prevention & Population Health

Evidence Based Medicine

Integration Skills II

Patient Evaluation II

Pharmacology II

Professional Development



**Summer Semester 2**  
**13 Semester Hours Total**  
**Clinical Medicine III**  
**Clinical Skills**  
**Patient Evaluation III**  
**Psychiatry**



# Didactic Highlights

Evidence Based Medicine

Full Cadaver Dissection

Integrated Blocks of Instruction

PACKRAT Exam

PANCE Review Course

Professional Practice Issues

Simulated Patient Lab

Small Group Tutorials



# Clinical Rotations

## **Internal Medicine/Hospitalist: 8 weeks**

Parkland Health & Hospital System, Clements University Hospital, Baylor Scott & White Medical Center

- Hospitalist inpatient teams led by staff attending physicians
- Students housing provided at Scott & White



# Clinical Rotations

## **Emergency Medicine: 4 Weeks**

- Clements University Hospital
- Parkland Health & Hospital System
- Presbyterian Hospital
- Methodist Medical Center
- Charlton Methodist Hospital
- Medical Center of Plano
- 4 weeks ER: 10 twelve-hour shifts



# Clinical Rotations

## **Surgery: 4 weeks**

- Parkland Health & Hospital System
- Zale Lipshy University Hospital
- Clements University Hospital
- Dallas VA Hospital



# Clinical Rotations

## Pediatrics: 4 weeks

- Private practice settings





# Clinical Rotations

## **Obstetrics and Gynecology: 4 weeks**

- Clements University Hospital
  - 2 weeks inpatient Obstetrics
- Community Practices
  - 2 weeks outpatient Gynecology



# Clinical Rotations

## Family Medicine: 8 weeks

- Multiple private practice sites
- Outpatient-based





# Clinical Rotations

## Infectious Diseases: 4 weeks

- Parkland Health & Hospital System
- Dallas Veterans Medical Center
- Clements University Hospital



# Clinical Rotations

## **Elective: 4 weeks**

- Approximately 25 to choose from
- Popular choices include dermatology, surgery specialties, emergency medicine
- International possibilities



# Clinical Rotations

## **Primary Care Preceptorship: 8 weeks**

- Designated primary care specialty setting of either Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics or Women's Health

# Clinical Highlights

Balanced Mix of Private, Public, Inpatient &  
Outpatient

Internationally Renowned Preceptors

Job Fair

Labor & Delivery

Resume Workshop

Ten Rotations Over Four Semesters

# Parkland Health & Hospital System

- Internationally recognized trauma and burn centers
- Specialty ER's in Medicine, Surgery, Psychiatry, and OB-Gyn
- 40,570 admissions per year
- 862 beds



# Parkland Hospital



# William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital



# Ranking

Out of 154 Programs Ranked in 2015

UT Southwestern: 15th



# PANCE

## Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination

- Always inquire about first-time pass rates
- Our first-time pass rates are:
  - 2016-100%
  - 2015-100%
  - 2014-100%
  - 2013-100%
  - 2012-100%
  - 2011-100%
  - 2010-100%
  - 2009-100%
  - 2008-100%
  - 2007-100%

# Program Accreditation



*Accreditation Review Commission on Education  
for the Physician Assistant, Inc.*

Accreditation required for PA licensure  
and certification

UT Southwestern has maintained  
continuing accreditation since 1973,  
with no adverse accreditation actions

# Application Service

- Web-based application system sponsored by the Association of PA Programs.
- Allows applicants to apply to any number of participating PA programs.
- Avoid the deadline; early application recommended.
- Apply to several programs if being a PA is your ultimate goal. Applying to only one program is not advised.
- <https://caspa.liasoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>
- CASPA Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/CASPAOnlineApp](http://www.facebook.com/CASPAOnlineApp)
- Video instructions for entering coursework in the CASPA application:  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JPXppeYKbZQ&feature=player\\_detailpage](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JPXppeYKbZQ&feature=player_detailpage)



Central **Application**  
Service for **Physician Assistants**

# CASPA Application Outcomes

- 25% chance of acceptance if only applying to one program
- 49% chance of acceptance if applying to 12 programs
  - (no additional advantage was noted if applying to more than 12 programs)

**CASPA**

Central **Application**  
Service for **Physician Assistants**

# Application Cost

## Number of Designated CASPA Programs

1. \$177
2. \$228
3. \$279
4. \$330
5. \$381



Central **Application**  
Service for **Physician Assistants**



# Web Site

UT Southwestern PA Department Home Page

[www.utsouthwestern.edu/pa](http://www.utsouthwestern.edu/pa)

catalog, course descriptions, application  
information, general information



# Other Sites

American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA)

[www.aapa.org](http://www.aapa.org)

Texas Academy of Physician Assistants (TAPA)

[www.tapa.org](http://www.tapa.org)

Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA)

[www.paeaonline.org](http://www.paeaonline.org)

Scribe.ology

[www.scribeology.com](http://www.scribeology.com)

PhysAssist Scribes

[www.iamscribe.com](http://www.iamscribe.com)

# Disclosure

- PA education is intense, fast-paced, and difficult for the duration of enrollment
- The expectation of having life balance as a PA student is often not realistic-that comes with the end point-graduation and employment
- It is very important to have all support systems in place and all personal health conditions well-managed prior to starting the curriculum

# UT Southwestern Faculty

- Carolyn Bradley-Guidry, MPAS, PA-C
- Veronica Coleman, MPAS, PA-C
- Laurette Dekat, MD, MPH
- Kassidy James, MHS, PA-C
- P. Eugene Jones, Ph.D., PA-C
- John Kane, MPAS, PA-C
- Tiffany Kindratt, MPH
- David Klocko, MPAS, PA-C
- Venetia Orcutt, MBA, Ph.D., PA-C
- Daytheon Sturges, MPAS, PA-C
- Jeffrey Williams, MPAS, PA-C



# PA Department Faculty



# UT Southwestern Staff

- Sarah Garza, Education Assistant
- JoAnn Hing, Education Coordinator
- Isela Perez, Education Coordinator
- Donesia Rector, Education Coordinator
- Heather Salinas, Program Coordinator
- Natalie Weaver, Senior Administrative Associate
- Yolanda Zambrano, Administrative Assistant



Staff

# PA Department Staff



Questions?

**UT Southwestern**

Medical Center

Department of Physician

Assistant Studies