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 1st

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Decelerated</td>
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<td>Withdrawn/Dismissed</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
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(U.S. average, by percentage)
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

Psychiatry: 4 weeks

- Hospital and Correctional Facility based
  - 2 weeks inpatient
  - 2 weeks outpatient
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
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 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.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login](https://caspa.liaisoncas.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)
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)
Application Cost

Number of Designated CASPA Programs

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

UT Southwestern PA Department Home Page

www.utsouthwestern.edu/pa

catalog, course descriptions, application information, general information
Other Sites

American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA)
  www.aapa.org

Texas Academy of Physician Assistants (TAPA)
  www.tapa.org

Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA)
  www.paeaeonline.org

Scribe.ology
  www.scribeology.com

PhysAssist Scribes
  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
PA Department Staff
Questions?

UT Southwestern Medical Center
Department of Physician Assistant Studies