UT Southwestern School of Health Professions Success in Meeting Program Goals:

1. To exceed the U.S. national average first time pass rate on the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE).

The UTSW PA Program’s pass rate and comparison with the US national mean of first-time takers for the last four years is illustrated below. Of the 311 program graduates who have taken the PANCE over the past 5 years, there have been seven exam failures for first-time takers. Qualitative data indicated that all program graduates felt the program prepared them well for the exam. A common theme amongst the graduates failing the PANCE across all cohorts was anxiety, which they all believe impacted their overall performance.

2. To provide student clinical education opportunities in diverse and medically underserved areas/populations.

100% of students in Cohorts 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 completed at least one supervised clinical practice experience in medically underserved areas/populations up to a maximum of seven unique SCPEs across all cohorts. Qualitative data from student exit interviews show that students felt well prepared to provide care to a diverse population.

3. To demonstrate excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service among faculty.

Faculty Scholarship: The program defines “faculty scholarship” as participation in scholarly activities that lead to the development of manuscripts for submissions/publications, grant submissions/awards, and/or oral/poster presentations. The MPAS Program exceeded benchmark for manuscript submissions/publications, grants, and presentations for FY2021 and FY2023. The MPAS Program met benchmark for manuscript submissions/publications in FY2022, but did not meet or exceed the program’s benchmark for grants in FY2022.
Faculty leadership and service: This can entail service to the institution through committee membership or committee leadership, internal and external to the institution. All MPAS faculty met or exceeded the program-defined benchmark of 100% of faculty involvement in a minimum of two committees in the MPAS program, SHP, UTSW, or external to UTSW for FY2021 and thus far in FY2022.

4. Provide longitudinal educational experiences in evidence-based medicine (EBM) and quality improvement and patient safety (QI/PS).

The program is successful in its implementation of EBM and QI/PS longitudinally across the curriculum, as illustrated below. Graduating student feedback on the Student Exit Interview for Cohorts 2019-2021 indicates that the program’s curriculum provided sufficient breadth and depth in the interpretation and application of medical literature to patient care.