DEFINITION

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS/ASSOCIATES:

• 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/ASSOCIATE 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
MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES PROGRAM IS TO:

• EXCEL IN THE ART AND SCIENCE OF PA EDUCATION.

• PROMOTE INTER-PROFESSIONAL PRIMARY HEALTH CARE DELIVERY TO A DIVERSE AND DYNAMIC POPULATION TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES.

• FOSTER CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION.

• FOSTER A DEDICATION TO EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE, QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND PATIENT SAFETY.

• CULTIVATE A COMMITMENT TO FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENT WELLNESS.

• ENCOURAGE LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, AND EXCELLENCE AMONG OUR FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, AND GRADUATES.
NATIONAL & STATE DEMOGRAPHICS

- APPROXIMATELY 158,470 CERTIFIED PAS
- ~12,000+ PAS IN TEXAS
- ~10,345 CERTIFIED PAS IN TEXAS
- ~9,610 LICENSED PAS IN TEXAS
- 70.1% FEMALE
- 35.0 PAS/100K POPULATION IN TX (RANKS 42)
- 6.6% OF TOTAL PAS IN THE U.S
- IN 2021, THERE WERE 48 CERTIFIED PAS PER 100,000 POPULATION IN THE U.S., COMPARED TO 37 IN 2017.
- ARC-PA ESTIMATES THAT THE NUMBER OF PA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS WILL GROW FROM 282 IN MARCH OF 2022 TO 317 BY 2024, THUS INCREASING THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY JOIN THE CERTIFIED PA WORKFORCE.
EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

2023 U.S. NEWS RANKINGS

• #2 IN BEST HEALTH CARE JOBS
• #4 IN THE 100 BEST JOBS
• #4 IN BEST STEM JOBS

• FORBES.COM RATED THE MASTER OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES THE TOP 10 BEST MASTER’S DEGREE IN THE U.S.

• HIGHEST PAYING JOBS NATIONAL MEDIAN BASE SALARY: $121,530
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.

• PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE INTERVIEWED FOR OUR PROGRAM FOR TWO CYCLES AND HAVE NOT BEEN OFFERED ACCEPTANCE, WILL NOT BE REVIEWED FOR A THIRD APPLICATION CYCLE.
REQUIRED COURSES FOR ADMISSION

- *HUMAN ANATOMY/LAB=4 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
- *HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY/LAB=4 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
- *GENERAL CHEMISTRY/LAB=8 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
- *ORGANIC CHEMISTRY/LAB=4 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
- *MICROBIOLOGY/LAB=4 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
- GENETICS=3 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
- PSYCHOLOGY=3 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
- STATISTICS=3 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
- *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

ADAPTABILITY

TOLERANCE OF AMBIGUITY
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 2026 APPLICANT PROFILE

2616 REVIEWED APPLICATIONS
165 INTERVIEWED
57 ENROLLED
46 WOMEN/11 MEN
1 NON-TEXAS RESIDENT
CLASS OF 2026 STUDENT PROFILE

AVERAGE AGE=24.8
AVERAGE SCIENCE GPA=3.60
(SCIENCE RANGE 3.16 TO 4.00)
AVERAGE OVERALL GPA=3.70
AVERAGE GRE (V & Q)=304
(QUANTITATIVE RANGE 143 TO 162)
CLASS OF 2025 APPLICANT PROFILE

2429 VERIFIED APPLICATIONS
162 INTERVIEWED
56 ENROLLED
41 WOMEN/15 MEN
6 NON-TEXAS RESIDENT
CLASS OF 2025 STUDENT PROFILE

AVERAGE AGE=24
AVERAGE SCIENCE GPA=3.69
(SCIENCE RANGE 3.24 TO 4.00)
AVERAGE OVERALL GPA=3.74
AVERAGE GRE (V & Q)=303
(QUANTITATIVE RANGE 138 TO 167)
CLASS OF 2024 APPLICANT PROFILE

2380 REVIEWED APPLICATIONS

174 INTERVIEWED

60 ENROLLED

45 WOMEN / 15 MEN

6 NON-TEXAS RESIDENT
CLASS OF 2024 STUDENT PROFILE

AVERAGE AGE=25
AVERAGE SCIENCE GPA=3.62
(SCIENCE RANGE 3.05 TO 4.00)
AVERAGE OVERALL GPA=3.65
AVERAGE GRE (V & Q)=302
(QUANTITATIVE RANGE 140 TO 165)
TUITION ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025

TEXAS RESIDENT:
$366.00/SEMESTER HOUR X 112 HOURS=$40,992.00

NON-TEXAS RESIDENT:
$786.00/SEMESTER HOUR X 112 HOURS=$88,032.00

FEES:
$6,143 OVER 30 MONTHS
INCLUDES: STUDENT SERVICES FEE
MEDICAL SERVICE FEE
COMPUTER USAGE FEE
MALPRACTICE FEE
BCLS/ACLS COURSE FEE
SIM CENTER FEE
SUTURE KITS
ANATOMY LAB
LAB FEE
GRADUATION FEE
TUITION ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025
INCIDENTALS

COMPUTER=$2500
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT=$700
LAB COATS=$80
BOOKS=$800

TOTAL=$4,080
TUITION PLUS FEES

TEXAS RESIDENT:
$47,135.00 OVER 30 MONTHS OR
$1,571.17/MONTH ($18,854.00 YEAR)

NON-TEXAS RESIDENT
$94,175.00 OVER 30 MONTHS OR
$3,139.17/MONTH ($37,670.00/YEAR)
EARNINGS

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT INCOME

NATIONAL AVERAGE IN 2021

$119,460/YEAR

TEXAS AVERAGE

$116,070
DIDACTIC PHASE
MAY - JULY (15 MONTHS)
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
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE ISSUES
SIMULATED PATIENT LAB
SMALL GROUP TUTORIALS
CLINICAL PHASE
AUGUST - NOVEMBER (15 MONTHS)

*UTSW’S AFFILIATE INSTITUTIONS DO REQUIRE STUDENTS TRAINING AT THEIR LOCATIONS TO COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE SITE POLICIES, INCLUDING VACCINATION. THOSE POLICIES VARY BY LOCATION AND SOME SITE POLICIES DO NOT CONTAIN EXEMPTIONS.
CLINICAL ROTATIONS

FAMILY MEDICINE: 8 WEEKS

• MULTIPLE PRIVATE PRACTICE SITES
• OUTPATIENT-BASED
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

PRIMARY CARE PRECEPTORSHIP: 8 WEEKS

• DESIGNATED PRIMARY CARE SPECIALTY SETTING OF EITHER FAMILY MEDICINE, INTERNAL MEDICINE, PEDIATRICS OR WOMEN’S HEALTH
CLINICAL ROTATIONS

EMERGENCY MEDICINE: 4 WEEKS

- CLEMENTS UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
- PARKLAND HEALTH & HOSPITAL SYSTEM
- PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL
- METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER
- CHARLTON METHODODIST HOSPITAL
- MEDICAL CENTER - MULTIPLE LOCATIONS
  - 4 WEEKS ER: 10 TWELVE-HOUR SHIFTS
CLINICAL ROTATIONS

INFECTIOUS DISEASES: 4 WEEKS

• PARKLAND HEALTH & HOSPITAL SYSTEM
• DALLAS VETERANS MEDICAL CENTER
• CLEMENTS UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
CLINICAL ROTATIONS

PEDIATRICS: 4 WEEKS

• PRIVATE PRACTICE SETTINGS
CLINICAL ROTATIONS

PSYCHIATRY: 4 WEEKS

• HOSPITAL AND CORRECTIONAL FACILITY BASED
  • 2 WEEKS INPATIENT
  • 2 WEEKS OUTPATIENT
CLINICAL ROTATIONS

SURGERY: 4 WEEKS

• PARKLAND HEALTH & HOSPITAL SYSTEM
• ZALE LIPSHY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
• CLEMENTS UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
• DALLAS VA HOSPITAL
CLINICAL ROTATIONS

WOMEN’S HEALTH: 4 WEEKS

• CLEMENTS UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
  – 2 WEEKS INPATIENT OBSTETRICS

• COMMUNITY PRACTICES
  – 2 WEEKS OUTPATIENT GYNECOLOGY
CLINICAL ROTATIONS

ELECTIVE: 4 WEEKS

• APPROXIMATELY 25 TO CHOOSE FROM

• POPULAR CHOICES INCLUDE DERMATOLOGY, SURGERY SPECIALTIES, EMERGENCY MEDICINE

• INTERNATIONAL POSSIBILITIES
CLINICAL HIGHLIGHTS

STELLAR SITES & PRECEPTORS ACROSS THE STATE OF TEXAS
BALANCED MIX OF PRIVATE, PUBLIC, INPATIENT & OUTPATIENT SETTINGS
INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED PRECEPTORS

JOB FAIR
LABOR & DELIVERY EXPOSURE
RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES
RESUME WORKSHOP
PANCE REVIEW COURSE
TEN ROTATIONS OVER FOUR SEMESTERS
PARKLAND HEALTH & HOSPITAL SYSTEM

• INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED LEVEL 1 TRAUMA AND BURN CENTERS

• 2.8 MILLION-SQUARE-FOOT CAMPUS

• SPECIALTY ER’S IN MEDICINE, SURGERY, PSYCHIATRY, AND OB-GYN

• 1 MILLION PATIENT VISITS PER YEAR

• >40,570 ADMISSIONS PER YEAR

• 878 BEDS
PARKLAND HOSPITAL
WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS JR. UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
RANKING

OUT OF 170 PROGRAMS RANKED 2020

UT SOUTHWESTERN: 7TH
PANCE

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT NATIONAL CERTIFYING EXAMINATION

• ALWAYS INQUIRE ABOUT FIRST-TIME PASS RATES
• OUR FIRST-TIME PASS RATES ARE:
  • 2023-96%
  • 2022-96%
  • 2021-93%
  • 2020-100%
  • 2019-98%
  • 2018-100%
  • 2017-100%
  • 2016-100%
  • 2015-100%
  • 2014-100%
  • 2013-100%
  • 2012-100%
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.

• BEAT 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

• CASPA FACEBOOK PAGE: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CASPAONLINEAPP

• VIDEO INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENTERING COURSEWORK IN THE CASPA APPLICATION: HTTP://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=JPXPPEYKBZQ&FEATURE=PLAYER_DETA OLPAGE
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. $184
2. $245
3. $306
4. $367
5. $428
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 ASSOCIATES (AAPA)
WWW.AAPA.ORG

TEXAS ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATES (TAPA)
WWW.TAPA.ORG

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (PAEA)
WWW.PEAONLINE.ORG

SCRIBE.OLOGY
WWW.SCRIBEOLOGY.COM

SCRIBEAMERICA
WWW.SCRIBEAMERICA.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

• ARLENE BETANCOURT, MD
  • MEDICAL DIRECTOR
• CAROLYN BRADLEY-GUIDRY, DRPH, MPAS, PA-C
• SADAF CHARANIA, MPAS, PA-C
• VERONICA COLEMAN, MPAS, PA-C
  • DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS
• JOHN GIACONA, PH.D., MPAS, PA-C
• BETHANY GRUBB, PH.D., MPAS, MPH PA-C
  • ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
• TEMPLE HOWELL-STAMPLEY, MD, MBA
  • DEPARTMENT CHAIR & PROGRAM DIRECTOR
• ELIZABETH JOHNSTON, MS, MS, PA-C
• DAVID KLOCKO, DMSC, MPAS, PA-C
• LAURA MATTINGLY, MHS, PA-C
  • ACADEMIC COORDINATOR
• JASMINE MCELHANY, MPAS, PA-C
• TERESA SANDERS, MPAS, PA-C
• BAU TRAN, PHARMD, MMS, PA-C
• JESSICA WHITE, MMS, PA-C
UT SOUTHWESTERN STAFF

• OPAL AUTRY, PROGRAM COORDINATOR
• ANTHONY BALLARD, EDUCATION ASSISTANT
• RITA BILLUPS, SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE
• LESLI BROWN, SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
• LYNN GIARRATANO, PROGRAM COORDINATOR
• CHRISTOPHER LONG, EDUCATION ASSISTANT
• BRIANA PEDROZA, CLINICAL SITE COORDINATOR
• ISELA PEREZ, SENIOR EDUCATION COORDINATOR
• HEATHER SALINAS, PROJECT MANAGER & CLINICAL COORDINATOR
PA DEPARTMENT STAFF
COVID-19 PROVISIONS & COMMON QUESTIONS

• WE REVIEW THE COVID SPECIFIC ESSAYS

• GRE SCORES OBTAINED VIA AT HOME VERSION ARE ACCEPTED

• WE DO NOT ACCEPT GRADES OF PASS/FAIL OR SATISFACTORY/UNSATISFACTORY FOR ANY PREREQUISITE COURSE – ALL PREREQUISITE COURSES MUST HAVE AN ACCOMPANYING LETTER GRADE (A-C)

• ONLINE LABS AND OTHER COURSES BEING TAUGHT IN A VIRTUAL SETTING ARE ACCEPTED AS LONG AS TAUGHT AT A REGIONALLY ACCREDITED INSTITUTION
QUESTIONS?

UT Southwestern
Medical Center

Department of Physician Assistant Studies