

Physician Assistant

What is a Physician Assistant? A physician assistant (PA) or physician associate is a healthcare professional who practices medicine as a part of a healthcare team with supervising physicians and other providers.

According to data from May 2020 on bls.gov the median annual PA is \$115,390, however this can vary depending upon specialty, practice setting, geographic location, and years of experience.

Applicants may elect to major in any chosen field; however, there are certain required courses which must be completed prior to admission to PA school – see second page.

How do I apply? The first opportunity to apply is the summer prior to your senior year for entrance to the summer or fall after you graduate.

- Register for and score competitively on the GRE
- Obtain relevant volunteer experience with a Physician/Physician Assistant
- Complete and submit the application for the school of your choice

Selection Criteria:

- Grades – the average accepted GPR is 3.5. Competitive applicants typically have higher averages.
- Volunteer/Work experience – applicants who gain admission typically have spent time volunteering, working, and/or shadowing in environments that provide exposure to **patient contact** and to the physician assistant career.
- Letters of Recommendations
- Interview

Texas Program Start dates

Program	Starts	Prerequisite deadline
Baylor, Tech, UTMB, HSU	Sum/Sum/Sum/Fall	Prior to starting
South University	Spring (Jan)	By date application is submitted
UNT	Fall	December 31
UTSW	Summer	By date application is submitted
UTHealth-SA	Summer	October 1
UTRGV, UMHB	Fall/Spring (Jan)	September 1
West Coast University	Spring (Jan)	October 1

- ❖ Tech requires that you not have more than 9 hours of prerequisites in progress at the time of application.
- ❖ UTMB requires that your application be **VERIFIED** by September 1.
- ❖ West Coast University requires that both a baccalaureate degree and prerequisites be completed by October 1.

Texas PA School Prerequisites		Baylor	Hardin Simmons	South University	Texas Tech	UMHB	UNT	UT Health SA	UTMB	UTRGV	UTSW	West Coast University
Intro Biology I&II (8)	BIOL 111/112		✓	✓ ⁽⁴⁾						✓		
A&P I & II (8)	BIOL 319/320 or (1)VIBS 305/VTPP 423	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ ⁽¹⁾	✓	✓ ⁽¹⁾	✓ ⁽¹⁾	✓ ⁽¹⁾
Microbiology (4-5)	BIOL 351 or VTPB 405	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (or Bacteriology with lab)	✓	✓	✓
Genetics (3)	GENE 301, 302, 310, or GENE/BIMS 320	✓ ⁽³⁾			✓	✓	✓	✓ ⁽³⁾	✓	✓	✓	✓
Biochemistry (3)	BICH 303, 409, or 410								✓ ⁽²⁾			✓ ⁽²⁾
General Chemistry I&II w Lab (8)	CHEM 101/111 & 102/112 or CHEM 119/120	✓	4 hours	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	
OCHEM I w Lab (4-5)	CHEM 227/237 or CHEM 257	✓	✓	✓ (or Biochem)	✓ (or Biochem)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (or Biochem)	✓	✓
Medical Terminology	HLTH 354								✓			
Psychology (3)	PSYC 107	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (or 3 hours of soci)	✓	✓	
Sociology (3)	SOCI 205	✓ (or 3 more hours of psyc)	✓ (or 3 more hours of psyc)						✓ (or 3 hours of psyc)			
Statistics (3)	STAT 301, 302, 303, or 312	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
English (3)		✓	✓									

(1) VIBS 305 is not accepted at UT Southwestern, UT Health San Antonio, Hardin Simmons, UTMB, or West Coast University; UT-RGV has preference for Human A&P.

(2) At TAMU, must take OCHEM II (4 hrs) before taking BICH 409 or 410; BICH 303 does not require OCHEM II.

(3) GENE 310 will NOT satisfy this requirement for Baylor or UT Health San Antonio

(4) BIOL 112 can be substituted with cell biology, genetics, molecular biology, or immunology.

Note: All prerequisites and information are subject to change at any time without notice. It is the responsibility of the applicant to remain up-to-date on all requirements.

No Texas program will accept online BIOL course credit.**

Check specific program sites for latest COVID-19 updates

Professional School Advising
209 John J. Koldus Building
1233 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-1233

Tel. 979.847.8938
opsa@tamu.edu
opsa.tamu.edu