MAJOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES IN THE FIELD OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

The physician assistant program culminating in a master of science in health sciences prepares graduates to demonstrate clinical excellence; embrace diversity, equity, and inclusion; advocate for their patients; lead and advance the profession; and serve their communities. The full-time, 24-month program is divided into academic and clinical phases. The academic, or didactic phase, of the program is 12 months in duration and consists of four components: basic sciences, behavioral sciences, clinical medicine, and pre-clinical skills. The academic phase also includes standardized patient experiences designed to enhance the student’s familiarity with the clinical environment. The 12-month clinical phase consists of a series of rotations in a variety of inpatient and outpatient settings. Students participate in the care of patients under the supervision of a licensed healthcare provider. Required experiences include inpatient medicine, surgery, family medicine, pediatrics, women’s health, emergency medicine, behavioral medicine, and elective rotations.

The School of Medicine and Health Science and the Milken Institute School of Public Health together offer a joint master of health sciences in the field of physician assistant and a master of public health degree program (https://gw.force.com/medicine-health-sciences/graduate-programs/dual-pa-mph/). The program requires one additional year of academic coursework specific to public health.

Visit the program website (https://physicianassistant.smhs.gwu.edu/) for additional program information. The program has a linkage agreement with the University’s post-baccalaureate pre-medicine program (https://postbacpremed.smhs.gwu.edu/).

ADMISSIONS

Admission deadlines:

Fall – October 1

The Physician Assistant Program uses the online application system CASPA (Central Application Service for Physician Assistants). Please go to the CASPA Web site (https://caspa.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login) to begin the application process.

The application and all supporting documentation (fees, statement of purpose, resume, letters of recommendation, professional licenses, transcripts) must be verified by CASPA by the deadline in order for the application to be reviewed.

In addition to the CASPA application, all applicants must submit a GW Supplemental Application (https://gw.force.com) to the Health Sciences Office of Admissions.

Requirements:

Prior academic records: Arrange for CASPA to receive an official transcript from every college and university (domestic and international) you attended, whether or not a degree was earned.

Additional requirements: Applicants must complete a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university prior to matriculation into the program. All applicants must have a minimum science and cumulative grade point average of 3.2. The following are 6 required prerequisite courses that must be from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning in the United States within the last 10 years from date of application submission:

- Anatomy & Physiology: one semester of Anatomy and one semester of Physiology are required. This requirement may be met by taking two semesters of a combined Anatomy & Physiology course.

- Chemistry: two semesters of Chemistry for science majors. One semester must be either Organic Chemistry or Biochemistry.

- Psychology: one semester of Psychology. Abnormal Psychology or Developmental Psychology is recommended.

- Statistics: one semester of Statistics.

All prerequisites must be completed with a grade of B- or better and must be either undergraduate or post-baccalaureate coursework. Each course must be at least three semester credit hours or 4.5 quarter credit hours. Applicants may apply to the program with no more than two outstanding prerequisites (including any in progress at the time of application), but prerequisites must be completed prior to the beginning of the program.

All applicants must be in good academic standing. 1,000 hours of direct patient care experience is required. These hours must be completed at the time the application is submitted.

Accepted applicants will be required to pay a non-refundable tuition deposit.
International applicants only: Please review International Applicant Information carefully for details on required documents and English language requirements.

Academic preparation:
- All prerequisite coursework must be completed at a regionally accredited US institution regardless of whether the applicant has already completed the coursework in another country. International coursework will not be acceptable for prerequisite requirements. There are no exceptions to this policy.
- Advanced standing or transfer of credits earned at a non-US institution will not be offered.

**PLEASE NOTE** that the Health Sciences programs require the following minimum English language test scores for admission:
- Academic IETLS: an overall band score of 7.0 with no individual band score below 6.0; or
- TOEFL: 600 on paper-based or 100 on Internet-based; or
- PTE Academic: 68

**Supporting Documents not Submitted Online should be Mailed to:**
Office of Admissions
Health Sciences Programs
The George Washington University
2000 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Suite 2000
Washington, DC 20006

**Contact for Questions:**
paadm@gwu.edu - (202) 994-7644
9:00am - 5:00pm, Monday through Friday

**REQUIREMENTS**
The following requirements must be fulfilled: 104 credits in required courses.

**Additional requirements:**
- The student must successfully complete all (academic and professionalism) MSHS physician assistant (PA) program coursework and non-coursework requirements.
- The student must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 in PA program coursework throughout the program.
- The student must pass all components of the summative evaluation.
- The student must achieve a "skill demonstrated" rating for each parameter of the professionalism evaluation.
COMBINED PROGRAM

Combined program

- Master of Science in Health Sciences in the field of physician assistant and Master of Public Health (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/medicine-health-sciences/graduate-programs/dual-pa-mph/)