

MSBS IN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

Physician Assistants (PAs) are health professionals, prepared to practice medicine with physician supervision. Within the physician/PA relationship, PAs exercise autonomy in decision-making and provide a wide range of diagnostic and therapeutic services. The role of the PA includes provision of primary and specialty care in medical and surgical practices located in rural, urban or suburban areas. Physician assistant practice is patient care centered but may include education, research and administrative duties.

The University of Toledo (UToledo) Physician Assistant (PA) Program is a graduate entry-level professional course of study enabling individuals who hold baccalaureate degrees to become PAs. The program is designed to prepare graduates for primary care practice with emphasis placed on both service to medically under-served populations and the team approach to the delivery of healthcare. The program integrates graduate level critical thinking and analysis, problem solving, scientific inquiry, self-directed learning and the effective use of modern technology for professional practice that includes elements of research, leadership, education and continued professionalization of the physician assistant occupation.

The Physician Assistant Program admit 40 students each Fall Semester (August). The application cycle opens in April of the year prior to enrollment and closes September 1 of the year prior to enrollment.

Admission Requirements:

- CASPA application (<https://caspa.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/> login) submitted by September 1
- UToledo application fee (https://secure.touchnet.net/C20238_ustores/web/store_cat.jsp?STOREID=97&CATID=124&SINGLESTORE=true) submitted by September 1
- Bachelor's degree completed by June 15 of the year of potential matriculation
- Completion of prerequisite courses by June 15 of the year of potential matriculation
- Cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.20 (CASPA Calculated)
- Cumulative science GPA of 3.20 (CASPA Calculated)
- Applicants are strongly recommended to take the CASPER (Altus Suite – admissions assessments of non-cognitive skills) (<https://acuityinsights.app/>)
- Applicants are strongly recommended to take the PA-CAT (<https://www.pa-cat.com/>).

Early submission of online CASPA and online UToledo Supplemental Application is encouraged. Interviews will be conducted virtually starting June/July and continue through October. The program may offer seats at any time during the application cycle.

Prerequisites

The following prerequisites must be completed with a grade of "C" or better (exception: Anatomy and Physiology courses must have grades of B- or better)*:

- Anatomy and Physiology (6 semester credit hours)
- General/Inorganic Chemistry with Lab (4 semester credit hours)
- Organic/Bio Chemistry with lab (4 semester credit hours)
- Microbiology with lab (4 semester credit hours)
- Psychology (6 semester credit hours)
- College-level math or Statistics (3 semester credit hours)
- Medical Terminology (1 semester credit hour)

*For applicants enrolled at institutions that utilize a point system for course grades, the program will accept a 3.0 for a B and 2.0 for a C. Any grade lower than 2.0 is unacceptable.

For applicants enrolled at institutions that use a quarter system, credit hours are converted such that five (5) quarter hours = three (3) semester hours.

The prerequisite coursework identified above must be completed within **eight (8) years** of potential matriculation. For example, a student admitted for the class starting in Fall 2025 must have completed all prerequisites between Fall 2017 and June 15, 2025.

If you have any questions, please email PhysicianAssistant@utoledo.edu (physicianassistant@utoledo.edu).

Some degree of preference will be given to applicants who are:

- Ohio residents
- UToledo graduates
- Underrepresented in medicine
- Military veteran
- Non-traditional (≥ 25 years old)
- First-generation college graduate
- Economically disadvantaged
- Rural area

Candidates will need to have the following submitted before matriculation:

- Clean BCI and FBI background checks
- Drug Screening (if required by clinical site)
- Health requirements:

- Physical Exam
- 2-Step PPD
- Tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular (T-DAP) or Tetanus-diphtheria within the last 10 years
- Immunization records for Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella (chicken pox) or proof of immunity by titer
- Immunization records for Hepatitis B vaccination and a positive Hepatitis B Surface Antibody
- Influenza vaccinations annually. COVID-19 vaccination is not required, however, it is strongly recommended.
- Current Basic Life Support (BLS) card

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE LICENSURE

Completion of The University of Toledo ARC-PA (<http://www.arc-pa.org/>) accredited PA Program meets the educational degree requirements to apply for Physician Assistant licensure in all states with the exception of Wisconsin. More information can be found on The University of Toledo State Authorization website (<https://www.utoledo.edu/offices/internalaudit/institutional-compliance/state-authorization/pld-statelicensingboardsforphysicianassistants.html>).

First Year

First Term		Hours
ANAT 5000	Anatomy	8
PHSL 5050	Human Physiology	4
PHYA 5010	Introduction to PA Profession	1
PHYA 5100	Principle Interview/Medical History	2
PHYA 5140	Health Care Teams and Systems	2
Hours		17

Second Term

PHYA 5130	Patient Evaluation	4
PHYA 5210	Diagnostic and Therapeutic Skills I	2
PHYA 5310	Clinical Medicine I	5
PHYA 5400	Pathophysiology I	4
PHYA 5510	Fundamentals of Pharmacology I	4
PHYA 6050	Ethics for PA Profession	1
Hours		20

Third Term

PHYA 5220	Diagnostic and Therapeutic Skills II	4
PHYA 5340	Clinical Medicine II	5
PHYA 5410	Pathophysiology II	4
PHYA 5520	Fundamentals of Pharmacology II	3
PHYA 6110	Population and Lifestyle Medicine	3
Hours		19

Second Year

Fourth Term

PHYA 5230	Diagnostic and Therapeutic Skills III	5
PHYA 5330	Clinical Medicine III	6
PHYA 5430	Pathophysiology III	2

PHYA 5530	Fundamentals of Pharmacology III	1
PHYA 6010	Clinical Genetics	1
PHYA 6130	Evidence Based Medicine	3
PHYA 6150	Behavioral Science	2
Hours		20

Fifth Term

PHYA 6310	Clinical Rotation - Behavior Health	5
PHYA 6320	Clinical Rotation - Elective	5
PHYA 6330	Clinical Rotation - Emergency Medicine	5
PHYA 6500	Introduction to Clinical Practice	4
PHYA 6610	Scholarly Project I	1
Hours		20

Sixth Term

PHYA 6340	Clinical Rotation - Family Medicine	5
PHYA 6350	Clinical Rotation - Internal Medicine	5
PHYA 6620	Scholarly Project II	1
Hours		11

Third Year

Seventh Term

PHYA 6360	Clinical Rotation - Pediatrics	5
PHYA 6370	Clinical Rotation - Surgery	5
PHYA 6380	Clinical Rotation - Women's Health	5
PHYA 6630	Scholarly Project III	1
Hours		16

Total Hours 123

- PLO 1. Physician assistants are expected to understand, evaluate, and apply the following to clinical scenarios: evidence-based medicine
- PLO 2. Physician assistants are expected to understand, evaluate, and apply the following to clinical scenarios: scientific principles related to patient care
- PLO 3. Physician assistants are expected to understand, evaluate, and apply the following to clinical scenarios: etiologies, risk factors, underlying pathologic process, and epidemiology for medical conditions
- PLO 4. Physician assistants are expected to understand, evaluate, and apply the following to clinical scenarios: signs and symptoms of medical and surgical conditions
- PLO 5. Physician assistants are expected to understand, evaluate, and apply the following to clinical scenarios: appropriate diagnostic studies
- PLO 6. Physician assistants are expected to understand, evaluate, and apply the following to clinical scenarios: management of general medical and surgical conditions to include pharmacologic and other treatment modalities
- PLO 7. Physician assistants are expected to understand, evaluate, and apply the following to clinical scenarios: interventions for prevention of disease and health promotion/maintenance
- PLO 8. Physician assistants are expected to understand, evaluate, and apply the following to clinical scenarios: screening methods to detect conditions in an asymptomatic individual

- PLO 9. Physician assistants are expected to understand, evaluate, and apply the following to clinical scenarios: history and physical findings and diagnostic studies to formulate differential diagnoses
- PLO 10. Physician assistants are expected to: create and sustain a therapeutic and ethically sound relationship with patients
- PLO 11. Physician assistants are expected to: use effective communication skills to elicit and provide information
- PLO 12. Physician assistants are expected to: adapt communication style and messages to the context of the interaction
- PLO 13. Physician assistants are expected to: work effectively with physicians and other health care professionals as a member or leader of a health care team or other professional group
- PLO 14. Physician assistants are expected to: demonstrate emotional resilience and stability, adaptability, flexibility, and tolerance of ambiguity and anxiety
- PLO 15. Physician assistants are expected to: accurately and adequately document information regarding care for medical, legal, quality, and financial purposes
- PLO 16. Physician assistants are expected to: work effectively with physicians and other health care professionals to provide patient centered care
- PLO 17. Physician assistants are expected to: demonstrate compassionate and respectful behaviors when interacting with patients and their families
- PLO 18. Physician assistants are expected to: obtain essential and accurate information about their patients
- PLO 19. Physician assistants are expected to: make decisions about diagnostic and therapeutic interventions based on patient information and preferences, current scientific evidence, and informed clinical judgment
- PLO 20. Physician assistants are expected to: develop and implement patient management plans
- PLO 21. Physician assistants are expected to: counsel and educate patients and their families
- PLO 22. Physician assistants are expected to: perform medical and surgical procedures essential to their area of practice
- PLO 23. Physician assistants are expected to: provide health care services and education aimed at disease prevention and health maintenance
- PLO 24. Physician assistants are expected to: use information technology to support patient care decisions and patient education
- PLO 25. Physician assistants are expected to demonstrate: understanding of legal and regulatory requirements, as well as the appropriate role of the physician assistant
- PLO 26. Physician assistants are expected to demonstrate: professional relationships with physician supervisors and other health care providers
- PLO 27. Physician assistants are expected to demonstrate: respect, compassion, and integrity
- PLO 28. Physician assistants are expected to demonstrate: accountability to patients, society, and the profession
- PLO 29. Physician assistants are expected to demonstrate: commitment to excellence and on-going professional development
- PLO 30. Physician assistants are expected to demonstrate: commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of clinical care, confidentiality of patient information, informed consent, and business practices
- PLO 31. Physician assistants are expected to demonstrate: sensitivity and responsiveness to patients' culture, age, gender, and abilities
- PLO 32. Physician assistants are expected to demonstrate: self-reflection, critical curiosity, and initiative
- PLO 33. Physician assistants are expected to demonstrate: healthy behaviors and life balance
- PLO 34. Physician assistants are expected to demonstrate: commitment to the education of students and other health care professionals
- PLO 35. Physician assistants are expected to: analyze practice experience and design practice-based improvement activities using a systematic methodology
- PLO 36. Physician assistants are expected to: locate, appraise, and integrate evidence from scientific studies related to patient health
- PLO 37. Physician assistants are expected to: apply knowledge of study designs and statistical methods to the appraisal of clinical literature and other information on diagnostic and therapeutic effectiveness
- PLO 38. Physician assistants are expected to: utilize information technology to manage information, access medical information, and support their own education
- PLO 39. Physician assistants are expected to: recognize and appropriately address personal biases
- PLO 40. Physician assistants are expected to: effectively interact with different types of medical practice and delivery systems
- PLO 41. Physician assistants are expected to: understand the funding sources and payment systems that provide coverage for patient care and use the systems effectively
- PLO 42. Physician assistants are expected to: recognize cost-effective health care and resource allocation that does not compromise quality of care
- PLO 43. Physician assistants are expected to: apply quality improvement principles to promote a safe environment for patient care
- PLO 44. Physician assistants are expected to: recognize system biases that contribute to health care disparities
- PLO 45. Physician assistants are expected to: understand the concepts of population health and its relationship to patient care