

THE JOURNEY TO BECOME A:

[PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT]

About the Program

Graduates of the **Physician Assistant Studies Program** are awarded a Master of Science degree in Physician Assistant Studies after completing the 29-month curriculum. Graduates are eligible to take the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination and upon successful completion, are then eligible for state certification/licensure to practice as a certified Physician Assistant.

The **Physician Assistant Studies Program** at the University of Kentucky College of Health Sciences was initiated in 1973 and is the **longest-running Physician Assistant program in the Commonwealth of Kentucky**. The program is accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA), which is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). In 1996, the program was expanded to include instruction at Morehead State University and is housed in the state-of-the-art CHER Building. The PAS program offers opportunities for international engagement and instruction including clinical clerkship rotations in various areas of the world, including Africa, Central America, England, and South America. Additional international opportunities exist within the University of Kentucky College of Health Sciences.

? What is a Physician Assistant?

*Physician Assistants (PA) are health professionals who practice medicine as members of a team with their supervising physicians. PAs deliver a broad range of medical and surgical services to diverse populations in rural and urban settings. **Part of their comprehensive responsibilities include:***

- *conduct physical exams*
- *diagnose and treat illnesses*
- *order and interpret tests*
- *counsel on preventive health care*
- *assist in surgery*
- *prescribe medications*

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Program Requirements

Prerequisites*

- Four-year college degree
- One semester of the following courses with a C grade or better:
 - Biology/Zoology with lab • General Chemistry I with lab • General Chemistry II with lab • Organic Chemistry with lab (Pre-med or Chemistry major level) • Microbiology with lab • Human Physiology Human Anatomy • General Psychology • Developmental Psychology • Sociology/ Anthropology • Medical Terminology • Statistics

Additional Requirements

- GRE
- TOFEL (when applicable)
- Direct patient care experience
- Shadowing hours
- Certification in Basic Life Support through the American Heart Association

Admission

Admission to the PA program involves a two-step application and interview for the best-qualified candidates. You must apply to the Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistants (portal.caspaonline.org) and the University of Kentucky Graduate School (research.uky.edu/gs). Classes begin in January.

? Have more questions?

Contact us for more information:

(859) 218-0473
 CHS-Admissions@uky.edu
uky.edu/chs/pa

For more info about the PAS Program at the Center for Health Education and Research at Morehead State University call (606) 783-2051.