

## Pre- Physician Assistant Curriculum

Entrance requirements for the SIU School of Medicine Physician Assistant program leading to a master's degree and a PA certificate are listed below. Requirements are similar for other programs. Science majors are preferable, such as Biological Sciences/Biomed or Physiology. The GRE or MCAT is required (check with schools).

## Minimum & Recommended Coursework for SIU School of Medicine PA Program

Bolded courses meet the minimum requirements. Students are strongly advised to also meet the recommended requirements. Students must have earned a baccalaureate degree with a minimum GPA of 3.2/4.0 overall, a science GPA (as calculated by CASPA) of at least 3.2/4.0, and the prerequisite course GPA must be at least a 3.2/4.0. Some programs have higher GPA requirements. **DISCLAIMER:** Pre-requisites are listed as guidelines only. Students should contact the Office of Admissions of any schools to which they intend to apply to determine the exact admission requirements.

FIELD OF STUDY	CREDIT HOURS	MINIMUM & RECOMMENDED COURSES
<b>English</b>	1 semester	<b>ENGL 101; ENGL 102</b>
<b>General Biology for Science Majors</b>	1 semester	<b>BIOL 211 or 213 or 305 or 306</b>
<b>Chemistry with labs</b>	2 semesters	<b>CHEM 200, 201, 202; CHEM 210, 211, 212; CHEM 340, 341; CHEM 350, 351<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Psychology</b>	1 semester	<b>PSYC 102</b>
<b>Human Anatomy and Physiology with labs</b>	2 courses	<b>PHSL 301 (cadaver lab preferred); PHSL 310</b>
<b>Allied Health &amp; Cardiac Life Support</b>	2 courses	<b>AH 105; PH 334</b>
<b>Microbiology with lab</b>	1 semester	<b>MICR 301</b>
<b>Statistics</b>	1 course	<b>PLB 360 or MATH 282 or QUAN 402 or equivalent</b>
<b>Other Electives<sup>3</sup></b>		Genetics (BIOL 305); Biochemistry (CHEM 350), Pharmacology (PHSL 420A/B) and Pathophysiology (NUR 325)

<sup>1</sup>Exercise Physiology (KIN 320) will not meet physiology requirement. <sup>2</sup>Required for some programs. Check with schools regarding chemistry specifically as this can vary. <sup>3</sup>Not required by strongly recommended.

Most programs require the GRE, and clinical experience involving direct patient care is required. Paid employment and volunteer work are not required, but preferred. SIU does not provide clinical experiences as part of its curriculum. Credentialed experience as a CNA, EMT, or medical scribe is desired. This experience should be in conjunction with shadowing a practicing Physician Assistant (physician observation applies as well). Keep a log of your experience and clinical contact information. We advise you to meet with the Health Professions Advisor in your freshman year to get more information on the clinical requirements for PA school.

## Regional PA Programs

**Southern Illinois University School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program**, 300 W. Oak Street, Suite 201, Carbondale, IL 62901-6519.

Phone: 618-453-8850. Email: [pa\\_advisement@siumed.edu](mailto:pa_advisement@siumed.edu). URL: <http://www.siumed.edu/paprogram>

**Dominican University Borra College of Health Sciences Physician Assistant Studies**, 428 Parmer, 7900 W. Division Street, River Forest, IL 60305 Phone: 708-366-2490. Email: [cgarzarza@dom.edu](mailto:cgarzarza@dom.edu). URL: <https://www.dom.edu/admission>

**Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program**, Abbott Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 710 N. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60611 Phone: 312-503-1851. Email: [paprogram@northwestern.edu](mailto:paprogram@northwestern.edu). URL: <http://www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/sites/pa/>

**Rosalind Franklin University Physician Assistant Program**, 600 S. Paulina Street, Suite 1021F-ACC, Chicago, IL 60612. Phone: 312-563-3234. Email: [pa\\_admissions@rush.edu](mailto:pa_admissions@rush.edu). URL: [www.rushu.rush.edu/pa-program](http://www.rushu.rush.edu/pa-program).

**Saint Louis University, Doisy College of Health Sciences**, 1 N. Grand Blvd., St Louis, MO 63103 (800) 758-3678; Phone 314-977-2570.

Email: [dchs@health.slu.edu](mailto:dchs@health.slu.edu). URL: <https://catalog.slu.edu/previous-catalogs/2018-2019/colleges-schools/health-sciences/physician-assistant-education/medical-sciences-mms/>

**Pre-Physician Assistant is not a major. The student must also choose a major in which to earn a baccalaureate degree.** The major must be declared by the end of the student's first semester. Certification in CPR can be obtained at a community college or area hospital.