



MASTERS *in* PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES (PA)

msj.edu/PA

WHAT WE'RE ABOUT

Graduate programs at the Mount have a strong reputation of innovation, quality, and academic excellence. Class sizes enable faculty to create valuable connections between learning, research, and the professional work environment. MSJ graduate students appreciate the consistent interaction with faculty, both as educators and mentors.

LEARN MORE

Graduate Admission

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Visit msj.edu/gradinfo to register for an information session or appointment.

PROGRAM FEATURES

Mount St. Joseph University's Physician Assistant (PA) Program prepares students to become outstanding clinicians fully prepared to deliver quality health care in an ever-changing environment.

The 27-month, graduate degree program emphasizes critical thinking and life-long learning through its use of hands-on patient care and state-of-the-art technology.

FORMAT

The first year includes 12 months of classroom training including anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, clinical medicine, genetics, diagnostic lab, EKG, physical exam, and clinical skills. Second year students will complete clinical rotations in family medicine, internal medicine, general surgery, women's health, pediatrics, emergency medicine, orthopedics, and behavioral health, along with two student-selected elective rotations. Following the clinical phase, students complete a comprehensive summative evaluation.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

Mission - The specific mission of the Physician Assistant Program is to educate outstanding, compassionate clinicians, fully prepared to deliver high quality, accessible health care while demonstrating commitment to life-long learning and ethical practice.

Vision - The Mount St. Joseph University Physician Assistant Program graduates will be recognized for their leadership and the quality of health care they provide, exemplifying professionalism, empathy, and an attitude of service to others.

PROGRAM CURRICULUM

SPRING SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS

PAS 500	PA Profession: Evolving Issues in Medicine & Ethics	2
PAS 505	The Medical Interview and Physical Examination with Lab	3
PAS 510	Evidenced Based Medicine & Population Health	2
BIO 515	Human Anatomy for Physician Assistant with Lab	5
BIO 520	Genetics and Disease Screening	3
BIO 525	Medical Physiology for Physician Assistant	3
TOTAL HOURS		18

SUMMER SEMESTER

PAS 530	Pharmacology I	3
PAS 535	Principles of Medicine I	4
PAS 540	Patient Assessment I with Lab	3
PAS 545	Clinical Skills in Medicine I with Lab	2
PAS 550	Clinical Approach to Behavioral Health	2
TOTAL HOURS		14

FALL SEMESTER

PAS 555	Pharmacology II	3
PAS 560	Principles of Medicine II	6
PAS 565	Clinical Decision Making	2
PAS 570	Patient Assessment II with lab	3
PAS 575	Clinical Skills in Medicine II with Lab	2
PAS 580	Nutrition & Preventive Medicine Across the Life Span	2
TOTAL HOURS		18

2ND YEAR

PAS 600	Family Medicine I Rotation	5
PAS 605	Family Medicine II Rotation	5
PAS 610	Internal Medicine Rotation	5
PAS 620	Emergency Medicine Rotation	5
PAS 630	General Surgery Rotation	5
PAS 640	Pediatric Rotation	5
PAS 650	Behavioral Health Rotation	5
PAS 660	Women's Health Rotation	5
PAS 670	Orthopedic Rotation	5
TOTAL HOURS		45

3RD YEAR

PAS 700	Elective I Rotation	5
PAS 705	Elective II Rotation	5
PAS 710	Summative Evaluation	4
TOTAL HOURS		14

TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS 109

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and science GPA of 3.0.

Course of study must include the successful completion (grade of "C" or higher) of the following courses with labs as indicated (+)

- General Chemistry*+ • General Biology*+ • Developmental Psychology
- Organic Chemistry+ • Microbiology • Statistics.
- Biochemistry • Anatomy and Physiology*+

*One year + Lab required

These prerequisite courses must have been completed within five years of the application date, unless the applicant has been continuously employed as a health care professional.

Graduate Record Examination (GRE)

- The exam must have been taken within the last five years.
- CASPA GRE code 7328

Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) Submission

- The application cycle opens each year in April and can be accessed at: portal.caspaonline.org.

Three letters of Recommendation

- One letter from a physician assistant.
- One letter from a current or prior professor or supervisor.
- One letter from another professional or social colleague.

Health Care Experience

- Minimum health care experience of 500 hours to include direct patient care (e.g. nurse aide, nursing assistant, medical assistant, EMT) which may be paid or voluntary in nature.
- Minimum of 40 hours shadowing a physician assistant in a clinical setting.

TOEFL iBT

- Requirement for international students or those students who did not attend a high school where English is the primary language.

ACCREDITATION

The ARC-PA has granted **Accreditation-Provisional** status to the **Mount St. Joseph University Physician Assistant program** sponsored by **Mount St. Joseph University**.

Accreditation-Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when a program holding Accreditation-Provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students.

Accreditation-Provisional does not ensure any subsequent accreditation status. It is limited to no more than five years from matriculation of the first class.



100
years

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Information can be accessed at <https://www.ets.org/toefl>.

- A minimum score of 120 is required with at least a score of 26 in each of the following: reading, listening, speaking, and writing.

Preference will be given to those applicants who are:

- Graduates of Mount St. Joseph University.
- Veterans of the Armed Forces (In order to receive VA Educational Benefits, students must have their clinical rotations limited to Ohio hospitals that have been approved by the Veteran's Administration).
- Residents of Greater Cincinnati.
- Applicants with significant prior health care experience.
- Applicants with higher grade point average (GPA).
- Applicants with higher GRE scores.
- Applicants with higher number of hours shadowing a physician assistant.

There is no acceleration or advanced standing in the program regardless of prior experience or degree.

Mount St. Joseph University is committed to providing an educational and employment environment free from discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or other minority or protected status. This commitment extends to the University's administration of its admission, financial aid, employment, and academic policies, as well as the University's athletic programs and other University-administered programs, services, and activities.

The University has designated the chief compliance and risk officer, 513-244-4393, Office of the President, as the individual responsible for responding to inquiries, addressing complaints and coordinating compliance with its responsibilities under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and other applicable federal and state civil rights laws. The University has designated the director of Learning Center & Disabilities Services, 513-244-4524, as the individual responsible for responding to inquiries, addressing complaints and coordinating compliance with its responsibilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.