

Physician Assistant

What is a Physician Assistant? A physician assistant (PA) or physician associate is a healthcare professional who practices medicine as a part of a healthcare team with supervising physicians and other providers.

The median annual PA is \$108,610, however this can vary depending upon specialty, practice setting, geographic location, and years of experience.

A student may elect to major in any chosen field; however, there are certain required courses which a student must complete prior to admission to PA school – see back of handout.

How do I apply? The first opportunity to apply is the summer prior to your senior year for entrance to the summer or fall after you graduate.

- Register for and score competitively on the GRE
- Obtain relevant volunteer experience with a Physician/Physician Assistant
- Complete and submit the application for the school of your choice

Selection Criteria:

- Grades – the average accepted GPR is 3.5. Competitive applicants typically have higher averages.
- Volunteer/Work experience – applicants who gain admission typically have spent time volunteering, working, and/or shadowing in environments that provide exposure to **patient contact** and to the physician assistant career.
- Letters of Recommendations
- Interview

Programs in Texas:

- Baylor
- Texas Tech
- University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB)
- Hardin-Simmons University (HSU)
- University of Mary Hardin Baylor (UMHB)
- University of North Texas (UNT)
- University of Texas Southwestern (UTSW)
- UT Health – San Antonio (UTHSC)
- University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV)

Program Start dates

Program	Starts	Prerequisite deadline
Baylor, Tech, UTMB, HSU	Sum/Sum/Sum/Fall	Prior to starting
UNT	Fall	December 31
UTSW, UTHSC-SA, UTRGV, UMHB	Sum/Sum/Fall/Fall	September 1

- ❖ Tech requires that you not have more than 9 hours of prerequisites in progress at the time of application.
- ❖ UTMB requires that your application be **VERIFIED** by September 1.

Texas PA School Prerequisites		Baylor	Hardin Simmons	Texas Tech	UMHB	UNT	UT Health SA	UTMB	UTRGV	UTSW
Intro Biology I&II (8)	BIOL 111/112		✓					✓	✓	
A&P I & II (8)	BIOL 319/320 or ⁽¹⁾ VIBS 305/VTPP 423	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ ⁽¹⁾	✓	✓	✓ ⁽¹⁾
Microbiology (4-5)	BIOL 351 or VTPB 405	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (or Bacteriology)	✓	✓
Genetics (3)	GENE 301, 302, 310, or 320	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Immunology (3)	BIOL 454 or VTPB 409							✓ ⁽²⁾ (or Virology)		
General Chemistry I&II w Lab (8)	CHEM 101/111 & 102/112 OR CHEM 119/120	✓	4 hours		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Ochem I w Lab (4)	CHEM 227/237	✓	✓	✓ (or Biochem)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (or Biochem)	✓
Medical Terminology	HLTH 354							✓		
Psychology (3)	PSYC 107	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Sociology (3)	SOCI 205	✓ (or 3 more hours of psyc)	✓ (or 3 more hours of psyc)							
Behavioral/Social Science								✓ (6 hours- PSYC &/or SOCI)		
College Algebra (or higher)						✓				2020-2021 & beyond cycle stats is required
Statistics (3)	STAT 301, 302, 303, or 312	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
English (3)		✓	✓							
Upper Level Science					3 hours					

(1) VIBS 305 is not accepted at UT Southwestern or UT Health San Antonio

(2) UTMB immunology pre-req can be substituted with molecular biology, cellular, or embryology. NOTE: Beginning EY 2021, nutrition courses may no longer be used as a substitute for the immunology pre-req.

Note: All prerequisites and information are subject to change at any time without notice. It is the responsibility of the applicant to remain up-to-date on all requirements.

No Texas program will accept online BIOL course credit.

Professional School Advising | Career Center

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