

School of Health Sciences

Graduate Pathway Plan

MASTER OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES (MSPAS)

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program is a full-time, 27-month program in Pacific's School of Health Sciences. The PA program provides students with numerous opportunities for interprofessional education through student clinical training experiences at community hospitals and clinics and involvement with Pacific's highly-regarded health-related programs. During the first year, students build a strong academic foundation of medical knowledge in preparation for clinical training. The clinical education portion of the program consists of 11 clinical rotations in various healthcare settings (eight core rotations and three elective rotations), each four weeks long. Students have the option to choose a specialty pathway for elective courses.

STARTING TERM:

SPRING

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

AUGUST 1

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) Minimum Cumulative GPA 3.0 and Science GPA, as calculated by CASPA.
- 2) Completion of all required prerequisite courses with a minimum grade of C. AP/CLEP not accepted for science courses.
- 3) Minimum of 1000 hours of completed qualifying patient care experience (PCE) at the time of application. (see PA webpage for qualifying PCE)
- 4) Baccalaureate degree conferred and showing on the transcript at the time of application.
- 5) Completed/verified CASPA Application by the published application deadline

PREREQUISITE COURSES:

UOP COURSE ID:	SUBJECT AREA
CHEM 024, 025, 027, 121, 123, 141, 151, 153, 157, 158, 158	GENERAL CHEMISTRY (SELECT TWO (2) COURSES)
BIO 051, 061, 072, 101, 122, 126, 128, 152, 153	BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (SELECT TWO (2) COURSES)
BIO 170	ANATOMY
BIO 180	PHYSIOLOGY

UOP COURSE ID:	SUBJECT AREA
BIO 145	MICROBIOLOGY
MATH 035 <u>OR</u> MATH 037	STATISTICS
PSYC 017, 031, 039, 053, OR 069	PSYCHOLOGY
CORE 002, ENG 025, 041, 043, 053, 063, 107, 109, 111, 128, 131, 133, 135	ENGLISH COMPOSITION (SELECT TWO (2) COURSES)

GRADUATE PREPARATION PLAN:

By following this graduate preparation plan, you will strengthen your preparation and chances for success in graduate study as well as enhance the depth and quality of your undergraduate learning experience.

Year 1:

1. Establish a career plan with Career Services Advisor
2. Attend a Pacific Grad Expo and connect with MPAS program reps

Year 2:

1. Class planning check-in with Faculty Advisor
2. Join/ create a physician assistant-related student organization

Year 3:

1. Discuss MPAS pre-requisites with Faculty Advisor (MPAS recommends demonstrating academic success with a heavy science course load (14-16 units) in at least one semester during Year 3 or Year 4)
2. Check-in with Career Services to discuss progress toward career goals
3. Visit the Pacific Volunteer Center to explore local physician assistant-related community service/ observation opportunities.
4. Utilize Handshake and meet with an Employer and Internship Specialist to find a local healthcare clinic/ organization to obtain a job in healthcare with direct exposure to patients.
5. Review MPAS matriculant data, noted on the website, to determine if you would be a competitive applicant.

Year 4:

1. Discuss degree progress and graduation with Faculty Advisors
2. Schedule a Career Advising appointment for graduate school application support.
3. Attend a Grad Financial Aid workshop and CASPA application workshop
4. Discuss your career goals and interest in attending health professional schools with your professors and set up recommenders for CASPA application
5. Attend a regional physician assistant-related group meeting/ event
6. Obtain a job in health care with direct exposure to patients and working directly with PAs.
7. Review MPAS matriculant data, noted on the website, to determine if you would be a competitive applicant before applying.