



Master of

Physician Assistant Studies

Franklin Pierce University's **Master of Physician Assistant Studies** program features a holistic approach to learning and patient care. Students receive instruction that advances their personal and professional development to become ethical, caring clinicians with a focus on treating a patient's body, mind, and spirit. In addition to classroom instruction, clinical experience is a vital program component. Clinical sites throughout the country provide this training with a concentration in rural and underserved regions of Vermont and New Hampshire.

This is a full-time day program designed to be completed in 27 calendar months. Students attend classes at the University's Lebanon, New Hampshire center. Our facility includes classrooms, seminar rooms, a computer lab, and a clinical lab where students learn hands-on, practical skills with state-of-the-art training equipment.

PROGRAM GOALS

1. Prepare students to function as primary care providers in the health care setting while providing enhanced training for those who wish to specialize.
2. To educate Physician Assistants to practice patient-centered, holistic medicine; caring for the patient's body, mind, and spirit.
3. To nurture students in the development of their professional role as a collaborative member of the health care team and their personal journey to becoming reflective, ethical practitioners.
4. To graduate self-directed learners with a desire to engage in critical evaluation of the practice of medicine and the medical literature.
5. To recruit students from rural and underserved communities, particularly those from Vermont and central and northern New Hampshire, as well as those from underrepresented populations in medicine.
6. To return these students to rural and underserved communities for clinical training and practice.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

- The 27-month program offers one start annually in the late fall.
- Courses are offered in four 12-week terms per year for a total of nine terms.
- Course sequencing and descriptions are available on the University website.



The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) has granted Accreditation - Continued to the Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program sponsored by Franklin Pierce University. Continued accreditation is an accreditation status granted when a currently accredited program is in compliance with the ARC-PA Standards.

Continued Accreditation remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the Standards. The approximate date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA will be September 2017.

FranklinPierce
UNIVERSITY

College of Graduate &
Professional Studies

Master of

Physician Assistant Studies

MISSION

The mission of the Franklin Pierce University Physician Assistant Program is to graduate competent and compassionate physician assistants who possess the requisite knowledge, skills, and attitude to provide high-quality, patient-oriented primary care in diverse environments.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

The Physician Assistant Program at Franklin Pierce University is a non-thesis, graduate level program awarding the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (M.P.A.S.) degree. Requirements for consideration of admission to the M.P.A.S. program are listed as follows:

Prerequisites:

- Completion of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution.
- Achievement of a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.8 and a science GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Candidates whose cumulative GPA is below a 2.8 or science GPA is below a 3.0 may be considered qualified on a case-by-case basis if their GPA for the last 60 semester credits and their science GPA recalculation is at least 3.3. The science GPA recalculation is based upon the most recent prerequisite and recommended courses taken. Applicants who qualify for recalculation of their GPA must submit a request for this consideration in writing to PAProgram@franklinpierce.edu.
- Successful completion of all prerequisite coursework with a grade of "C" or better.

Prerequisite Courses:

- Two semesters of Anatomy and Physiology (8 credits with lab)
- Two semesters of Chemistry (8 credits with lab)
- One semester of Biology (4 credits with lab)
- One semester of Microbiology (4 credits with lab)
- One semester of Statistics (3 credits)
- One semester of Psychology (3 credits)

Recommended Courses:

Genetics, Immunology, Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry and/or Cell Biology, Nutrition, Sociology

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The following technical standards establish the essential qualities necessary for students enrolling in the Physician Assistant program. Students must possess these qualities throughout the program in order to achieve the required level of competency stipulated for program advancement and graduation, and demonstrate the standards upon admission to the program.

Sensation Students must possess sufficient visual, auditory, and tactile sensation to receive appropriate information in the classroom, laboratory, and other education settings.

Communication Students must be able to communicate effectively with patients, family members and other clinicians.

Motor Function Students must have sufficient strength and coordination to perform the activities required of a Physician Assistant.

Intellectual Capability Clinical problem solving, a critical ability for Physician Assistants, encompasses the abilities to accurately measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate, learn, and retain information, and to make decisions in a timely manner.

Behavioral/Social Proficiency Students must possess the ability to establish and maintain appropriate professional relationships.

The Academic Catalog, posted on the University's website, offers a detailed description of these technical standards. Please refer to the catalog for complete information on technical standard requirements.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are accepted through the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) at caspaonline.org. All applications must include 3 letters of recommendation and be submitted by November 1 for the following year and will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. Supplemental materials, which must be submitted directly to the program by the November 1 deadline, include an updated resume and a signed P.A. Shadowing Form reflecting a minimum of 20 shadowing hours completed with a PA-C. Applicants are encouraged to review the "Additional Considerations for Admission" located on the program's website.

Applications and supplemental materials will be reviewed and ranked for consideration of an invitation to an on-campus interview and written exercise. All graduates of Franklin Pierce University and The University of Vermont Post-Baccalaureate Premedical Program who meet the minimum criteria for admission will receive an invitation to interview. No entrance examinations are required for admission to the program. Applicants may submit an application at any time. Faculty will review applications when there are two or fewer outstanding prerequisites.

Apply online today!
franklinpierce.edu/gradapply

Information provided is accurate at the time of printing. Please see the full Academic Catalog on our website for complete degree and course information. FPU reserves the right to change academic programs, policies, regulations, fees and calendars without notice. (November 2014)



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