Physician Assistant
Pre-Professional Advising
907-474-6396

Physician assistants are health care professionals licensed to practice medicine with physician supervision. As part of their comprehensive responsibilities, PAs conduct physical exams, diagnose and treat illnesses, order and interpret tests, counsel on preventive health care, assist in surgery, and in most states can write prescriptions.

Becoming a PA typically requires a master's degree, and a bachelor's degree is usually required to be admitted to a program. Some schools offer programs that allow students to finish a bachelor's degree while working toward the Master's of Physician Assisting. Becoming a certified PA will take at least 3-6 years of college.

Admission to PA school is competitive, so take advantage of any course work or experience that may give you an added edge. Most schools require or strongly recommend health care experience as a prerequisite. To be considered for admission, students should take the Graduate Record Exam and complete a curriculum that includes general chemistry (CHEM F105X, F106X), general biology (BIOL F115X, F116X), anatomy and physiology (BIOL F111X, F112X), microbiology (BIOL F342), entry-level, developmental and abnormal psychology (PSY F101, F240, F345), as well as English (F111X, F211X or F213X). Careful planning is necessary because course requirements differ among schools.

Students considering a career as a physician's assistant can learn more at www.uaf.edu/advising/degree/preprof/physasst.html and should see an academic advisor in the Academic Advising Center.

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Baccalaureate Core Requirements

All degrees (e.g. B.A., B.S, etc.) require additional courses. Refer to specific degree and program requirements.

**COMMUNICATION (9)**

Complete the following:

ENGL F111X ............................................................ (3) ________

ENGL F190H may be substituted.

Complete one of the following:

ENGL F211X OR ENGL F213X ........................................ (3) ________

Complete one of the following:

COMM F131X OR COMM F141X .................................... (3) ________

**PERSPECTIVES ON THE HUMAN CONDITION (18)**

Complete all of the following four courses:

ANTH F100X/SOC F100X ................................................... (3) ________

ECON F100X OR PS F100X ............................................. (3) ________

HIST F100X ............................................................... (3) ________

ENGL/FL F200X .......................................................... (3) ________

Complete one of the following three courses:

ART/MUS/THR F200X, HUM F201X OR ANS F202X ........ (3) ________

Complete one of the following six courses:

BA F323X, COMM F300X, JUST F300X, NRM F303X,

PS F300X OR PHIL F322X ................................................ (3) ________

OR complete 12 credits from the above courses PLUS

* two semester-length courses in a single Alaska Native language or other
non-English language OR

* three semester-length courses (9 credits) in American Sign Language
  taken at the university level.

**MATHEMATICS (3)**

Complete one of the following:

MATH F103X, MATH F107X, MATH F161X OR STAT F200X (3–4) ________

* No credit may be earned for more than one of MATH F107X or F161X.

OR complete one of the following:*  

MATH F220X, MATH F201X, MATH F202X,

MATH F262X OR MATH F272X ........................................... (4) ________

* Or any math course having one of these as a prerequisite.

**NATURAL SCIENCES (8)**

Complete any two (4-credit) courses:

ATM F101X ............................................................... (4) ________

BIOL F100X .............................................................. (4) ________

BIOL F103X .............................................................. (4) ________

BIOL F104X .............................................................. (4) ________

BIOL F111X .............................................................. (4) ________

BIOL F112X .............................................................. (4) ________

BIOL F115X .............................................................. (4) ________

BIOL F116X .............................................................. (4) ________

CHEM F100X ............................................................ (4) ________

CHEM F103X ............................................................ (4) ________

CHEM F104X ............................................................ (4) ________

CHEM F105X ............................................................ (4) ________

CHEM F106X ............................................................ (4) ________

GEOG F205X .......................................................... (4) ________

GEOS F100X ........................................................... (4) ________

GEOS F101X ........................................................... (4) ________

GEOS F112X ........................................................... (4) ________

GEOS F120X ........................................................... (4) ________

GEOS F125X ........................................................... (4) ________

MSL F111X .............................................................. (4) ________

PHYS F102X ............................................................... (4) ________

PHYS F103X ............................................................... (4) ________

PHYS F104X ............................................................... (4) ________

PHYS F113X ............................................................... (4) ________

PHYS F116X ............................................................... (4) ________

PHYS F175X ............................................................... (4) ________

PHYS F211X ............................................................... (4) ________

PHYS F212X ............................................................... (4) ________

PHYS F213X ............................................................... (4) ________

**LIBRARY AND INFORMATION RESEARCH (0–1)**

Successful completion of library skills competency test OR

LS F100X or F101X prior to junior standing .................... (0–1) ________

**UPPER-DIVISION WRITING AND ORAL COMMUNICATION (0)**

Complete the following:

Two writing intensive courses designated (W) .................. (0) ________

One oral communication intensive course designated (O) ...... (0) ________

OR two oral communication intensive courses designated (O/2), at the upper-division level (see degree and/or major requirements) ...... (0) ________

**TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED.......................................................... 38–39**