

# 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 degree completion 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 5-6 years from the start 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 105X, 106X), general biology (BIOL 105X, 106X), anatomy and physiology (BIOL 111X, 112X), microbiology (BIOL 342), entry-level, developmental and abnormal psychology (PSY 101, 240, 345), as well as English (111X, 211X or 213X). 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](http://www.uaf.edu/advising/degree/preprof/physasst.html) and should see an advisor in the Academic Advising Center.

## 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 111X ..... (3) \_\_\_\_\_  
*ENGL 190H may be substituted.*

#### Complete one of the following:

ENGL 211X OR ENGL 213X ..... (3) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Complete one of the following:

COMM 131X OR COMM 141X ..... (3) \_\_\_\_\_

### PERSPECTIVES ON THE HUMAN CONDITION (18)

#### Complete all of the following four courses:

ANTH 100X/SOC 100X ..... (3) \_\_\_\_\_  
ECON 100X OR PS 100X ..... (3) \_\_\_\_\_  
HIST 100X ..... (3) \_\_\_\_\_  
ENGL/FL 200X ..... (3) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Complete one of the following three courses:

ART/MUS/THR 200X, HUM 201X OR ANS 202X ..... (3) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Complete one of the following six courses:

BA 323X, COMM 300X, JUST 300X, NRM 303X,  
PS 300X OR PHIL 322X ..... (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 107X, MATH 161X OR MATH 103X ..... (3-4) \_\_\_\_\_  
*\* No credit may be earned for more than one of MATH 107X or 161X.*

#### OR complete one of the following:\*

MATH 200X, MATH 201X, MATH 202X,  
MATH 262X OR MATH 272X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
*\*Or any math course having one of these as a prerequisite*

### NATURAL SCIENCES (8)

#### Complete any two (4-credit) courses:

ATM 101X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
BIOL 100X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
BIOL 103X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
BIOL 104X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
BIOL 105X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
BIOL 106X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
BIOL 111X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
BIOL 112X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
CHEM 100X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
CHEM 103X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
CHEM 104X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
CHEM 105X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
CHEM 106X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
GEOG 205X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
GEOS 100X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
GEOS 101X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
GEOS 112X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
GEOS 120X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
GEOS 125X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
MSL 111X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHYS 102X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHYS 103X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHYS 104X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHYS 115X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHYS 116X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHYS 175X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHYS 211X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHYS 212X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHYS 213X ..... (4) \_\_\_\_\_

### LIBRARY AND INFORMATION RESEARCH (0-1)

Successful completion of library skills competency test OR

LS 100X or 101X 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**