

# HEALTH SCIENCES (BS) & PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT (PA)

## Contacts

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Program Website (<https://www.jefferson.edu/academics/colleges-schools-institutes/health-professions/departments-programs/health-sciences/physician-assistant-studies/health-sciences-bs-physician-assistant-ms.html>)

## Program Description

The Health Sciences to Physician Assistant program is designed for students who have determined they want to pursue a physician assistant career early. Students in this five-year accelerated dual degree program are assured a seat in the graduate MS Physician Assistant Studies program, provided they meet progression criteria set for their enrollment term.

Prior to enrolling in the professional phase of the program, students must complete an online application through CASPA (Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistants) by the stated deadline of the year prior to their desired master's enrollment date. All applicants who apply to CASPA, have a CASPA-calculated cumulative GPA and science GPA of 3.25, and at least 200 documented direct patient contact hours will receive an admissions interview.

Students matriculating into the professional phase of study in the Physician Assistant program will complete 20-22 graduate PA credits during Year 4 fall. These credits are allocated to the undergraduate BS degree in Health Sciences, with graduation eligibility in December. Year 4 spring and Year 5 courses comprise the MS degree.

The accelerated BS/MS PA is a cohort program that requires uninterrupted enrollment. Once accepted, students may not accelerate (i.e. take additional courses during summer semesters to shorten program length) or decelerate (i.e. take a reduced course load in a semester and add another year to undergraduate study).

The graduate Physician Assistant Program requires a continuous 25 months of study and includes Didactic and Clinical portions. The Didactic year consists of three semesters of medically related classroom and laboratory work, integrating some clinical experiences. Students must successfully complete all Didactic courses before entering the Clinical year. The Clinical year consists of extensive clinical experience through nine 5-week rotations at a variety of medical facilities, including hospitals and medical offices.

## Curriculum: 5 Years, 217 Credits

Course	Title	Credits
<b>First Year</b>		
FYS 100	Pathways Seminar	1

Course	Title	Credits
WRIT 101	Writing Sem I: Written Comm.	3
AVIS 101	American Visions	3
WRIT 2XX	Writing Seminar II	3-4
MATH 1XX	Pre-Calculus/Intro Calculus	3
BIOL 103 & 103L	Biology I and Biology I Lab	4
BIOL 104 & 104L	Biology II and Biology II Lab	4
CHEM 103 & 103L	Chemistry I and Chemistry I Lab	4
CHEM 104 & 104L	Chemistry II and Chemistry II Lab	4
PSYC 101	Intro to Psychology	3
HSCI 100	Intro to Health Professions	1

**Credits 33-34**

<b>Second Year</b>		
ETHC 2XX	Ethics	3
GDIV 2XX	Global Diversity	3
ADIV 2XX	American Diversity	3
GCIT 2XX	Global Citizenship	3
PSYC 201	Abnormal Psychology	3
HSCI 230	Intro to Healthcare	2
CHEM 214	Bioorganic Chemistry	3
BIOL 221 & 221L	Microbiology and Microbiology Lab	4
BIOL 201 & 201L	Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Human Anat & Physiology I Lab	4
BIOL 202 & 202L	Human Anatomy & Physiology II and Human Anat & Physiology II Lab	4
PSYC 213	Developmental Psychology	3

**Credits 35**

<b>Third Year</b>		
CGIS 300	Contemporary Global Issues	3
ISEM 3XX	Integrative Seminar	3
PHIL 499	Philosophies of the Good Life	3
HSCI 225	Applied Statistics	3
HSCI 3XX	Health Sciences Elective	3
BIOL XXX	Biology Elective	3
HSCI 320	Clinical Interactions	3
HSCI 330	Medical Terminology	3
BIOL 207 & 207L	Principles of Genetics and Principles of Genetics Lab	3

**General Elective 6**

**Credits 33**

<b>Fourth Year</b>		
<b>Summer &amp; Fall – BS Awarded in December</b>		
PAST 407A	Advanced Anatomy (A)	2
PAST 407B	Advanced Anatomy (B)	3
PAST 22-Medicine I		7
PAST 524		5
PAST 526		5
PAST 628	Medicine II	3
PAST 627	Patient Care & Clin Reasoning II	5
PAST 626	Principles of PA Practice II	4
PAST 615	Diagnostic Medicine	2.5

**Credits 36.5**

<b>Spring</b>		
<b>Credits toward MS</b>		
PAST 530	Clinical Medicine I	8
PAST 612		2.5
PAST 550	Pharm & Clinic Therapeutics I	4
PAST 610	Emergency Medicine	3

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Course	Title	Credits
PAST 615	Diagnostic Medicine	2
PAST 605	Clin Correlations of Pub Hlth	1
<b>Credits</b>		<b>20.5</b>
<b>Fifth Year</b>		
<b>Summer</b>		
PAST 621	Clinical Disciplines Overview (Surgery, Pediatrics, Women's Health)	6
PAST 622	Pharmacotherapeutics Seminar	1
PAST 603	Advanced Physical Assessment	0.5
PAST 623	Adv Diagnostic Medicine Seminr	1
Transition to Clinical Year		6
<b>Clinical Rotations: 5 weeks each</b>		
Internal Medicine		6
Primary Care I		6
Primary Care II		6
Pediatrics		6
Women's Health		6
Emergency Medicine		6
Psychiatry/Mental Health		6
Surgery		6
General Elective		6
PAST 772	Masters Comprehensive Exp	2
<b>Credits</b>		<b>70.5</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>228.5-229.5</b>