



Master of Science in **Physician Assistant Studies**

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The Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (PA) program at St. Bonaventure University prepares students for meaningful careers as physician assistants, concentrated on comprehensive patient care across diverse settings and populations. The 28-month program combines rigorous academic work, hands-on fieldwork, and state-of-the-art facilities in the Dennis R. DePerro School of Health Professions.

Be a key player in health care delivery

The Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies prepares students academically and professionally for careers as physician assistants (PAs), medical professionals who diagnose, treat, and prescribe medications across all medical settings and specialties. The program holds accreditation-provisional status by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA).*

A demanding 28-month curriculum

PA Studies at St. Bonaventure University is a rigorous full-time master's degree program consisting of 122 credit hours divided into three phases that span 28 consecutive months:

- Didactic Phase: a preclinical year spanning 13 months
- Clinical Phase: 14 months of supervised clinical education and coursework
- Summative Phase: a five-week-long evaluation and Board exam preparation

Supervised clinical practice experiences (SCPEs) include nine clinical rotations, forming the foundation for adaptation to the roles/functions of a PA. Students complete the curriculum in a specified sequence, as each semester's coursework is a prerequisite to the next. Students are to successfully complete each semester on time as a cohort.

28
Months to
Complete

13
Month Didactic
Phase

14
Month Clinical
Rotation Phase

Plan of Study

First Year					Second Year					Third Year				
Spring	Credits	Summer	Credits	Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits	Summer	Credits	Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits	
PA 500	1	PA 502	5	PA 503	5	PA 600	4	Rotation 3	5	Rotation 6*	5	Rotation 9	5	
PA 501	5	PA 505	3	PA 506	3	PA 610	1	Rotation 4	5	Rotation 7*	5	Rotation 10	5	
PA 504	3	PA 508	3	PA 509	3	Rotation 1	5	Rotation 5	5	Rotation 8*	5	PA 612	2	
PA 507	3	PA 511	8	PA 512	8	Rotation 2	5			PA 611	5	PA 613	3	
PA 510	8	PA 514	1	PA 515	1					*One of these is research				
PA 513	1	PA 516	1											
	21		21		20		15		15			20		15
Total Credits = 122														

Admission Criteria

Admission to the Physician Assistant Studies program requires the following:

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university within the United States or Canada
- An overall GPA of 3.0 and a prerequisite GPA of 3.0 for admission. A "C" or better in all prerequisite courses is required (C- is not acceptable). Advanced placement credit is not acceptable for prerequisites.
 - Completion of academic course and lab work in certain areas including anatomy & physiology, chemistry, biology & microbiology, genetics, humanities/social sciences, statistics, and psychology.
 - GPA's will be recalculated for repeated courses by using the highest grade for the course rather than averaging the grades for repeated courses.
- Graduate Record Examinations (GRE). **St. Bonaventure's code is 4745.** There is no minimum accepted score for the GRE. Competitive applicants to our program earn scores as follows:
 - Verbal: 40th percentile or higher
 - Quantitative: 40th percentile or higher
 - Analytical Writing: 4 or higher

NOTE: The MCAT cannot be used as a substitute for the GRE

- 500 hours (minimum) of documented and verifiable patient care experience are to be completed by the time of matriculation. Applicants with compensated hours of direct patient care will have an advantage.
- 3 letters of recommendation. One must be from a clinician (PA, MD/DO, or NP).

Applying to the PA Studies program

Applications to the Physician Assistant Studies program are accepted through the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA), a service of the Physician Assistant Education Association

*ARC-PA accreditation-provisional status

Accreditation-provisional status is granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when a program holding accreditation-provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students. Accreditation-provisional does not ensure any subsequent accreditation status. It is limited to no more than 5 years from matriculation of the first class.

Curriculum

- PA 500** - PA Practice (1)
- PA 501** - Basic Science I (5)
- PA 502** - Basic Science II (5)
- PA 503** - Basic Science III (5)
- PA 504** - Patient Assessment I (3)
- PA 505** - Patient Assessment II (3)
- PA 506** - Patient Assessment III (3)
- PA 507** - Pharmacology I (3)
- PA 508** - Pharmacology II (3)
- PA 509** - Pharmacology III (3)
- PA 510** - Clinical Medicine I (3)
- PA 511** - Clinical Medicine II (8)
- PA 512** - Clinical Medicine III (8)
- PA 513** - Medical Humanities I (1)
- PA 514** - Medical Humanities II (1)
- PA 515** - Medical Humanities III (1)
- PA 516** - Medical Informatics (1)
- PA 600** - Procedures (4)
- PA 601-609** - Rotations 1-9 (5 weeks each)
- PA 610** - Master's Proposal (1)
- PA 611** - Master's Data Collection (5)
- PA 612** - Master's Dissemination (2)
- PA 613** - Summative Review (3)