

Application Process & Time Line

The Physician Assistant program will admit students once a year for the fall semester only. An individual's application will be further processed by the Shenandoah University PA program after the completed CASPA application is received.

What is a completed file? To be considered complete by the Shenandoah University PA program, an applicant's file must meet the following requirements:

1. CASPA application must be complete with all transcripts verified.
2. All three references received by CASPA.
3. Official GRE score report received by Shenandoah University.
4. Plan included for outstanding prerequisites. This plan should be listed on the planned or in-progress section of the CASPA application and must include name of institution, course name and number, and semester expected to enroll. A list of prerequisite courses may be found at: <http://www.su.edu/pa/requirements.asp>. Typically, files are less competitive if there are more than two outstanding pre-requisites at the beginning of spring term the year the student intends to begin the PA Program.

In addition, international students must submit:

1. Independent evaluation by an academic credential evaluation company for transcripts from countries outside the United States.
2. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores.

Note: It is the applicant's responsibility to follow up with CASPA and Shenandoah University to make sure all requirements are met and documents received. Email is preferred.

The application review will include evaluation of the following in order to estimate the candidate's aptitude and preparation for graduate studies; commitment to service, patient care, and the PA profession; interpersonal skills; and fit with the SU PA program's mission and values:

1. Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) as calculated by CASPA
2. BCP (biology, chemistry, physics) GPA as calculated by CASPA
3. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Scores
4. Number of outstanding prerequisites and plan for completion
5. References
6. Narrative
7. Quality and length of prior health care experience
8. Commitment to people-oriented service and underserved areas
9. Extracurricular activities

After application review, the most promising candidates are invited for an all-day personal interview. Personal interviews are offered to the most qualified applicants to assess interpersonal and communication skills, maturity, as well as the candidate's understanding and commitment to the PA career and the SU PA program's mission and values.

There are a limited number of seats available for the program. In order to increase chances of acceptance, early application is encouraged. Due to the rolling admission process, there are

typically less seats available to candidates who interview later in the admissions cycle. It is very beneficial to apply to CASPA well before the deadline. Priority will be given to candidates with the strongest complete applications submitted with all supporting documentation prior to October 1. The following schedule will assist you with planning.

CASPA opens	April 15
Application Due to CASPA	January 15
Supporting materials (GRE scores, references, etc.) due to program or CASPA	January 15
Application and supporting materials due for priority consideration	October 1
Interview of top candidates	October – March
Invitation to those selected	October – April
Commitment response due	Two weeks after invitation
Requirements Complete	June 30 th of the year of matriculation
Mandatory pre-orientation	End of June
Mandatory orientation	Wednesday-Friday prior to start of classes
Classes start	End of August