











Admissions Guidelines Booklet

Academic Year 2014-2015

Shenandoah University MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

Introduction

This Admission Guidelines Booklet is designed to provide both the potential and matriculated student with information about the educational program leading to a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies. It should be viewed as an adjunct to Shenandoah University's **Graduate Catalog** and the Shenandoah University **Physician Assistant Program Student Handbook**, which contain specific information regarding the university and related policies. The information herein is subject to periodic revision, and these changes will be relayed to students in a timely manner. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to be aware of all degree requirements and to work closely with a faculty advisor to ensure these requirements are fulfilled.

Overview of the Profession and Program

Physician Assistants (PAs) are health-care professionals prepared to practice medicine with physician supervision. Within the physician/PA relationship, physician assistants exercise autonomy in decision-making and provide a wide range of diagnostic and therapeutic services. The role of the physician assistant includes provision of primary and specialty care in medical and surgical practices located in rural, urban or suburban areas. Physician assistant practice is patient-care centered but may include education, research and administrative duties. (Adapted from AAPA, 2011)

The Shenandoah University Physician Assistant program is a graduate entry-level professional course of study enabling individuals who hold baccalaureate degrees to become physician assistants. The program is designed to prepare graduates for primary-care practice with emphasis on service to medically underserved populations and the team approach to the delivery of health care. The program integrates graduate-level critical thinking and analysis, problem solving, scientific inquiry, self-directed learning and the effective use of modern technology for professional practice that includes elements of research, leadership, education and continued enhancement of the physician assistant profession.

Purpose and Goals

The purpose of the Physician Assistant program is to graduate competent professionals who are well prepared for the demands of modern professional practice in a rapidly changing health-care environment. The curriculum goals are based upon the AAPA/PAEA/NCCPA/ARC-PA "Competencies for the Physician Assistant" document, standards for educational programs contained in the "Accreditation Standards for Physician Assistant Education," the Program's Mission Statement, and the needs of the PA profession. In the PA program curriculum, knowledge, skills and attitudes are considered to be critical elements of professional practice and are addressed in the following curricular goals.

The graduate of the Physician Assistant program will demonstrate the following:

- 1. Entry-level proficiencies necessary for high quality, cost-effective practice as a primary care physician assistant in a dynamic health-care delivery system.
- 2. An understanding of the principles of scientific inquiry and research design as well as the ability to apply these principles to critically read and interpret the literature, leading to enhanced delivery of health care.
- 3. An ability to incorporate the basic principles of education and teaching-learning into programs that benefit the patient, the patient's family and the community.
- 4. Attitudes and skills that exemplify a commitment to personal growth and development and to the growth and development of the profession.
- 5. Attitudes and skills that demonstrate sensitivity to cultural and individual differences.
- 6. An ability to assume a leadership role in professional activities and organizations that advance the physician assistant profession.
- 7. A team and community-oriented approach to the delivery of health care utilizing appropriate modern technologies for the benefit of the patient, the patient's family and the community.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Shenandoah University Division of Physician Assistant Studies is to provide a comprehensive educational program in a collaborative and supportive environment to develop highly skilled, well-educated, compassionate primary-care oriented physician assistants who are capable of providing high quality, patient-centered health care in a variety of settings.

CORE VALUES

We believe physician assistants should:

- 1. Practice competently, ethically, and cost-effectively.
- 2. Serve where needed, both domestically and globally.
- 3. Demonstrate sensitivity to cultural and individual differences.
- 4. Commit to continued personal and professional growth through lifelong learning.
- 5. Contribute to the profession and humankind through leadership, teaching and active scholarship.
- 6. Promote wellness and personal responsibility for maintaining health.
- 7. Advocate for a team approach to health care delivery.
- 8. Promote and uphold the physician assistant profession and its ideals.
- 9. Enrich patients and communities through service and a broad-based humanistic approach to the practice of their profession.

Curriculum Design

The curriculum design, offered in didactic and experiential components, is based upon the concepts of adult-centered learning and professional education, which focus on mastery of knowledge, skills and attitudes required by the graduate to practice effectively as a physician assistant. The didactic curriculum offers multiple modalities for learning, which include self-directed study, recitation, lecture, integrated clinical cases and laboratory experiences. These modalities assist students in developing the necessary skills to be self-directed life-long learners and effectively apply what they learn in the clinical setting. The clinical curriculum provides core primary care and other learning experiences where students apply knowledge and skills in patient care settings under the supervision and mentoring by licensed health care providers.

Program Delivery Model

The Physician Assistant program is offered on a full-time basis only. The length of the program is eight semesters (30 months). The delivery model is designed to prepare students for a rapidly changing health care environment where simple memorization of facts and figures is insufficient for effective clinical practice. Learning is accomplished through independent study and preparation, and facilitated by faculty-led lecture and discussions, small-group case-based exercises, and asynchronous online materials. Interprofessional learning opportunities are integrated throughout the curriculum. As adult learners, it is expected that students will actively engage in independent study, inquiry and clinical rotations outside the classroom to augment learning and to maximize effectiveness of classroom and laboratory contact time.

Since the PA program will use computer technology in the delivery of the curriculum, all PA students must be computer literate. The Shenandoah University PA program has implemented a technology program, which provides a laptop computer, a mobile learning device, and technology support. Participation in this program is mandatory.

Students are expected to adjust their non-curricular demands in order to complete the degree requirements. Employment is not recommended while attending the Physician Assistant program.

Application Process & Time Line

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

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 CASPA.
- 4. Plan included for outstanding prerequisites. This plan should be listed on the planned or inprogress 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 later in this document. Typically, files are less competitive if there are more than two outstanding prerequisites 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. The program will add this coursework to the GPA calculated by CASPA.
- 2. Satisfy English Language Proficiency Requirements for Regular (Unconditional) Admission of Non-Native English Speaker (NNES) Graduate Students to Shenandoah University by means of one of the following:
 - *Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)
 - *Sakae Institute of Study Abroad (SISA)
 - *International English Language Testing System (IELTS)
 - *Successful completion of at least two years of full-time study in a post-secondary educational institution in a country where English is the language of instruction.

See the Shenandoah University graduate catalog for other details regarding minimum scores and dates.

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 in a timely manner to meet CASPA & Shenandoah deadlines. Once your application is considered complete by CASPA, it can take up to FOUR WEEKS for it to be processed and mailed to Shenandoah. Inquiries to Shenandoah University regarding applications should be sent by email to pa@su.edu.

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. Performance in prerequisite coursework
- 5. Number of outstanding prerequisites and plan for completion
- 6. References
- 7. Narrative
- 8. Quality and length of prior health care experience
- 9. Commitment to people-oriented service and underserved areas
- 10. 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

^{*}Shenandoah University may include professional transcripts that are not part of the CASPA GPA calculations.

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, 2013. The following schedule will assist you with planning.

CASPA opens	April 17, 2013
Application and supporting materials due for	October 1, 2013
priority consideration	
Application e-submitted, complete, and	January 15, 2014
verified by CASPA	
Supporting application materials due to	January 15, 2014
program or CASPA	
Interview of top candidates	October – February
Invitation to those selected	October – March
Commitment response due	Two weeks after invitation
Mandatory orientation	Wednesday-Friday prior to start of classes
Classes start	Beginning of July, 2014

Admission Requirements

To be considered for the Physician Assistant program, applicants must:

- 1. Submit all application materials to the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) at www.caspaonline.org, including official transcripts for all institutions of higher education attended and three recommendations.
- 2. Submit official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test (verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing) scores from exams taken after 2002. Scores are to be sent to CASPA. The Shenandoah designated institution code (DI) is 0414. While there is no minimum GRE score required for admission, the successful candidate generally has scores above the 50th percentile. Note: GRE test scores are not required if the applicant already possesses a relevant graduate degree (e.g. MS or MPH).

Graduate Record Examination (GRE) http://www.gre.org 1-609-771-7670

International students must have their transcripts submitted for independent evaluation of equivalency by an acceptable credential evaluation agency. International students are also required to demonstrate English language proficiency as outlined in the Graduate Catalog. See

Application Process & Time Line on previous page and the PA Program FAQs available at www.physician-assistant.su.edu for more details.

- 3. Preference will be given to candidates who can demonstrate a commitment to practice in primary care in rural or urban medically underserved areas. Candidates requesting this preference must do so in the form of a letter or email sent directly to the PA program (not CASPA) and include their rationale for the request along with documentation supporting the commitment to primary care practice in underserved communities. Documentation is best achieved by identifying and describing prior work or community volunteer experience.
- 4. As a part of the CASPA application, candidates will prepare an admissions narrative, which will be evaluated by the admissions committee and must be considered graduate student quality. Use this narrative to explain why you are interested in becoming a physician assistant and demonstrate that you have an in depth understanding of the PA role in the health care system. In addition, candidates are encouraged to use the CASPA narrative to explain any aspects of their application that may require clarification (e.g., gaps in education or work, etc.).
- 5. Health-care experience (voluntary or paid) or observational experience with a physician assistant is not required, but highly suggested and considered by the SU PA admissions committee. This will also be documented within the CASPA application.

6. Academic Requirements:

To be considered for regular admission applicants must have:

- a. A bachelor's degree from a college or university accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.
- b. A minimum 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) undergraduate cumulative grade point average (GPA).
- c. A minimum 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) biology, chemistry and physics (BCP) GPA.

A candidate with less than a 3.0 undergraduate GPA or BCP may be considered for admission with regular student status if he/she has completed at least 15 semester hours of relevant coursework at the graduate level and has a minimum GPA of 3.0 for these courses. See FAQs posted on the Physician Assistant web site for the definition of a relevant degree.

Applicants must complete the following prerequisite coursework (documented via official transcripts):

<u>Course</u>	<u>Semesters</u>	Minimum Credits
a. Human Anatomy and Physiology with lab	2	8
b. General or Introductory Chemistry with lab	1	4
c. Biochemistry	1	3
d. Microbiology with lab	1	4
e. Abnormal Psychology	1	3
f. Child or Life Span Psychology (preferably Life-Spa	an) 1	3
g. Mathematics (preferably statistics)	1	3
h. Medical Terminology	1	3

Important Notes:

- In order to satisfy prerequisites, courses must have been passed with a grade of C or better at a college or university accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. In order to be competitive, however, it is strongly recommended that prerequisites be completed with a grade of B or better.
- Science courses must be current within ten (10) years of application.
- Distance education formats are not encouraged for the science courses that require a laboratory component.
- In some cases, work experience specific to the science course older than 10 years may substitute for repeating the course. Contact the PA program for information on how to request the substitution.
- Human anatomy and physiology sequence (A&P) should be taken at the same university to
 ensure continuity and must cover all body systems. Comparative anatomy, vertebrate anatomy,
 functional anatomy, animal physiology, anatomy and physiology designed for specific
 disciplines, or fundamentals of anatomy and physiology courses are not counted toward the
 A&P requirement.
- Candidates may take anatomy and physiology as separate courses provided <u>both</u> have laboratory components and both have a human, comprehensive focus.
- 7. The PA program reserves the right to verify credentials documented in the candidate's application.
- 8. All applicants are asked to read and adhere to the CASPA Applicant Responsibilities available on the CASPA web site.

The PA program uses a rolling admissions process. Early application is strongly encouraged. After the interview is conducted, the admissions committee may recommend one of the following based upon the collective judgment of the committee and a point scoring system:

- a. <u>Acceptance</u>: Candidates with all prerequisites completed will be recommended for full acceptance. Candidates with outstanding prerequisites will be recommended for conditional acceptance. The number of candidates recommended for acceptance will be determined annually by the PA program class size.
- b. <u>Admission Alternates</u>: A limited number of applicants will be ranked as alternates and will generally be notified of their admission status on or before June 1. Applicants not admitted from the alternate list must reapply, if they wish to be considered in subsequent years. Rank or position on the alternate list will not be disclosed to candidates due to its dynamic nature. (See FAQs.)
- c. <u>Non-Acceptance</u>: Applicants denied acceptance will be notified in writing. Candidates wishing to be considered in a subsequent admission cycle must reapply and must satisfy all admission requirements for that cycle.

Conditional Acceptance Status

An applicant must complete the general admission requirements specified above. Circumstances that may result in a conditional admission include:

- 1. An applicant with a bachelor's degree in progress. An official transcript with the degree posted must be received prior to May 31.
- 2. An applicant who has any prerequisite courses to complete at the time of application may be admitted with conditional status, with a clear understanding that remaining prerequisites must be satisfactorily completed prior to May 15, with official documentation received by May 31. Typically, students with more than two outstanding prerequisites are less competitive. Official transcripts or other appropriate documentation will be required.
- 3. An applicant with an undergraduate cumulative grade point average (GPA) or biology, chemistry, and physics (BCP) GPA less than 3.0 but greater than 2.80 and who has not completed a minimum of 15 semester hours of relevant graduate work with a 3.0 or better GPA, as specified earlier, may be admitted with conditional status. The student must achieve a 3.0 by the end of the first fall semester of the physician assistant curriculum or may be subject to dismissal. Given the competitive nature of the applicant pool, the admissions committee rarely offers acceptance to candidates with GPAs less than 3.00. Candidates with GPAs (overall or BCP) that are over 2.80 and less than 3.0 who wish to be considered for conditional acceptance must submit a written request (letter or email) for consideration within two (2) weeks of submitting the application to CASPA. The letter must include an explanation for the lower GPA and rational for why the admissions committee should consider the individual for conditional acceptance. Candidates who do not send a written request within the 2-week period or whose GPAs (overall or BCP) are lower than 2.80 may receive a denial email upon review of their application.

Transfer and Credit for Experiential Learning

The Division of PA Studies will consider requests for up to 12 semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours) of transfer credit into the curriculum. In order to be considered, courses must have been successfully completed with a grade of "B" or better in a graduate-level program at an accredited institution of higher learning. Courses will be considered for transfer only if they are directly applicable to the established physician assistant program curriculum, as determined by the faculty after thorough review of all appropriate documents (application, transcripts, recommendations and personal request letter).

If the request for transfer is from another physician assistant educational program, it must be from another graduate-level program in which the student is in good standing, and with the specific recommendation of the program director, dean or other appropriate official. The faculty will determine satisfaction of program course prerequisites for transfer students from other PA programs on a case-by-case basis. Transfer candidates must fulfill the Shenandoah University prerequisites prior to matriculation. Candidates not accepted as a transfer student may apply to the program during a regular admission cycle.

The program does not offer academic credit for experiential learning. However, matriculated students with appropriate documented experience may request the instructor of record to accept the experience in lieu of a specific course requirement. The request must be in writing and supporting documentation included. The faculty member has the option of accepting the experience, accepting the experience but requiring a competency evaluation, or denying the request. If the course requirement is waived without examination, the weighting of other course requirements will be adjusted accordingly.

Technical Standards for Admission

The technical standards for admission establish the expectations and abilities considered essential for students admitted to the Physician Assistant program in order to achieve the level of competency required for graduation and practice. All students admitted to the PA program are expected to be able to continually demonstrate the abilities specified below.

Physician Assistant program students:

- must have the mental capacity to assimilate and learn a large amount of complex, technical and detailed information; to solve clinical problems; and to synthesize and apply concepts and information from various disciplines in order to formulate diagnostic and therapeutic plans;
- must have the ability to maintain composure and emotional stability during periods of high stress;
- must have the ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients from different social and cultural backgrounds and develop effective professional rapport with patients and coworkers;
- must have the ability to record examination and diagnostic results clearly, accurately and efficiently, in verbal, written and electronic formats;
- must have adequate sensory function to fulfill minimum competency objectives for inspection, palpation, percussion and auscultation necessary to perform a physical examination;
- must possess sufficient postural control, neuromuscular control and eye-to-hand coordination to
 use standard medical/surgical instruments and possess sufficient control of the upper extremities
 to meet the physical requirements for training and for performing a safe physical examination or
 procedure;
- are expected to learn and perform common diagnostic and therapeutic procedures (e.g., blood drawing, suturing) and interpret the results; are expected to have the degree of coordination of motor skills necessary to respond to emergency situations quickly and appropriately.
- must be able to safely operate a motor vehicle in order to transport oneself to educational experiences off campus.

- are expected to participate in program scheduled learning and assessment activities that may occur between the hours of 6 am and 9 pm.
- are expected to participate in clinical rotations that operate during all times of the day/night.

Applicants are urged to ask questions about the program's technical standards for clarification and to determine whether they can meet the requirements with or without reasonable accommodations. Questions may be directed to the Program Director or Director of Academic Support Services. Revealing a disability is voluntary; however, such disclosure is necessary before any accommodations may be made in the learning environment or in the program's procedures. Information about disabilities is handled in a confidential manner. Reasonable accommodations will be made to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. These require program and institutional approval. Requests for accommodations must be submitted in writing with appropriate documentation, allowing sufficient time prior to matriculation for action on these requests. Candidates who feel that they may not meet the technical standards are encouraged to contact the program director to discuss and identify what accommodations, if any, can be made by Shenandoah University so that the candidate might be able to meet the standards.

Deferment Policy

The Shenandoah PA program has a policy not to honor requests for deferment of admission during the period between formal acceptance and matriculation.

Other Requirements

Applicants selected for admission to the program must provide evidence of good health and up-to-date immunizations prior to matriculation. Prior to beginning coursework, students are required to authorize and submit to a criminal background check, including sex offenses and crimes against minors. Students may also be expected to submit to drug testing required by clinical practice sites or the program. Non-compliance with the criminal background checks and/or drug testing policies may be cause for dismissal from the program of study. In addition, students are required to maintain health insurance and liability insurance coverage. Further information will be reviewed in detail at orientation. Accepted students are required to attend all orientation sessions scheduled by the program.

Falsification of any portion of the application process, including the CASPA application, will be cause for immediate withdrawal of the acceptance offer or dismissal from the PA Program.

Current Curriculum

Note: Physician Assistant Program courses listed below may not be taken out of sequence and require a passing grade of C or better for progression. Policies regarding academic standing and graduation are contained in the Graduate Catalog and the Physician Assistant Program Student Handbook.

SEMESTER	TITLE	CREDITS	COURSE NO.
Summer 1	Medical Physiology & Genetics	3	PA-504
	Neuroscience	1	PA-507
	SUBTOTAL	4	
Fall 1			
	Introduction to the Physician Assistant Profession	1	PA-511
	Anatomy for Physician Assistants I	4	PA-508
	Medical Interview & Physical Assessment I	2	PA-515
	Medical Interview & Physical Assessment Lab I	1	PAL-515
	Introduction to Clinical Medicine & Pharmacology	4	PA-521
	Diagnostic Tests & Procedures I	1	PA-530
	SUBTOTAL	13	
Spring 1	Anatomy for Physician Assistants II	4	PA-509
-piniy i	Medical Interview & Physical Assessment II	2	PA-517
	Medical Interview & Physical Assessment Lab II	1	PAL-517
	Clinical Medicine I	6	PA-570
	Pharmacotherapeutics I	4	PA-544
	Diagnostic Tests & Procedures II	1	PA-531
	SUBTOTAL	18	.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
Cummar 1			
Summer 2	PA Clinical Skills	1	PA-519
	PA Clinical Skills Lab	1	PA-519 PAL-519
		1	PAL-319 PA-513
	Healthcare Systems and Issues in Healthcare	2	PA-515 PA-579
	Primary Care Practicum I SUBTOTAL	5	PA-579
	SUBTUTAL	3	
Fall 2	Clinical Medicine II	5	PA-670
	Pharmacotherapeutics II	4	PA-644
	Diagnostic Tests & Procedures III	1	PA-532
	Epidemiology, Research & Interpreting the Medical Literature	3	PA-614
	Humanities for the PA Profession	2	PA-611
	Women's Health	2	PA-671
	SUBTOTAL	17	
Spring 2	Clinical Rotations *	10	
	Rotation Seminar I	1	PA-600
	SUBTOTAL	11	171000
Summer 3	Clinical Rotations *	5	
	Rotation Seminar II	.5	PA-601

	SUBTOTAL	5.5	
Fall 3	Clinical Rotation *	2.5	
	Community Preceptorship Clinical Practicum	4	PA-690
	Capstone Seminar	1	PA-603
	Health Promotion, Disease Prevention & Community Resources	2	PA-612
	SUBTOTAL	9.5	
	GRAND TOTAL	83	
		+3 from elective pool**	

^{*} Sequence of clinical practica will vary by student.

^{**}Additional requirement. Each student is required to take at least one 3 credit professional graduate-level elective course that is interdisciplinary in nature. Scheduling will be determined by the student based on course availability and in consultation with his/her advisor. Generally graduate courses with the HP prefix will be approved. However, students may select other graduate courses to fulfill the elective with the approval of their advisor.

Breakdown of Clinical Courses	<u>Credits</u>	Length/Weeks
Primary Care Clinical Practicum I (PA-579)	2.0	4
Primary Care Clinical Practicum II (PA-680)	2.5	5
Primary Care Clinical Practicum III (PA-681)	2.5	5
Primary Care Clinical Practicum IV (PA-682)	2.5	5
Emergency Medicine Clinical Practicum (PA-683)	2.5	5
Surgical Clinical Practicum (PA-685)	2.5	5
Inpatient Care Clinical Practicum (PA-687)	2.5	5
Elective Clinical Practicum (PA-689)	2.5	5
Community Preceptorship Clinical Practicum (PA-690)	4.0	8

TOTAL = 47 weeks

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

Accreditation Status & NCCPA Pass Rate

The Physician Assistant program is accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA). Graduates of accredited programs are eligible to take the national certifying examination offered by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA). Most states require certification in order to practice.

As of April 1, 2013, the aggregate first-time taker pass rate of Shenandoah University Physician Assistant program graduates (Classes 2003 – 2012) is 98 percent. The national pass rate for the past

five years is approximately 93 percent. Additional information regarding SU PA program's graduate performance on the national certification examination is found on the program's Web site.

Cost & Financial Aid

Tuition and fees are set annually. It is estimated that tuition and fees for the 2013-14 academic year will be \$799 per semester credit hour or an estimated total of \$68,714 for the entire program. Additional costs are estimated to be \$11,773 which includes the required technology and iM Learning program costs (\$3560), ACLS, books, medical equipment, software, liability insurance and supplies. Students are responsible for their own living expenses, travel to and from clinical rotations, and costs associated with temporary housing while on assigned clinical rotations. Applicants accepted for admission must submit a \$500 Advanced Tuition Deposit according to their letter of acceptance. The Advanced Tuition Deposit is non-refundable.

Financial aid for graduate students is available primarily through student loans and private sources. Virginia residents may be eligible for the Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant (VTAG). If you have questions or need further information about financial aid, please contact:

Office of Financial Aid (540) 665-4538 (800) 432-2266 www.su.edu/financialaid

Through the generosity of alumni, community friends and foundations, the Shenandoah University PA program is able to provide several scholarships each year. Additional information regarding SU as well as private and professional association scholarships will be provided at orientation. Candidates interested in exploring loan repayment opportunities through the National Health Service Corps scholarships should call NHSC at (800) 221-9393 or visit the NHSC Web site http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/scholarships/index.html.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Shenandoah University is committed to complying with all federal, state and local laws on matters of discrimination, and the university shall maintain an environment that is free from harassment or discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, physical or mental disability and sexual orientation.

Office of Admissions
540-665-4581
800-432-2266
540-665-4627 (fax)
admit@su.edu

www.admissions.su.edu

Physician Assistant Program 540-542-6208

540-542-6210 (fax)

pa@su.edu www.physician-as

www.physician-assistant.su.edu