



Physician Assistant (PA)

A Full-time, two-and-a-half-year Professional Degree Program (89 credit hours)

DIVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES PROGRAM

Shenandoah University's Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (SUPA) program relies on the extensive experiences of a future-focused faculty and hands-on experiences in clinical rotations. This 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 practice with emphasis on service to medically underserved populations and the team approach to the delivery of health care. Shenandoah partners with two collaborative and close organizations, Valley Health System and Inova Health System. 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.

APPLICATION & ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution is required to be completed prior to matriculation to the program. Applicants from all academic disciplines are welcome to apply, provided they meet the prerequisite course requirements.
- Submit all application materials to the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) at <https://caspa.liaisoncas.com> including official transcripts for all institutions of higher education attended.

REQUIRED PREREQUISITES

The courses below are required to be successfully completed prior to matriculation. No more than TWO prerequisites can be outstanding at the time of application:

Course Name	Number of Courses	Minimum credit (Semester)	Minimum credit (Quarterly)
Human A&P I and II with Labs	2	8	10-12
General or Introduction to Chemistry	1	3	4
General Biology (or Biochemistry)	1	3	4
Microbiology with Lab	1	4	5
Introduction to Psychology*	1	3	4
Statistics	1	3	4
Total	7	24	31-33

*For students who have received advanced placement (AP) credits for Introduction to Psychology, an additional psychology course from the "Recommended Coursework" is required.

RECOMMENDED PREREQUISITES

The courses below are *recommended* to better prepare for the Shenandoah University Physician Assistant curriculum; they are not evaluated to determine competitiveness of an application:

Course Name	Number of Courses	Credits (Semester)	Credits (Quarterly)
Medical Terminology	1	3	4
Biochemistry or Organic Chemistry	1	3	4
Developmental, Child, or Abnormal Psychology	1	3	4

Start Term

Summer II 2024

Courses begin July 2024

Mandatory June orientation date communicated upon seat offer

Admission Deadlines

Application Submission: August 1, 2023

Verification Deadline: September 1, 2023

Minimum GPAs: 3.0 overall cumulative, science, and SUPA prerequisite

GPA requirements are assessed at the time of application. [See Admission Guidelines](#) for more details.

Bachelor's Degree: Required

Interview: Required (in-person and virtual options)

Required Tests

Language Proficiency Requirement must be met.

Submission of TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, or Duolingo

English Test may be required. See our full policy:

<https://www.su.edu/admissions/international-students>

How to Apply

Begin the online application process by going to

<https://caspa.liaisoncas.com/>

Foreign Transcripts

Must be evaluated by [an approved evaluation company](#) before being sent to CASPA.

Contact Us

Primary contact: PA Program Office of Admissions

Email: pa@su.edu

Call: 540-545-7381

<https://www.su.edu/physician-assistant/>

Office of Graduate Admissions

SUGradAdmissions@su.edu

Call: 540-665-4581 | Text: 540-401-5709

Office of Financial Aid

<https://www.su.edu/financial-aid/incoming-graduate-aid/>

finaid@su.edu | Call: 540-665-4538

For more information use our QR code below:





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Program Director
Associate Professor

PROGRAM LOCATIONS



Health Professions Building

1775 North Sector Ct, Winchester, VA 22691
(540) 542-6208



Scholar Plaza, Loudoun

44160 Scholar Plaza Leesburg, VA 20176
(540) 545-7396

PREREQUISITE REQUIREMENT DETAILS:

- A grade of “C” or above is required for all prerequisite courses, however, it is strongly recommended that prerequisites be completed with a grade of A or B.
- No more than TWO prerequisites can be outstanding at the time of application.
- It is *recommended* that all prerequisite coursework be completed within 5 years of matriculation; the program will not accept any prerequisite coursework taken 10 years before the time of matriculation (July 2024).
- Human Anatomy & Physiology courses are required to be taken at the same institution.
- Prerequisites must be completed at a college or university in the United States. Courses completed at Canadian institutions will be evaluated on an individual basis.
- It is recommended that prerequisite coursework be taken in-person, however online coursework and labs are accepted.
- Advanced Placement credit (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) credits will NOT fulfill prerequisite course requirements.

Note: Healthcare experience, patient care experience, or PA shadowing is strongly recommended to develop a robust understanding of the PA profession and current healthcare landscape however they are not required for admission.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM LOCATIONS

Health Professions Building

The Health Professions Building in Winchester, Virginia is located on the Winchester Medical Center Valley Health campus. The building is home to the Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy and the School of Health Professions’ Physician Assistant Studies, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy programs.

Scholar Plaza, Loudoun

Scholar Plaza in Leesburg, Virginia is home to graduate programs in Business, Education, Accelerated Second Degree Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Physician Assistant Studies. Scholar Plaza is situated in the historic growing community of Loudoun County, Virginia only 35 miles from Washington, D.C.

Students in each cohort progress through the curriculum synchronously together. Faculty are located in both locations and students are considered to be part of one cohort regardless of location.

ADDITIONAL PA EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Articulation Agreement Pathway

Shenandoah University’s undergraduate College of Arts and Science has an articulation agreement with its School of Health Professions as a partnership in providing a pathway to graduate admission. Only full-time, enrolled undergraduate Shenandoah University (SU) students who are currently earning a baccalaureate degree from SU are eligible to be considered for a set number of reserved seats.

Early Assurance Pathway

The Early Assurance Pathway is available to incoming undergraduate first-year applicants who meet rigorous high school GPA requirements, and is highly competitive. The PA Early Assurance Pathway offers 5 seats each year.

PA/Master of Public Health Dual Degree

The dual program focuses on primary care in medically underserved populations through coursework that emphasizes broad knowledge and basic skills in public health (MPH) and medical practice (MSPAS).

PA/Performing Arts Medicine Certificate

Students in the Physician Assistant program also have the opportunity to earn a Performing Arts Certificate. This 15-credit certificate prepares health care professionals to assess and manage injuries and disorders specific to those in performing arts.