Doctor of Medical Science

SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY
Doctor of Medical Science

An online clinical doctoral program (30 credits)
Flexible options for working professionals: completed in one semester or within two years

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Shenandoah University's Division of Physician Assistant (PA) offers an innovative online graduate program leading to a Doctor of Medical Science (DMS) degree.

The Doctor of Medical Science program is designed to prepare graduate-level PAs with the advanced skills needed in today's dynamic healthcare environment as doctorally-prepared clinicians. The focus of this clinical doctorate program is to advance student knowledge in healthcare science, evidence-based practice, health equity and leadership. The program is offered fully online, with 100% of coursework completed asynchronously, allowing students the flexibility to earn this degree from any location.

PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

- Completion of a master's degree or a related PA master's degree from a regionally accredited institution.
- Completion of a Physician Assistant program.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate application and $30 application fee
- Unofficial transcripts from all previously attended institutions of higher education are required for initial review; official transcripts will be requested upon acceptance.
- Resume or C.V.
- Admitted students must transfer 14 credits from master's degree.
- Personal Statement (250-300 words): Why would you like to pursue the DMS degree at Shenandoah University?
- Language Proficiency requirement must be met. Submission of TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, or Duolingo English Test may be required. See our policy for full details: https://www.su.edu/admissions/international-students

CAREER OUTLOOK

In all areas of medicine including PA practice, there is a need for future leaders to advocate and shape the policies and programs that are impacting our local and global societies. The profession also needs practitioners who are prepared to design, conduct, and present new research that will advance the profession's understanding of evidence-based practice. Doctorally-prepared PAs have opportunities to advance in clinical, education, and non-clinical roles and expand the reach that PAs have in healthcare.

ADMISSION & APPLICATION

Start Term and Admission Deadline

Spring (January):
Priority Deadline: October 15
Final Deadline: December 1

Summer (May):
Priority Deadline March 1
Final Deadline: April 15

Fall (August):
Priority Deadline: June 15
Final Deadline: August 1

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis until each cohort is full. We recommend submitting by the priority deadline as applicants may be waitlisted if a cohort reaches capacity

PREREQUISITES:

- Completion of a Physician Assistant program
- Master's degree

Format/Location

Online

English Language Proficiency

Language Proficiency requirement must be met. TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, or Duolingo English Test may be required. See our policy for full details:
https://www.su.edu/admissions/international-students/

Foreign Transcripts

Must be evaluated by an accredited service. Approved services are listed at www.naces.org and http://aice-eval.org/.

How to Apply

Begin the online application process by going to https://www.su.edu/admissions/graduate-students/physician-assistant-studies-application-information/doctor-of-medical-science/

Contact Us

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Office of Financial Aid
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Dr. Shea Dempsey

DMSc, MBA, PA-C, EM-CAQ

Program Director

Shenandoah University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award baccalaureate, master's, and doctorate degrees.

CURRICULUM

Doctor of Medical Science (DMS) students are required to complete 16 credits in the Shenandoah University DMS program in addition to the 14 graduate level credits that had been transferred in from their previous degree totaling the 30 credits. Only courses in which the student has earned the equivalent of a "pass" or "B" or higher will be considered for transfer credit.

Designed with working professional in mind, this program features a flexible, accelerated format that can be completed in as little as one semester or progress at a pace that allows completion within two years.

All DMS courses are AAPA-approved for Category 1 credit.

Curriculum:

Course	Title	Credits
DMS 810	Evidence-Based Research	3
DMS 815	Leadership & Healthcare Principles	3
DMS 820	Health Equity & Justice	3
DMS 850	Doctoral Project	3
DMS 870	Doctoral Capstone	4
	Subtotal	16
	Transfer Credits	14
	Total	30
Recommended course		
HP 609	Foundations of Clinical Research	3