

Oregon Health & Science University

Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program

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The OHSU Physician Assistant Program is a 26-month, full-time course of study leading to a Master of Physician Assistant Studies degree. The program annually accepts a class of 36 students each year and is fully accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). Please refer to the program Web site at www.ohsu.edu/pa for additional information.

Admissions Process Time Line (2009-2010 Admissions Cycle)

- The deadline for 2009-10 admissions is 11/01/09. Applications will be available through Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) in 04/15-11/01/09 at www.caspaonline.org
- An OHSU Supplemental Application is required and will be available on the web after May 1, 2009.
- Application Submission Deadline: **November 1, 2009**. **Application must be submitted to CASPA on or before 11/01/09, all supporting materials received by CASPA on or before 11/15/09. GRE scores and supplemental application must be received by the Program on or before 11/15/09** to be considered for 2010; fall term transcripts may be received after deadline. Earlier submission of application is encouraged.
- Informational Sessions held at OHSU during spring/summer months. Please refer to www.ohsu.edu/pa for additional information/directions. Dates for 2010 will be posted in February.
- Program Review of Applications: June 2009 - December 2009
- On-campus Interviews: October 2009 - January 2010
- Class Selection: Rolling Admissions with final decisions by Feb 2010. Program Begins: mid-June

Program Prerequisites (coursework must be completed by the end of fall term 2009):

- Bachelor's degree (degree must be completed by end of spring term 2010)
- Minimum 40 quarter credit hours or 30 semester credit hours of natural science coursework
- General or Cell Biology with Lab (full sequence - 2 semesters or 3 quarters)
- General or Inorganic Chemistry with Lab (full sequence - 2 semesters or 3 quarters)
- Microbiology with Lab (one course with lab)
- Human Anatomy and Physiology with Lab (completed within 7 years of planned PA Program matriculation; minimum of 2 semesters or 3 quarters of a combined A&P course w/lab or one semester each of anatomy w/lab and physiology w/lab)
- General or Developmental Psychology course
- Statistics (non-business statistics; preferably offered through statistics, math, psychology depts)
- Highly recommended - Upper division natural science course work which might include 300 and 400 level courses in organic chemistry, biochemistry, genetics, and pathophysiology
- Graduate Record Exam (GRE) - General Test, taken within the past 5 yrs, School Code: **4780** – official score report must be received by the PA Program by 11/15/09.
- Minimum cumulative GPA and natural science GPA of 2.8
- Minimum of one year (2000 hours as of November deadline) of experience in a responsible health care position is expected of all applicants. Preference is given to those with health care experience that involves direct patient care. Examples of health care experience: medical assistant, nursing assistant, EMT/paramedic, surgery/OR tech, emergency room tech, medical technologist, hospital corpsman, medic, Peace Corps, phlebotomist, PT aide, researcher, and other positions involving direct patient care.
- International graduates In addition to the above requirements, international graduates must meet the following criteria with courses taken at an accredited U.S. or Canadian college/university:
 - 20 credit hours of natural sciences (may include A&P with lab and microbiology w/lab)
 - Human Anatomy & Physiology with Lab (see above for minimum requirements)
 - Microbiology with Lab

- English (reading and writing courses) 6 sem hours/9 qtr hours. English coursework may be waived if original coursework or education was taken at an English-speaking institution
- Evaluation of foreign (non-U.S., non-Canadian) academic credentials by an international credentialing agency is required. See CASPA website for a list of credentialing agencies.
- TOEFL results are required of students for whom English is not their native language. Score results must include scores for the TWE and TSE (Test of Written English & Test of Spoken English).

OHSU PA Curriculum – brief summary

Didactic Curriculum (12months; 4 quarters):

Gross Anatomy w/Cadaver Lab, Physiology, Clinical Medicine, Intro to Pharmacotherapeutics, Intro to Pathophysiology/Mechanisms of Disease, Medical Genetics, Clinical Practicum, Principles of Professional Practice, Medicine Tutorials, Applied Clinical Skills, and Medical Spanish.

Clinical Curriculum (14 months; 5 quarters):

All students participate in clinical training activities in a variety of community-based settings. In keeping with the mission of the program, a majority of the clinical opportunities will be provided for students in rural and urban medically under served sites throughout Oregon, SW Washington & Western Idaho.

Primary Care Clinical Rotations (5 weeks per rotation): Behavioral Medicine, Pediatrics, Women’s Health Care, Emergency Medicine, General Surgery, Inpatient Medicine

Elective Rotations – Up to 10 weeks total in the following areas (5 weeks per rotation): Primary Care, Medical Specialties or Surgical Specialties

Preceptorship: The remainder of the clinical year will be devoted to an extended preceptorship in primary care. As part of the preceptorship, students are required to complete a community-based project.

Estimated Costs – Figures provided are estimates for academic year 2009-10.

Tuition (9 qtrs total)	\$7,504/qtr (\$67,536 total)
Books	\$1,500 (annually)
Fees	\$1,375 (annually)
Laptop Computer/PDA	\$3,000 (one time)
Medical Equipment	\$800 (one time)
Memberships	\$145 (one time)

All potential applicants are encouraged to contact the OHSU Financial Aid Office (1-800-775-5460) to obtain the forms necessary to apply for financial aid. The application process for Financial Aid begins January 1.

Physician Assistant Profession

Physician Assistants are highly trained members of the health care team who practice medicine with the supervision of licensed physicians providing patients with a wide range of services. Physician Assistants are trained to obtain medical histories, perform complete physical examinations and minor surgical procedures, diagnose illnesses, order and interpret routine diagnostic tests, develop treatment plans, suture wounds, set fractures and assist in surgery. PAs also provide education to patients regarding illness, health promotion and disease prevention.

Average Annual Income for Physician Assistants (AAPA 2008 Census Survey):

Salaries	All Years	New Graduates
Mean	\$89,987	\$76,232
Median	\$87,710	\$74,470