

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 38 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 (2011-2012 Admissions Cycle)

- Applications will be available for the 2011-12 cycle through Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) 04/13/11-11/01/11 www.caspaonline.org
- An OHSU Supplemental Application is required and will be available on the web after May 1st.
- Application Submission Deadline: **November 1, 2011**. **Application must be submitted to CASPA on or before 11/01/11 and all supporting materials received by CASPA on or before 11/10/11. Supplemental application must be received by the Program on or before 11/10/11** to be considered for 2011; fall term transcripts may be received after deadline. Early submission of application is encouraged.
- **Information Sessions for 2011 will be held at the OHSU Auditorium 6:00pm-7:30pm; March 7, April 26, July 11, and August 9.** Please refer to www.ohsu.edu/pa for additional information/directions.
- Program Review of Applications: June 2011 - December 2011
- On-campus Interviews: September 2011 - January 2012
- Class Selection: Rolling Admissions with final decisions by Feb 2012. Program Begins: mid-June.

Program Prerequisites (coursework must be completed by the end of fall term 2011):

- Bachelor's degree (degree must be completed by end of spring term 2012)
- Minimum 30 semester credit hours or 40 quarter credit hours of natural science coursework
- General or Cell Biology with Lab (minimum of 2 semesters or 3 quarters)
- General or Inorganic Chemistry with Lab (minimum of 2 semesters or 3 quarters)
- Microbiology with Lab (one course with lab)
- Human Anatomy & 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 Psychology or Developmental Psychology course
- Statistics (preferably through statistics, math, psychology depts.; will not accept business stats)
- 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) – Not required for 2011-12 admissions cycle only. General Test, if taken within the past 5 yrs and prior to August 1, 2011, can be sent to School Code: **4780**; Department Code 0699.
- 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, scribe, 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): Pediatrics, Women’s Health Care, Emergency Medicine, General Surgery, Inpatient Medicine, Community 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 2010-11.

Tuition (9 qtrs total)	\$7,730/qtr (\$69,570 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 apply for federal financial aid through <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/> and visit the OHSU Financial Aid Office website <http://www.ohsu.edu/finaid/> for additional information.

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 2009 Census Survey):

Salaries	All Years	New Graduates
Mean	\$93,105	\$78,405
Median	\$87,500	\$77,500