



Preparing to Enter Physician Assistant Graduate Programs

The institutions listed below offer a master's degree in the Physician Assistant programs. For a complete list of accredited PA programs, please visit the [Accreditation Review Commission on the Education for the Physician Assistant Inc.](#)

- [Albany Medical College, NY](#)
- [Clarkson University, NY](#)
- [CUNY School of Medicine, NY](#)
- [CUNY York College, NY](#)
- [Daemen College, NY](#)
- [Hofstra University, NY](#)
- [Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY](#)
- [Mercy College, NY](#)
- [New York Institute of Technology, NY](#)
- Pace University – [Lenox Hill Hospital, NYC](#) & [Pleasantville, NY](#)
- [St. John's University, NY](#)
- [Stony Brook University, NY](#)
- [SUNY Downstate Medical Center, NY](#)
- [SUNY Upstate Medical Center, NY](#)
- Touro College, [Manhattan, NY](#) & [Bayshore, NY](#)
- [Weill Cornell Medicine, Graduate School of Medical Sciences, NY](#)

Required Courses¹: Students interested in applying to the physician assistant programs of the above-mentioned college are advised to take the following courses. You must complete the below listed pre-requisite courses before applying.

- **General Biology I & II:** BIOL 105 AND BIOL 106
- **General Microbiology:** BIOL 201 (General Microbiology)
- **Genetics:** BIOL 285
- **Cell Biology:** BIOL 286
- **Anatomy & Physiology I & II:** BIOL 325 AND BIOL 326
- **General Chemistry I & II:** CHEM 113 AND CHEM 114
- **Organic Chemistry²:** CHEM 251 AND CHEM 252
- **Biochemistry³:** CHEM 371 OR CHEM 103
- **Calculus:** MATH 141
- **Statistics:** BIOL 230 OR PSYCH 107 OR DATA 205
- **Psychology:** PSYCH 101 AND PSYCH 217
- **Medical Terminology**
- Two courses in English Composition
- Two courses in behavioral sciences: Suggested: Psychology, Sociology, or Anthropology
- Two courses in Humanities: Choose from History, Languages, Arts, Philosophy, e

Recommended Courses:

- BIOL 226 – Comparative Anatomy
- BIOL 350 – Molecular Genetics
- BIOL 360 – Histology
- BIOL 365 – Developmental Biology
- BIOL 366 – Immunology
- BIOL 367 – The Biology of Cancer
- BIOL 369 – Virology
- BIOL 373 – Neurobiology
- CHEM 372 – Biochemistry II
- CHEM 376 – Biochemistry laboratory

Miscellaneous Requirements⁴:

- Bachelor's Degree
- Cumulative and Science GPA of 3.3 or better
- Graduate Record Examination; [GRE](#)
- Test for non-academic attributes or people skills; [CASPer](#)
- > 1000 hours of patient care experience
- Shadowing of a Physician Assistant in a variety of clinical settings
- > 250 hours of Community Service
- Health care experience & leadership
- Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistants; [CASPA](#)
- Letters of recommendation

¹ – This is a comprehensive list of courses needed to apply to the various physician assistant programs. Students are strongly encouraged to confirm individual college's requirements by visiting their website and emailing their admissions departments.

² – Most PA programs require either one semester of Organic Chemistry and one semester of Biochemistry or two semesters of Organic Chemistry. You must take Organic Chemistry II as a pre-requisite for Biochemistry course at Queens College.

These requirements differ between programs and must be verified with individual schools before applying.

³ – Biochemistry with lab is highly recommended; check with your prospective schools if basic Biochemistry is sufficient.

⁴ – The exact details vary by institution and students must check individual PA program's requirements by visiting their websites.