

New York Physician Assistant Master's Program Course Requirements

This is an overview and should in NO WAY substitute for personally reviewing the requirements of each school. Please visit the respective schools website, as these requirements are subject to change. This sheet is simply a general guide.

Courses At Hunter	Stony Brook	Long Island University	New York Institute of Technology	SUNY Downstate	York College	Pace University	St. John's University
BIOL 100	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
BIOL 102	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
BIOL 120 (A&P)	X*	X	X	X	X	X	X
BIOL 122 (A&P)	X*	X	X	X	X	X	X
CHEM 102	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
CHEM 104	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
CHEM 106	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Math**	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
BIOL 230 (MicroBiol)	X	X	RECOMMENDED	X		X	X
CHEM 222	X OR BIOL 300			RECOMMENDED	RECOM- MENDED	X OR BIOL 300	
CHEM 223				RECOMMENDED	RECOM- MENDED	X if CHEM 222 is taken	
CHEM 224				RECOMMENDED	RECOM- MENDED		
CHEM 225				RECOMMENDED	RECOM- MENDED		
BIOL 300*** (BioChem)	X OR CHEM 222			RECOMMENDED	X	X OR CHEM 222	RECOMMENDED
BIOL 203 (Genetics)	X		RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED		X	
PSYCH 100	X		X	X	X		X
STAT***	X	X	X	Recommended	X		

*Preference given to applicants who have completed Anatomy and Physiology at time of application

**Math requirements differ by school. Please visit each respective school's website (links below).

***CHEM 222 and CHEM 223 [Organic Chemistry] are pre-requisites for BIOL 300 [Biochemistry (biology-based)]

****Some programs accept Biostatistics or upper level courses in Psychology or Sociology covering statistics.

Each school has additional requirements regarding social sciences, humanities, and writing. This is only an overview of the science pre-requisites. For all non-science course requirements, please visit each P.A. School's website:

Stony Brook University, School of Health Technology and Management, Physician Assistant Program (M.S.): <https://healthtechnology.stonybrookmedicine.edu/programs/pa/elpa/admissions/requirements>

Long Island University, Brooklyn, Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies:
<http://www.liu.edu/Brooklyn/Academics/Schools/School-of-Health-Professions/Dept/Physician-Assistant/MS-PAS/ProgReq>

New York Institute of Technology Physician Assistant Studies (M.S.):
https://www.nyit.edu/degrees/physician_assistant_studies

SUNY Downstate Physician Assistant Master of Science Program:
<http://www.downstate.edu/CHRP/pa/program.html>

CUNY York College Physician Assistant Master's Program:
<https://www.york.cuny.edu/academics/departments/health-professions/physician-assistant>

Pace University-Lenox Hill Hospital Physician Assistant Master's Program NYC:
<http://www.pace.edu/college-health-professions/department/physician-assistant-studies>

St. John's University, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Masters of Science in Physician Assistant:
<https://www.stjohns.edu/academics/schools-and-colleges/college-pharmacy-and-health-sciences/programs-and-majors/physician-assistant-master-s>

Physician Assistant programs prefer that students complete courses at 4-year institutions with rigorous science programs. Students who are biology majors or who have taken more upper level science courses are generally better applicants.

Physician Assistant programs also require extensive health care experience. While every school has their own minimum requirement, most schools require between 500-1000 documented hours of health care experience, particularly direct patient care. Each school also feels differently about volunteering versus getting paid, some would even like applicants to have non- health care related community service hours in addition to their health care experience. Other schools would like students to have experience in more than one health care setting. Check with each school for their preferences. Generally, the more hours of experience you gain, the better candidate you become; completing at least 1000 hours is highly recommended. Below is a partial list of ways to gain this experience:

- Medical assistant
- Surgical technologist
- Licensed practical or registered nurse
- Dental assistant
- Dental hygienist
- Certified nursing assistant
- Home health aide
- Residential aide
- Emergency medical technician
- Paramedic
- Physical therapist
- Occupational therapist
- Physical therapy assistant
- Physical therapy aide
- Occupational therapy assistant
- Occupational therapy aide
- Respiratory therapist
- Perfusionist
- Electrocardiographic (EKG) technician
- Phlebotomist
- Ophthalmologic technician
- Volunteer work involving direct patient care
- Shadowing a physician, physician assistant or dentist

Most Physician Assistant programs accept between 30-50 students a year making admissions very competitive. Many Physician Assistant programs require that applicants take the GRE (Graduate Record Examinations).

Remember, the information above only applies to Physician Assistant programs in New York State but there are many other programs throughout the country.

If you plan to apply to Physician Assistant programs, you may choose to open a file with the Pre-Health Professions Advising Office so that you can have access to advising, resources, and opportunities. Our office can also assist you in application planning and personal statement review, as well as upload your letters of recommendation to CASPA.

Moreover, if you are unsure whether you want to pursue medical school or physician assistant studies, then you should open a file with our office and begin collecting the appropriate evaluations and letters of recommendation. By doing so, you preserve your options and your ability to apply for a Committee Letter if you choose to apply to medical schools. You can do this by going to:

<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/prehealth/links-resources>.

Students applying to Physician Assistant programs do not receive Committee Letters.

Helpful Websites:

Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistant Programs

www.CASPAonline.org

Physician Assistant Education Association

www.paeaonline.org