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 Courses**: Students interested in applying to the physician assistant programs of the above-mentioned college are advised to take the following courses. Majoring in STEM disciplines is not required; however, 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 Chemistry**: CHEM 251 AND CHEM 252
- **Biochemistry**: 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, etc.

**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 365 – Developmental Biology
- BIOL 366 – Immunology
- CHEM 372 – Biochemistry II
- CHEM 376 – Biochemistry laboratory

**Miscellaneous Requirements**

- 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

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1 – This is a comprehensive list of courses needed to apply to the various physician assistant programs. This list is based on and derived from the admission’s requirements for the year 2021-2022 of the aforementioned PA 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.