

## **University Saint Francis and Indiana Wesleyan University Articulation Agreement for the University Saint Francis Physician Assistant Program**

The University of Saint Francis (USF), in conjunction with Indiana Wesleyan University (IWU), works cooperatively to facilitate entry of highly qualified undergraduate students into the physician assistant profession. This agreement will facilitate entrance into the Physician Assistant Studies Program at USF for such students and will benefit both institutions. The following principles apply to the guaranteed admission program.

### **Admittance Criteria**

A student enrolled at Indiana Wesleyan University who is on target for graduation with a baccalaureate degree may be provisionally accepted to the Physician Assistant Studies Program at USF one year prior to their matriculation, provided they meet the following criteria:

1. Completion of a baccalaureate degree prior to matriculation into the USF PA Program in August.
2. Possession of a minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.50 and science GPA of 3.0. Both GPA requirements must be maintained through completion of the undergraduate degree.
3. Completion of all course prerequisites stipulated by the USF PA Program with a grade of “C” or higher. Grades of “C-” or “pass/fail” will not satisfy this requirement.
  - a. Courses that must be completed to satisfy the minimum admission requirements include:
    - i. Human anatomy with lab (3 credits, above the 100 level)\*
    - ii. Human physiology with lab (3 credits, above the 100 level)\*
      1. \*Two courses of combined human anatomy and physiology with labs (minimum total of 6 credit hours) may be used to satisfy the individual human anatomy and human physiology requirements.
      2. \*Comparative anatomy and/or physiology courses are not considered acceptable substitutions for human anatomy or physiology. Mammalian anatomy and vertebrate anatomy are considered acceptable substitutions for human anatomy.
    - iii. Microbiology with lab (3 credits, above the 100 level)
    - iv. Organic chemistry with lab (3 credits, above the 100 level) OR Biochemistry with or without lab (3 credits, above the 100 level)
    - v. Two courses (minimum of 6 total credits) within the behavioral science discipline (e.g., psychology, sociology, or anthropology)
  - b. Courses that must be completed at Indiana Wesleyan University are detailed in Appendix A of this document and include:
    - i. Principles of Biology (BIO 125)
    - ii. General Chemistry I and II (CHE 125/125L and CHE 126/126L)
    - iii. Organic Chemistry I (CHE 235/235L)
    - iv. Any 2 of the following 5 courses: General Psychology (PSY 150), Developmental Psychology (PSY 250), Psychology of Abnormal Behavior (PSY 366), Introduction to Sociology (SOC 150), Cultural Anthropology (SOC 225)
    - v. General Physiology (BIO 312) and Mammalian Anatomy (BIO 311)

- vi. Microbiology (BIO 213/213L)
  - c. Courses that are not required but are strongly recommended are listed and described in Appendix A of this document.
4. Possession of a minimum of 1000 hours of direct patient care experience prior to graduation from Indiana Wesleyan University. Evidence of a student's direct patient care experience will be demonstrated via the completed CASPA application.
- a. Direct patient care experience is defined as hands-on experience with patients in an approved paid clinical position.
  - b. Positions that qualify for direct patient care experience include: medical assistant; patient care technician; surgical technician or technologist; first assistant; scribe; certified nursing assistant or student nursing assistant; occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant/tech/aide; physical therapist or physical therapy assistant/tech/aide; certified athletic trainer; phlebotomist; respiratory therapist; emergency room technician; lab technician (if phlebotomy and/or direct patient care is the majority of job description); pharmacist; certified pharmacy technician with hands-on patient care; dietician; emergency medical technician; paramedic; registered nurse or nursing assistant/aide; radiologic technician or technologist; ultrasound technician or technologist; EKG/EEG technician; chiropractor or chiropractor assistant; dental hygienist; military medic or corpsman; ophthalmic or optometric assistant; rehabilitation technician; or social worker (with a clinical focus).
  - c. Positions that do not qualify for direct patient care experience include: personal care assistant; clerical pharmacy technician; unit clerk; patient transporter; lifeguard; camp counselor; counselor; front office staff or clinical administrator; drug and/or equipment sales representative; or medical researcher.
5. Submission of three letters of recommendation via CASPA.
- a. One recommendation must be from the student's academic advisor. This letter should indicate that the student is on track to meet all admittance criteria included in this agreement and that the student is in good academic standing per Indiana Wesleyan University's definition. The letter should also speak towards the applicant's ability to be successful in a graduate medical program.
  - b. One recommendation must be from a clinician (i.e., MD, DO, PA, or NP) who has worked alongside the candidate in a clinical setting through observation, shadowing, or prior/current work experience.
  - c. The third letter of recommendation is at the student's discretion. Letters of recommendation from relatives or family friends are not accepted.

## **Admissions Process**

1. Any student eligible for direct entry into the USF PA Program via the terms of this agreement must inform the USF PA Program of their intent to apply in writing by September 1 in the year preceding their anticipated matriculation. Written notification should be sent to [PAprogram@sf.edu](mailto:PAprogram@sf.edu).
  - a. If the USF PA Program is not contacted by any students from Indiana Wesleyan University by this date, the seats held for Indiana Wesleyan University students seeking direct admission under the terms of the agreement will be forfeited. Interested students are still able to apply via the traditional admissions process.
2. Students must formally apply to the USF PA Program via the CASPA application process between May 1 and October 1 in the year preceding their anticipated matriculation.
  - a. Failure to submit the completed CASPA application by this date will result in forfeiture of the seats held for Indiana Wesleyan University students seeking direct admission under the terms of the agreement. Interested students are still able to apply via the traditional admissions process.
3. The USF PA Program will admit two (2) students from Indiana Wesleyan University via this agreement per cohort.
  - a. If two or fewer students apply for admittance during the same CASPA cycle, those students will be provisionally accepted into the USF PA program. Matriculation will remain dependent upon completion of all admittance criteria.
  - b. If more than two students apply for admittance during the same CASPA cycle, the USF PA Program reserves the right to select the two most qualified applicants at its discretion. This process may include an extensive review of each candidate's CASPA application, guidance from the candidate's academic advisor, and/or an interview with each candidate. The remaining qualified applicants not offered direct admittance will be placed on the USF PA Program waitlist.
4. Following provisional acceptance into the USF PA Program, Indiana Wesleyan University students must reserve their seat with the submission of a non-refundable deposit required of all incoming PA students by March 1 of the matriculation year. This money will be credited towards the first semester's tuition.
5. Provisionally accepted students from Indiana Wesleyan University will be required to comply with all enrollment requirements and deadlines expected of all incoming PA students.

**Additional Notes**

1. Indiana Wesleyan University students who remain interested in the USF PA Program but do not qualify under the terms of this agreement are welcome to apply via the traditional admissions process.
2. USF will provide information support for Indiana Wesleyan University recruitment efforts related to the USF PA Program.
3. The USF PA Program may elect to accept more than two candidates from Indiana Wesleyan University per cycle at its discretion.

**Cooperation Term**

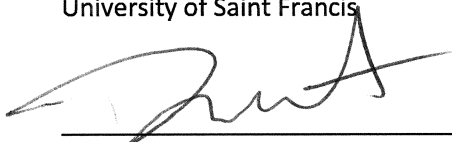
The term of this Agreement is three years. It will take effect from the date of signature by the representatives from both Parties. It may be altered, modified, or extended only by mutual consent and written amendment signed by both Parties up to three months before the expiration. Either Party may terminate the agreement in advance of its normal expiration date by giving the other Party a sixty-day prior written notice. The Parties agree to work together amicably to resolve any disputes or disagreements that may arise during the Parties' performance of this agreement.

The Parties hereto have executed this Agreement this day of April, 2024.

Other untouched issues, if there are any, should be addressed by both parties through consultation.

University of Saint Francis

Indiana Wesleyan University



Name

Name



Vice President of Academic Affairs

Title

Title

4/11/24

04/10/2024

Date

Date

## APPENDIX A.

### **Courses that must be completed at Indiana Wesleyan University include:**

#### a. BIO 125 Principles of Biology – 4 hours

The fundamental principles of genetics, cell development, and structure and function in cells, membranes, and molecules as related to organisms are covered. Representative life processes, organisms, and biotechniques are studied from the cellular perspective to illustrate biological principles. Emphasis is placed upon man's real progress in coping with the new knowledge of biology and its effects on society's perspective about how the knowledge should be used.

#### b. CHE 125/125L General Chemistry I – 5 hours

A study of the fundamental principles and concepts of chemistry and their relations to representative elements and their compounds. This course starts with atoms, builds atoms into compounds, and then begins talking about the way in which elements and compounds behave. Laboratory portion: study of basic principles such as stoichiometry, thermodynamics, and spectrophotometry. The experiments will aid in the understanding of common laboratory techniques, data analysis and legal/ethical issues of laboratory record keeping. CHE-125L lab is taken as a co-requisite to CHE-125.

AND

#### CHE 126/126L General Chemistry II – 5 hours

A study of the fundamental principles and concepts of chemistry with an emphasis on solutions and equilibria. Topics covered include acid/base chemistry, oxidation/reduction reactions, thermodynamics, and nuclear chemistry. Laboratory portion: study exploring topics in parallel with lecture course along with a multi-week qualitative analysis experience. The experiments use techniques from 125L to assist in application of chemical concepts. This lab is taken as a co-requisite to CHE-126.

#### c. CHE 235/235L Organic Chemistry I – 4 hours

A study of the fundamental principles and concepts in organic chemistry. The course begins by focusing on molecular structure, acidity, physical properties of functional groups, and organic nomenclature. These topics form the basis for understanding and planning nucleophilic substitution and elimination reactions, which are then applied to both synthesis and reactivity of numerous functional groups. The concepts are subsequently applied to addition reactions of alkenes and alkynes. Laboratory portion: study explores the basic operations of organic synthesis and purification as well as natural product isolation. Chemical products are analyzed both by determination of physical properties as well as spectrophotometric analysis. Co-requisite: CHE-235.

2 of the following 5 courses (d-h):

d. PSY 150 General Psychology – 3 hours

Students will be introduced to the basic schools of thought within the field of psychology. Four major aspects of psychology will then be considered: (a) theories of personality and human development, (b) stress and adaptation, (c) interpersonal relationships and (d) psychopathology and therapy. These concepts will be explored in the light of research, personal experience, and a consideration of Biblical principles that apply to the study of human behavior. Throughout this introductory overview of the field, students will be assessed in, reflect upon, discuss, and write about the insights gained about themselves.

e. PSY 250 Developmental Psychology – 3 hours

A survey of human development and changes throughout the life cycle.

f. PSY 366 Psychology of Abnormal Behavior – 3 hours

Systematic study of behavior pathology with special reference on forms of abnormal behavior, etiology, dynamics, and treatment.

g. SOC 150 Introduction to Sociology – 3 hours

An introductory analysis of the individual in culture and society, using a biblical framework.

h. SOC 225 Cultural Anthropology – 3 hours

An introduction to cultural anthropology which seeks to expose students to different cultures of the world as well as help them to appreciate cultural diversity. An excellent orientation course for those who will be working in cross-cultural contexts.

i. BIO 312 General Physiology – 4 hours

A study of the basic physiological processes. Consideration is given to all the organ systems of man with special emphasis in the laboratory on the neuromuscular, respiratory, and cardiovascular systems.

AND

BIO 311 Mammalian Anatomy – 4 hours

Study of the anatomy of mammals with emphasis on the anatomy of man. The laboratory work includes the dissection of a mammal.

j. BIO 213/213L Microbiology – 4 hours

A comprehensive introduction to general microbiology, with an emphasis on microbial structure, physiology, diversity, genetics and growth. Interactions of microorganisms with humans are discussed, including infectious diseases, pathogenesis, host immune defenses, and epidemiology. Laboratory activities include staining techniques, physiological tests, and identification of bacteria. Lab taken as a co-requisite to BIO-213.

**IWU courses that are not required but are strongly recommended include:**

a. CHE 430 Biochemistry I – 3 hours

A study of the chemistry of life processes. The first half of the course will focus on the structure and function of macromolecules and primary metabolites. Topics will include amino acids, proteins, enzymes, carbohydrates and lipids. The second half of the course will focus on major metabolic pathways and their regulation. Designed for chemistry and biology majors who intend to do graduate work related to this area.

b. BIO 330 Histology – 3 hours

This course highlights normal histology and the functional significance of micro anatomical structures. The lab and lecture portions of the course are completely integrated; the amount of time devoted to lecture or lab will vary depending on the particular topic.

c. BIO 396 Advanced Topics in Biology – 3 hours

A course in advanced topics in biology of current interest.

d. BIO 440 Immunology – 3 hours

A one-semester course which addresses the chemical and structural relationship of antigens and antibodies, the basis for immunological tolerance, T-cell development, B-cell development, autoimmune disease, cancer, and AIDS.

e. BIO 495 Research in Biology – 1-4 hours

This laboratory-based course is designed for biology majors who plan on graduate-level work in biology or other related medical sciences. Each student will participate in a faculty-led research project in his/her area of interest.

OR

CHE 495 Research in Chemistry – 1-4 hours

Students will engage in original research under the direction of a faculty member.

OR

PHY 495 Research in Physics – 1-4 hours

Students will engage in original research under the direction of a faculty member. This course may be repeated but only two credits total may be applied toward the physics minor. Specific areas of physics research may include but are not limited to astronomy, atomic physics, biophysics, condensed matter physics, mathematical physics, medical physics, physics education, to name a few.

f. BUS 100 Foundations of Business – 3 hours

An overall view of the business field including the business environment; organization, management, and operating problems of the enterprise; financial management and the risk function; and the marketing function.

g. BIO 412 Genetics – 3 hours

An integrated lecture/laboratory course that provides a thorough analysis of the factors governing trait inheritance in plant and animal life.

h. BIO 351 Cellular Biology – 3 hours

An in-depth study of the anatomy and function of animal and plant cells. The elegance and complexity of God's design for this smallest living unit will be revealed through lectures, in-class activities, and various assignments.

i. EXS 190 Medical Terminology – 3 hours

This course will enable the student to speak, use and understand commonly used terms in the field of medicine. This course is intended to enhance the understanding and use of the language of medicine by building, analyzing, defining, pronouncing, and spelling diagnostic terms that relate to the structure of the body systems, disease processes, laboratory tests, and clinical procedures commonly found in the health care setting.

j. MAT 204 Applied Statistics – 3 hours

An in-depth introduction to descriptive and inferential statistical procedures including graphical and numerical data summary, basic principles of sampling and experimental design, random variables and probability distributions, estimation and hypothesis testing, contingency table analysis, and correlation and regression. Emphasizes conceptual understanding of statistical procedures and their implementation using statistical software.

OR

MAT 305 Statistics for Social Sciences – 3 hours

This is an upper-division course for the Social Sciences. Topics include measures of central tendency and dispersion and graphical representation of data. Other topics include inferential statistical theory and hypothesis testing for statistical significance. Bivariate and multivariate measure of statistical relationship include chi square, nominal and ordinal measures of association, correlation and regression, analysis of variance, and multiple correlation and regression techniques. Factor analysis and analysis of covariance are briefly introduced. Primarily for students concentrating in psychology, sociology, social work, criminal justice, or political science.

k. PMD110 Preparing the Christian Health Professional – 1 hour

This course is designed to introduce the freshman pre-med student to a Christian perspective of a career in medical science. Emphasis will be placed on the Christian medical scientist's role as a "world-changer" by reconciling a Christian worldview with the requirements, demands, and dilemmas encountered in medical (graduate) school and in the practice of medicine. For the purposes of this course a "medical scientist" is defined as a person engaged in any of the following: medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, physical therapy, occupational therapy, biomedical research, or physician's assistant.



#### I. PMD 310 Perspectives in Scientific Reasoning – 1 hour

This course is designed to assist students in preparing for comprehensive assessments that will measure their ability to integrate science, math, English, and other disciplines in a meaningful way. The development of critical thinking and reasoning skills will be emphasized by studying and analyzing cross-disciplinary problems such as the application of principles of physics and chemistry in the human body. This course will be helpful in preparation for national tests such as the MCAT, DAT, OAT, and GRE. Students will be expected to have completed the course requirements for their respective test, since the anticipated sequence is to take this course in the spring and then to take the test within a month or two of completion of this course.

