



## PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES EARLY ADMITTANCE TRACK (PA-SEAT)

### Program Overview

The University of Saint Francis offers an early acceptance track to the Physician Assistant Studies Program. Students accepted into this highly competitive track earn their bachelor's degree in their program of study and are guaranteed admission to the master's-level physician assistant program to the cohort for which they applied upon meeting undergraduate progression standards. A maximum of four students is admitted to the PA-Seat per cohort.

### Step 1: Admission Requirements

Any undergraduate University of Saint Francis student is eligible to apply for the early admittance track to the Physician Assistant Studies Program. Application to the early admittance track is recommended during a student's sophomore or junior year. Applications are accepted between January 1 and March 1 each year.

*To be eligible to apply for the PA-Seat and receive an interview from the Physician Assistant Studies Program, applicants must:*

- Possess a cumulative overall GPA of 3.50 or higher.
- Possess a cumulative science GPA of 3.50 or higher.
- Attain a minimum of 30 documented hours of shadowing experience with the physician assistant role.
- Submit three letters of recommendation:
  - One of which must come from a practicing physician assistant with whom the student has experience.
  - One of which must come from a professor employed at the University of Saint Francis.
  - One of which may come from an individual (e.g., professor, work supervisor, volunteer supervisor, practicing physician assistant) of choice.
- Complete 400 hours of qualifying direct patient care experience before the interview. A list of qualifying positions is available at <https://www.sf.edu/programs/physician-assistant-studies-ms/> under the "Admissions and Enrollment" tab within the document entitled, "Admissions and Enrollment Policies and Procedures."

### Admission Process

*To complete an application for the PA-Seat:*

- Send unofficial transcript(s) of all completed college courses to the Physician Assistant Studies Program electronically at [paseatadmissions@sf.edu](mailto:paseatadmissions@sf.edu).
- Complete the PA Shadow Log and include signatures from all shadowed PAs.
- Complete the PA Patient Care Experience Log and include supervisor signature(s).
- Letters of recommendation can be:
  - Emailed directly to the Physician Assistant Studies Program by the letter writer at [paseatadmissions@sf.edu](mailto:paseatadmissions@sf.edu); OR
  - They may be delivered directly to the Physician Assistant Studies Program (2701 Spring St., Doermer 016, Fort Wayne, IN 46808) in-person or via mail. Each letter delivered by mail or in-person must be enclosed in a separate envelope and signed across the seal by the letter writer. Unsealed and/or unsigned letters will not be accepted.

### Step 2: Programmatic Interview

All qualified applicants will receive an interview with the Physician Assistant Studies Program. Interviews will be conducted between March 15 and May 15 each year and will include at least two faculty members and the program director. Applicants who attain committee approval will be granted a seat in the cohort to which they applied upon meeting the undergraduate progression standards. Accepted students are guaranteed admission into the PA Program without the need for a second interview prior to matriculation.



### **Step 3: Progression Standards**

Students accepted into the PA-Seat are required to meet all progression standards to maintain their early acceptance. Failure to meet the progression standards will result in immediate relinquishment of early acceptance status and dismissal from the PA-Seat without reimbursement. Any student dismissed from the early acceptance track may apply to the Physician Assistant Studies Program through a regular application cycle.

*To maintain early acceptance status, all accepted students must:*

- Earn a grade of "B-" or better in all programmatic prerequisites (listed below).
- Earn a grade of "B-" or better in all non-programmatic prerequisite courses.
- Maintain a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.50.
- Maintain a cumulative science GPA of 3.50.
- Complete a total of 50 documented hours of shadowing experience with the physician assistant role before beginning the Physician Assistant Studies Program.
- Complete 1,200 total hours of qualifying direct patient care experience before beginning the Physician Assistant Studies Program.
- Complete the bachelor's degree before beginning the Physician Assistant Studies Program.
- Have no disciplinary actions recorded by the Office of Student Affairs.
- Submit a non-refundable \$1,000 tuition deposit by March 1 of the matriculation year before enrolling in the Physician Assistant Studies Program.
- Comply with all admission and enrollment requirements of the Physician Assistant Studies Program.

### **Programmatic Prerequisites**

*The following courses must be successfully completed with a minimum of 3 total semester credit hours and a grade of "B-" or better prior to matriculation into the Physician Assistant Studies Program:*

- Human anatomy with lab
- Human physiology with lab
- Microbiology with lab
- Organic chemistry with lab OR Biochemistry with or without lab
- Two courses (minimum of 6 total credit hours) within the behavioral sciences discipline, including courses in psychology, sociology, social work, criminal justice, and anthropology.

### **For More Information**

All admission-related inquiries may be directed to [paseatadmissions@sf.edu](mailto:paseatadmissions@sf.edu) or via phone, at 260-399-7700 ext. 8563.