physician assistant

college of allied health and nursing

fort lauderdale campus
Nova Southeastern University, synonymous with dynamic innovation and intellectual challenge, is the largest independent not-for-profit university in the southeast, and with an enrollment of more than 25,000 students, is the eighth largest in the United States. Situated on a beautiful 300-acre campus in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, the university is experiencing a sustained period of academic growth, fiscal strength, and commitment to the challenges of the 21st century.

In this environment of expansion and stability, the university is capitalizing on its strengths in such areas as academic innovation, comprehensive clinical training, and flexible educational delivery systems.

Founded in 1964 as Nova University, the institution merged with Southeastern University of the Health Sciences in 1994, creating Nova Southeastern University. To date, the institution has graduated approximately 79,000 alumni. Fully accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the university awards associate's, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees in a wide range of fields including the health professions, law, business, marine sciences, psychology, social sciences, computer and information sciences, and education.

The university's programs are administered through 15 academic centers that offer courses at the main campus and at field-based locations throughout Florida; across the nation; and at selected international sites in Europe, Canada, the Pacific Rim, Central and South America, and the Caribbean.

With a budget of more than $220 million per year and an upward trend in enrollment, the university will continue to maintain a solid record of academic and fiscal strength and excellence in teaching and community service, while expanding its mission in research and scholarship.

nsu mission statement

Nova Southeastern University is a dynamic, not-for-profit independent institution dedicated to providing high-quality educational programs of distinction from preschool through the professional and doctoral levels, as well as service to the community. Nova Southeastern University prepares students for lifelong learning and leadership roles in business and the professions. It offers academic programs at times convenient to students, employing innovative delivery systems and rich learning resources on campus and at distant sites. The university fosters inquiry, research, and creative professional activity by uniting faculty and students in acquiring and applying knowledge in clinical, community, and professional settings.
As a student in the Health Professions Division of Nova Southeastern University, you can anticipate a remarkable experience. You will train, study, interact, and share faculty and resources (either campus-based or online) with students from various backgrounds and disciplines. This interdisciplinary approach distinguishes the Health Professions Division as unique and will better prepare you to master your discipline with a sensitivity and understanding of the entire health care system.

The Health Professions Division, with a student body of more than 2,500, is home to six colleges. The College of Osteopathic Medicine, the first one in the southeastern United States, grants the doctor of osteopathic medicine (D.O.) degree. The College of Osteopathic Medicine also awards the master of public health degree (M.P.H.). The College of Pharmacy offers the doctor of pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree to entry-level, international, and postbaccalaureate students. The College of Optometry is the only institution in the state of Florida that awards the doctor of optometry (O.D.) degree as well as the master in clinical vision research (M.S.). The College of Allied Health and Nursing offers an entry-level bachelor of science degree in nursing (B.S.N.), as well as an R.N. to B.S.N. program and a master of science in nursing (M.S.N.) degree. The college also offers a physician assistant program that awards the master of medical science in physician assistant (M.M.S.) degree, and a master of occupational therapy (M.O.T.) degree, as well as the entry-level doctor of physical therapy (D.P.T.) degree. Doctoral programs are offered in occupational therapy (Ph.D./O.T., O.T.D.), physical therapy (Ph.D./P.T., D.P.T.), and audiology (Au.D.). In addition to these programs, the College of Allied Health and Nursing offers the bachelor of health science (B.H.Sc.), master of health science (M.H.Sc.), and doctor of health science (D.H.Sc.) degrees—open to midlevel clinicians and allied health professionals.

A vascular sonography program that results in a B.H.Sc. degree is now available as well. The College of Medical Sciences grants the master of biomedical sciences (M.B.S.) degree. In the fall of 1997, the College of Dental Medicine admitted its charter class into the doctor of dental medicine (D.M.D.) program.

The Health Professions Division occupies a $70 million complex, covering 21 acres of the university campus. The division includes eight buildings totaling more than 900,000 square feet of space for classrooms, laboratories, offices, the Health Professions Division Library, an outpatient health center, and a pharmaceutical care center. The adjacent 1,500-vehicle parking garage overlooks the Miami Dolphins Training Camp.

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If you wish to be a leader in the health professions, Nova Southeastern University can help you reach your potential.

The Health Professions Division is unique in that it has been developed as an interdisciplinary educational center from its inception. The division was founded on the concept that the interdisciplinary approach to education is beneficial to students of all professions, and by preparing students to work effectively with health care providers from different fields, barriers are broken and patient care is enhanced.

In less than two decades, NSU's Health Professions Division has developed into a multidisciplinary academic health center of international stature. Composed of the Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, Pharmacy, Dental Medicine, Optometry, Allied Health and Nursing, and Medical Sciences, the Health Professions Division has redoubled its commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and community service, while expanding its mission in research and scholarship. Working together, our distinguished faculty members prepare students for an exciting career on tomorrow's dynamic health care team.

Fred Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D.
Chancellor
Back in the mid-1960s, physicians and educators recognized the need for a new medical professional who would team up with physicians. These professionals were called Physician Assistants (PAs).

Today, nearly 57,000 individuals are eligible to practice as physician assistants in the United States. PAs practice medicine with physician supervision, providing patient care that otherwise would be performed by physicians. PAs take medical histories, perform physical examinations, order and interpret tests, diagnose and treat illnesses, perform medical/surgical procedures, assist in surgeries, and in most states, write prescriptions.

The PA profession is one of the fastest growing health care professions. The U.S. Department of Labor projects that the number of jobs for PAs will increase by 49 percent through the year 2012, while the total number of jobs overall will only grow by 15 percent over the same 10-year period.

As governments grapple with the problems of providing quality medical care in a cost-effective manner, one solution is the team approach to health care—a team that includes physician assistants. It is the obligation of each Physician/PA team to ensure that the PA's scope of practice is identified; that delegation of medical tasks is appropriate to the PA's level of competence; that the relationship of, and access to, the supervising physician is defined; and that a process of performance evaluation is established. Adequate responsible supervision of the PA contributes to both high-quality patient care and professional growth.
The health care marketplace is undergoing rapid change. The pace of this change has provided a formidable challenge for institutions that provide the educational programs for future health care professionals.

Nova Southeastern University's College of Allied Health and Nursing is committed to providing the highest quality education to students in a variety of health care disciplines, including occupational therapy, physical therapy, and physician assistant studies, as well as audiology and the newly added nursing programs. In addition, the college is committed to a lifelong learning philosophy through the Ph.D. in physical therapy and the O.T.D. and Ph.D. in occupational therapy. We also have the recent additions of the bachelor of health science (B.H.Sc.), master of health science (M.H.Sc.), doctor of health science (D.H.Sc.), and postprofessional transition doctor of physical therapy (T.-D.P.T.) programs. These new degrees for practicing health care professionals are delivered mainly through the use of innovative distance technology.

The Physician Assistant Department offers a program that can be completed in 27 months. The program has an emphasis on primary care, with students completing appropriate clinical rotations throughout the state of Florida. Upon successful completion of the program, students graduate with a master of medical science (M.M.S.) degree in physician assistant. Graduates are able to provide a number of health care services, allowing a greater number of patients access to care.

The College of Allied Health and Nursing is committed to providing health care educational opportunities in formats that meet the needs of prospective students in the community and adequately prepare graduates to assume greater leadership roles in health care delivery systems.

Richard E. Davis, PA-C, Ed.D.
Dean, College of Allied Health and Nursing
the physician assistant program

FORT LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

Course of Study

The Physician Assistant Program curriculum is completed following a minimum of 90 semester hours of undergraduate coursework, of which 30 semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours) must be upper division.* The comprehensive curriculum, completed in a consecutive manner, is oriented to primary care and prepares the student to practice in a wide variety of clinical settings.

The first 14 months of study consist of basic sciences and clinically related didactic courses. All courses are required and must be successfully completed before advancing to the clinical year. During this timeframe, students are generally in class from Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., although there are occasional evening and/or weekend hours.

Due to the highly integrated and compact curriculum, the department requires matriculants to complete the entire program at this campus. However, individual requests for advanced placement, transfer of credit, or credit for experiential learning will be reviewed in line with the college requirements.

The clinical year is devoted to 13 months of clinical training with required clinical rotations in family medicine, emergency medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics/gynecology, surgery, and internal medicine. The students also complete three elective rotations, for a total of nine clinical rotations. The required subject rotations and two of the elective rotations are six weeks in length. The remaining elective rotation is four weeks in length.

Each required rotation has assigned readings and learning objectives. At the end of each required rotation, a written comprehensive subject examination is administered and must be passed. During rotations, students will be supervised by licensed practitioners and will actively participate in patient assessments, perform common laboratory procedures, interpret common diagnostic examinations, and help manage common medical problems. The work hours during clinical rotations are set by the preceptor and can include evening and weekend hours. Students are required to work a minimum of 40 hours per week; however, many rotation sites require students to work up to 100 hours per week.

Upon completion of the course of study, students will have earned a master of medical science (M.M.S.) degree in physician assistant.

The role of the physician assistant requires a high level of expertise and responsibility. The applicant must possess the ability and desire to complete a rigorous academic and clinical program and make a commitment to continued learning.

*Upper division is defined as a course number beginning with a 3 or a 4.
Laura Amon, M.S., PA-C  
Associate Director, PA Program, and Assistant Professor

Maryellen Antonetti, M.P.H., PA-C  
Assistant Professor and Clinical Director

Eric Bussear, M.P.H., PA-C  
Assistant Professor

Morton Diamond, M.D.  
Medical Director and Professor

Harvey Feldman, M.D.  
Associate Professor

Calvin Finley, M.P.A.S., PA-C  
Assistant Academic Director and Assistant Professor

Michael Funk, M.P.H., PA-C  
Assistant Professor

Robert Grosz, Ed.D.  
Professor

Pamela Jaffey, M.D.  
Associate Professor

Melissa Marchisotto, M.P.A., PA-C  
Assistant Professor

Steve Martin, M.P.A.S., PA-C  
Assistant Professor

William Marquardt, M.A., PA-C  
PA Department Chair and Associate Professor

John Rafalko, M.S., PA-C  
Assistant Professor

Hugh Rappa, M.D.  
Professor and Academic Director

Steve Sager, M.P.A.S., PA-C  
Assistant Professor

Keith Williams, PA-C  
Assistant Professor

The NSU Physician Assistant Department is accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission for Physician Assistants, Inc. (ARC-PA). The NSU Physician Assistant Department has enjoyed continuing accreditation since its inception. The department is a member of the Association of Physician Assistant Programs.

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, Telephone number: 404-679-4501) to award associate's, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees. Consistent with all federal and state laws, rules, regulations, and/or local ordinances (e.g., Title VII, Title VI, Title III, Title II, Rehab Act, ADA, and Title IX), it is the policy of Nova Southeastern University not to engage in any discrimination or harassment against any individuals because of race, color, religion or creed, sex, pregnancy status, national or ethnic origin, nondisqualifying disability, age, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, unfavorable discharge from the military, veteran status, or political beliefs or affiliations, and to comply with all federal and state nondiscrimination, equal opportunity, and affirmative action laws, orders, and regulations.

This nondiscrimination policy applies to admissions; enrollment; scholarships; loan programs; athletics; employment; and access to participation in, and treatment in all university centers, programs, and activities. NSU admits students of any race, color, religion or creed, sex, pregnancy status, national or ethnic origin, nondisqualifying disability, age, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, unfavorable discharge from the military, veteran status, or political beliefs or affiliations, to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at NSU, and does not discriminate in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.
curriculum outline

FOR THE MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE (M.M.S.) PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM—FORT LAUDERDALE CAMPUS

Start Date ........ June 2006
Length ........... 27 months
Degree ............ Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant (M.M.S.)

Didactic ........... 14 months
Clinical ............ 13 months

first semester: summer I (june 2006–august 2006)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANA 5420</td>
<td>Anatomy</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 5400</td>
<td>Physiology</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5400</td>
<td>Clinical Pathophysiology</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5000</td>
<td>Physical Diagnosis I</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5002</td>
<td>Medical Terminology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCO 5300</td>
<td>Biomedical Principles</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5003</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Medical Imaging</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5001</td>
<td>Introduction to the PA Profession</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL HOURS</td>
<td></td>
<td>241</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>18</td>
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second semester: fall (september 2006–december 2006)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MIC 5400</td>
<td>Microbiology</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMS 5404</td>
<td>Legal and Ethical Issues in Health Care</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5100</td>
<td>Physical Diagnosis II</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCO 5400</td>
<td>Pharmacology I</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5110</td>
<td>Clinical Medicine and Surgery I</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5130</td>
<td>Clinical Laboratory Medicine I</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5229</td>
<td>Electrocardiography</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>MMS 5420</td>
<td>Epidemiology/Biostatistics in Health Care</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL HOURS</td>
<td></td>
<td>343</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>22</td>
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Curriculum is subject to change as directed by the department.
### third semester: winter (January 2007–May 2007)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5200</td>
<td>Physical Diagnosis III</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5210</td>
<td>Clinical Medicine and Surgery II</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5310</td>
<td>Clinical Medicine and Surgery III</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5311</td>
<td>Clinical Laboratory Medicine II</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCO 5410</td>
<td>Pharmacology II</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMS 5406</td>
<td>Cultural Issues in Health Care</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5311</td>
<td>Clinical Psychiatry</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMS 5422</td>
<td>Research Methodology</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL HOURS</td>
<td></td>
<td>504</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### fourth semester: summer II (Advanced Didactic: June 2007–July 2007)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MMS 5460</td>
<td>Life Support Procedures and Skills</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5510</td>
<td>Clinical Procedures and Surgical Skills</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5129</td>
<td>Health Promotion and Disease Prevention</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5006</td>
<td>PA and Health Care Dynamics</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5010</td>
<td>Core Competencies</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMS 5412</td>
<td>Publication Skills and Medical Research</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMS 5410</td>
<td>Complementary Medicine and Nutrition</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMS 5407</td>
<td>Clinical Pharmacology</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL HOURS</td>
<td></td>
<td>196</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### clinical curriculum: second year (August 2007–August 2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Rotation Title</th>
<th>Weeks/Contact Hours</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6304</td>
<td>Prenatal Care and Gynecology</td>
<td>6/270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6311</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
<td>6/270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6313</td>
<td>Surgery</td>
<td>6/300</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6315</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
<td>6/270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6317</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>6/240</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6318</td>
<td>Family Medicine</td>
<td>6/250</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMS 6401</td>
<td>Elective I</td>
<td>6/270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMS 6402</td>
<td>Elective II</td>
<td>6/270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6308</td>
<td>Elective III</td>
<td>4/160</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMS 6500</td>
<td>Project</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Contact Hours for the Second Year</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,300</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prospective students are selected by the Committee on Admissions (COA), which considers the overall qualities of the applicant. Areas of consideration include interpersonal skills, personal motivation, knowledge and understanding of the PA profession, academic performance and level of achievement, life experiences, quality and length of prior health care experience, and recommendations/evaluations. Personal interviews are offered to the most qualified applicants to assess interpersonal and communication skills, maturity, altruistic attitude, and commitment to a PA career.

1. Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7 and a minimum science GPA of 2.7 on a 4.0 grading scale.

Successful applicants in the past have typically had both cumulative and science GPAs of 3.0 or higher, an average composite GRE score (verbal, quantitative, and analytical) in the 40th percentile or higher, and letters of recommendation from individuals with whom the applicant has had a professional working relationship.

2. Prior to matriculation, applicants must have completed a minimum of 90 semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours) of specified coursework from a regionally accredited college or university. Of these 90 semester hours, 30 semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours) must be upper division courses (typically defined as a course number beginning with a 3 or a 4). Upper division courses can be courses from any department other than physical education. These courses are of the applicant’s choosing; however, upper division science courses are recommended. The program requires the students to earn grades of C (2.0) or better in all courses. Successful completion of a bachelor’s degree meets the requirement of the 30 upper division courses.

3. The college requires the students to earn a grade of C (2.0) or better in each of the following required courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>SEMESTER HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College math</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English (including 3 credits of English composition)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities/arts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social sciences</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General biology (or zoology) including laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology including laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General chemistry (I and II) including laboratory</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human anatomy and human physiology</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry or organic chemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applicants are encouraged to complete their elective coursework in the areas of behavioral, physical, and social sciences or the humanities. Upon review of a student’s record, the Committee on Admissions may require additional coursework and testing as a condition of acceptance.

Recommended courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>SEMESTER HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry or organic chemistry laboratory</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy laboratory</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiology laboratory</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical terminology</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Graduates of foreign institutions where English is not the primary language of instruction must present transcripts showing at least 18 semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours) of study from a regionally accredited college or university in the United States. Of these 18 semester hours:

- 3 semester hours must be in English composition (courses do not include ESOL)
- 3 semester hours must be in English literature (courses do not include ESOL)
- 3 semester hours must be in public speaking (courses do not include ESOL)

The remaining nine semester hours can be any course of the applicant’s choosing (excluding physical education).

5. Prior health care experience is highly recommended and is considered for admission. Those applicants who have prior health care experience must submit verifiable information about their experience.

6. All applicants are required to submit official scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test to the EPS, attention Physician Assistant Admissions. NSU’s school code is 5522. The GRE must have been taken within the past five years and must be taken early enough for official scores to be received in the admissions office by the supplemental application due date of February 15. Applications will not be considered complete without GRE scores. Testing information for the GRE may be obtained from http://www.gre.org or by telephoning (609) 921-9000.

7. All applicants must show evidence of computer skills through coursework or self-study prior to the end of the first term. Students may obtain instruction through the NSU Student Microcomputer Laboratory or other training facilities.

All students are required to have a computer with the following minimum specifications:

- Pentium III, 800MHz minimum processor
- 256 MB RAM
- CD ROM capability
- Sound capability and speakers
- Internet connection with private Internet service provider (ISP) for access from home to the Internet

The following are recommended features:

- Video capable of 800 x 600 screen display or better
- Windows 2000/ME/XP or NT
- Microsoft Office 2000 with PowerPoint, Word, and Excel minimum
- Surge suppressor electrical outlet
- Printer
The CASPA application may be submitted as early as April 15.

1. Apply to CASPA

The Physician Assistant Program participates in the Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) for the receipt and processing of all applications. CASPA takes no part in the selection of students. CASPA application packets may be obtained and submitted

- online at [www.caspaonline.org](http://www.caspaonline.org)
- by writing: CASPA
  P.O. Box 9108
  Watertown, Massachusetts 02471
- by calling CASPA at (617) 612-2080

Questions regarding completion of the online application may be directed to CASPA’s email address at apply@caspaonline.org or by calling them. The CASPA application deadline, in order to be considered for admission in June, is December 31.

2. Send supporting documents to CASPA.

a. All official college transcripts from all undergraduate, graduate, and professional institutions attended must be sent to CASPA directly from the institutions. If applicant attended or is a graduate of a foreign institution, all coursework from the foreign institution must be evaluated for U.S. institutional equivalence. The official evaluation must be sent directly from the evaluation service. For evaluations, please contact one of the following:

   World Education Services
   P.O. Box 745
   Old Chelsea Station
   New York, New York 10113-0745
   (212) 966-6311
   Web site: [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org)

   Josef Silny & Associates
   7101 SW 102nd Avenue
   Miami, Florida 33173
   (305) 273-1616
   (305) 273-1338 (fax)
   Web site: [www.jsilny.com](http://www.jsilny.com)
   Email: info@jsilny.com

b. Three letters of recommendation/evaluation:

   One letter of recommendation/evaluation must be sent from an individual (other than a relative or friend) such as an academic adviser, professor, coworker, or supervisor.

   Two letters of recommendation/evaluation must be from health care professionals, one of which must be from a physician or a PA.

3. Send GRE scores to Nova Southeastern University PA Admissions Office.

Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores must be submitted directly to Nova Southeastern University, Enrollment Processing Services (EPS), College of Allied Health and Nursing, Physician Assistant Department, Office of Admissions, 3301 College Avenue, P.O. Box 299000, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33329-9905. The NSU code number is 5522. Your GRE test scores must be less than five years old and must be taken early enough for official scores to be received by the supplemental application deadline of February 15.

4. Once the CASPA application has been received by Nova Southeastern University, a supplemental application will be mailed.

5. Send completed supplemental application to

   **NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**
   Enrollment Processing Services (EPS)
   College of Allied Health and Nursing
   3301 College Avenue
   P.O. Box 299000
   Fort Lauderdale-Davie, Florida 33329-9905
   Phone: (954) 262-1109
   Fax: (954) 262-2282
Your complete supplemental application must be received no later than February 15 in order to be considered for admission for the June entering class. Once we receive the GRE scores, the supplemental application, and the $50 fee, your file will be reviewed by the admissions counselor.

The applicant will not be considered for a possible interview until the application from CASPA, the supplemental application (signed and dated), the $50 nonrefundable application fee, and the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) test scores are received by the Nova Southeastern University Physician Assistant Office of Admissions.

PERSONAL INTERVIEWS

Once your application is complete, the Committee on Admissions will decide whether or not your application is strong enough to warrant an invitation for a personal interview. Interviews are conducted on the Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, campus and are by invitation only. Interviews will be held during the months of September through May. An invitation to interview is not a guarantee of admission.

APPLICATION WITHDRAWAL

If, at any time, you wish to withdraw your application from consideration, please do so in writing. Please direct this correspondence to Nova Southeastern University's Physician Assistant Program Office of Admissions.

CURRENT COLLEGE COURSEWORK

All prerequisite coursework must be completed by the end of May in order to be considered for the June entering class. If, at the time of application, coursework is in progress or anticipated, please identify these courses on the supplemental application.

TRANSCRIPTS

All applicants who are accepted must submit official transcripts from all schools attended to the NSU EPS Physician Assistant Admissions prior to matriculation. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that arrangements are made for these transcripts to be sent.
student housing
Numerous apartments, condominiums, and other rental facilities are located near campus. Information concerning housing may be obtained by contacting

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
Office of Residential Life and Housing
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale-Davie, Florida 33314-7796
(954) 262-7052
additional sources of information

Disclaimer: Links to non-NSU Internet sites are provided for your convenience and do not constitute an endorsement.

- For information on a career as a physician assistant, contact:

  American Academy of Physician Assistants
  Information Center
  950 North Washington Street
  Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1552
  www.aapa.org

- For a list of accredited programs and a catalog of individual physician assistant training programs, contact:

  Association of Physician Assistant Programs
  950 North Washington Street
  Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1552
  www.apapa.org

- For eligibility requirements and a description of the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination, contact:

  National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants
  12000 Findley Road, Suite 200
  Duluth, Georgia 30097-1409
  www.nccpa.net

- For information on employment, employment projections, and compensation statistics, contact:

  U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
  Postal Square Building
  2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
  Washington, D.C. 20212-0001
  stats.bls.gov
tuition and fees

Tuition for 2006-2007 (subject to change by the board of trustees without notice): $20,950 for Florida residents and $21,640 for out-of-state students. A Health Professions Division general access fee of $125 is required each year. An NSU student services fee of $750 is also required annually.

1. **Acceptance Fee—$500.** This fee is required to reserve the accepted applicant’s place in the entering first-year class, but is not refundable in the event of a withdrawal. It is payable within two weeks of an applicant’s acceptance.

2. **Deposit—$250.** This is due February 15, under the same terms as the Acceptance Fee.

3. **Preregistration Fee—$250.** This is due April 15, under the same terms as the Acceptance Fee.

The first semester’s tuition and fees, less the $1,000 previously paid, are due on or before registration day. Tuition for each subsequent semester is due on or before the appropriate registration day. Students will not be admitted until their financial obligations have been met. The financial ability of applicants to complete their training at the college is important because of the limited number of positions available in each class. Applicants should have specific plans for financing 27 months of professional education. This should include tuition, living expenses, books, equipment, and miscellaneous expenses.

Each student is required to carry adequate personal medical and hospital insurance. Students may avail themselves of the hospitalization insurance plan obtainable through the university.

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expenses and financial aid

Students should anticipate spending approximately $19,000 per year for living expenses. In addition, students should anticipate spending $5,000 for books and equipment during the 27-month program.

The primary financial responsibility for a student’s education rests with the student and his or her family. Economic circumstances for some families may make it necessary for the student to obtain assistance from other sources.

The purpose of the Student Financial Assistance Program at NSU is to help as many qualified students as possible to complete their health professions education. Various loans, scholarships, and grants are available to qualified students to help ease the high cost of a health professions education. These financial assistance programs are described in a separate university publication, *The NSU Guide to Student Financial Assistance.* For a copy or information, contact:

Office of Student Financial Assistance
Nova Southeastern University
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale-Davie, FL
33314-7796
(954) 262-3380 • 800-806-3680

A limited number of part-time work assignments are available. However, due to the demands of the program curriculum, the program strongly discourages any outside employment.