Physician Assistant Naples Campus 2006

Nova Southeastern University

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physician assistant

naples campus

college of allied health and nursing

Health Professions Division 2006

Nova Southeastern University
Beyond the Classroom
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.
health professions division

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 Osteopathic Medicine 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.

Main Campus, Fort Lauderdale

There is also a course of study resulting in a bachelor of health science—vascular sonography degree. 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 College of Allied Health and Nursing is pleased to announce the opening of a new program at the NSU campus in Naples, Florida. The new program at this branch of the college will be the physician assistant program offering a master of medical science (M.M.S.) degree in physician assistant.
If you wish to be a leader in the health professions, Nova Southeastern University can help you reach your potential.

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
The physician assistant profession was born at Duke University in the mid-1960s and was conceptualized by Eugene A. Stead, Jr., M.D. At this time, there was a lack of primary care providers, especially in certain areas. Stead, along with many other physicians and educators, realized the need for a new medical professional who would work in collaboration with physicians. These professionals were called Physician Assistants (PAs).

Today, more than 60,000 individuals are in practice as physician assistants in the United States. Under the supervision of a physician, PAs practice medicine and provide health care to patients. Some of the duties performed include the taking of medical histories, the performance of physical examinations, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, diagnosing and treating illnesses, performing health maintenance screenings, performing medical/surgical procedures, assisting in surgeries, and in most states, writing prescriptions.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), as published in the 2004–2005 Occupational Outlook Handbook, the PA profession is the third fastest growing profession. The U.S. Department of Labor projects that, between 2002 and 2012, jobs for PAs will increase by 49 percent. The BLS feels that this “much faster than average growth” of the PA profession is “due to anticipated expansion of the health services industry and an emphasis on cost containment, resulting in increasing utilization of PAs by physicians and health care institutions.”

nsu physician assistant department—naples mission statement

- to provide an exemplary educational experience, which emphasizes primary medical care, yet will enable graduates to manifest competency and skill in a variety of clinical environments
- to inspire graduates to pursue lifelong learning
- to foster leadership qualities, which will enable graduates to improve access to quality, affordable health care
- to heighten the stature of the physician assistant profession
The health care marketplace is undergoing a 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 in physician assistant (M.M.S.) degree. 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

NAPLES 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.

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, prenatal care/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 in physician assistant (M.M.S.) degree.

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.
accreditation

PA programs are accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for Physician Assistants (ARC-PA), Inc. Provisional accreditation is an accreditation status that is awarded to new PA programs by ARC-PA, Inc. for a limited, defined period of time. This provisional accreditation status indicates that the new PA program, at the time of the site visit by ARC-PA, Inc. has demonstrated its ability to implement a PA program that is in compliance with ARC-PA's Standards for Accreditation. Provisional accreditation status does not indicate guarantee of any future accreditation of the program. Once provisional accreditation is achieved, a follow-up provisional visit will occur. This visit will usually occur while the inaugural class is in the clinical phase of the program and is conducted to evaluate the program for continued accreditation.

Accreditation is important, as only graduates of accredited programs qualify to sit for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE), which is required for licensure. All new programs must apply for provisional accreditation before students can be matriculated. The NSU PA Program at Naples has been awarded provisional accreditation by the ARC-PA. The program will undergo a follow-up provisional visit in 2007.

The NSU Physician Assistant Department—Naples campus has been awarded provisional accreditation from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for Physician Assistants, Inc. (ARC-PA).

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 discriminatory 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 IN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT (M.M.S.) PROGRAM, NAPLES 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–august)

<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>PAN 5000</td>
<td>Anatomy</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5100</td>
<td>Physiology</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5101</td>
<td>Clinical Pathophysiology</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5300</td>
<td>Physical Diagnosis I</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5001</td>
<td>Medical Terminology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5400</td>
<td>History Taking and Communication Skills</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5003</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Medical Imaging</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5002</td>
<td>Introduction to the PA Profession</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL HOURS</td>
<td></td>
<td>252</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
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second semester: fall (september–december)

<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>PAN 5200</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>PAN 5310</td>
<td>Physical Diagnosis II</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5410</td>
<td>Pharmacology I</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5500</td>
<td>Clinical Medicine and Surgery I</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5600</td>
<td>Clinical Laboratory Medicine I</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMS 5420</td>
<td>Epidemiology/Biostatistics in Health Care</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL HOURS</td>
<td></td>
<td>325</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Curriculum is subject to change as directed by the department.
NAPLES CAMPUS

third semester: winter (January–May)

<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>PAN 5320</td>
<td>Physical Diagnosis III</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5510</td>
<td>Clinical Medicine and Surgery II</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5520</td>
<td>Clinical Medicine and Surgery III</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5610</td>
<td>Clinical Laboratory Medicine II</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5420</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>PAN 5540</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>PAN 5006</td>
<td>Electrocardiography</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL HOURS</td>
<td></td>
<td>534</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<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>PAN 5560</td>
<td>Clinical Procedures and Surgical Skills</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5008</td>
<td>Health Promotion and Disease Prevention</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 5009</td>
<td>PA and Health Care Dynamics</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</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>16</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL HOURS</td>
<td></td>
<td>196</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

clinical curriculum: second year (August–August)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Rotation Title</th>
<th>Weeks/Contact Hours</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAN 6350</td>
<td>Prenatal Care and Gynecology</td>
<td>6 / 270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 6330</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
<td>6 / 270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 6360</td>
<td>Surgery</td>
<td>6 / 300</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 6310</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
<td>6 / 270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 6340</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>6 / 240</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 6320</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>PAN 6380</td>
<td>Elective III</td>
<td>4 / 160</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMS 6500</td>
<td>Graduate Project</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL CONTACT HOURS (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. 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 each of the upper division courses.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.70 and a minimum science GPA of 2.70 on a 4.0 grading scale. Successful applicants in the past have typically had cumulative grade point averages in the range of 3.0 to 3.3 and higher.

2. 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 algebra (or higher)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities/arts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social sciences</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- General biology (or zoology) including laboratory .......... 4
- Microbiology including laboratory .................. 4
- General chemistry (I and II) including laboratory .......... 8
- Human anatomy and human physiology .................. 6
- Biochemistry or organic chemistry .......... 3
- Electives .................................. 44

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>

3. 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).
4. All applicants are required to submit official scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test to the Enrollment Processing Service (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 April 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.

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.

5. 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 and printer. The computer must have 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
- Printer

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

Suggested option:

- Zip drive

Students will be required to have a handheld device (PDA) with a Palm OS operating system with a minimum of 8 MB of memory prior to the start of the advanced didactic component of the curriculum. The PDA will be essential to completing all required documentation for clinical rotations. Students will undergo a period of training on using the PDA during the advanced didactic semester.

6. Students are required to authorize the NSU Health Professions Division to obtain background check(s), as per the adopted policy of April 22, 2005. Students may also be required by the Health Professions Division to obtain a background check—or authorize clinical training facilities, where appropriate, to conduct the check—and to permit the results of the consumer reporting agency to be provided to the NSU Health Professions Division and/or the clinical training facilities. If the background check(s) reveal information of concern that the NSU Health Professions Division may deem unfavorable, the NSU Health Professions Division will provide the accepted applicant or enrolled student with the Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act and a copy of the report and request that the student provide a detailed written explanation of the information contained in the report, along with appropriate documentation (e.g., police reports). This information must be returned to the NSU Health Professions Division within 10 business days of the date the communication is sent unless another date is specified by the NSU Health Professions Division in its communication with the student.

Offers of admission will not be considered final until the completion of the background check(s) by the NSU Health Professions Division, and where appropriate, by the clinical training facilities, with results deemed favorable. If information received indicates that the student has provided false or misleading statements, has omitted required information, or in any way is unable to meet the requirements for completion of the program, then the admission may be denied or rescinded, the student may be disciplined or dismissed, or the student's enrollment may be terminated.

Following the initial background check(s), students will be asked annually to provide certification relating to any convictions, guilty pleas, or no contest pleas to any criminal offense, other than traffic violations.
application procedure

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
- 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 March 15, 2006.

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

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

Educational Credential Evaluators
P.O. Box 514070
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203-3470
(414) 289-3400
Web site: www.ece.org

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 (neither of which can be from a relative or friend), 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-Davie, 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 April 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
Physician Assistant Department Admissions
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 April 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, Naples, 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, Physician Assistant Program, 2655 Northbrooke Drive, Naples, Florida 34119.

**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 of all completed coursework 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 to

**NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**

Enrollment Processing Services (EPS)
College of Allied Health and Nursing
Physician Assistant Department Admissions
3301 College Avenue
P.O. Box 299000
Fort Lauderdale-Davie, Florida 33329-9905

Students are provisionally admitted to a degree-seeking program based on a review of unofficial transcripts or other specific program admission requirements. However, this admission includes a condition that final and official transcripts, documents, and requirements must be received within 90 calendar days from matriculation. If these final and official transcripts, documents, and/or requirements are not received by that time, the student will not be allowed to continue class attendance. Financial aid will not be disbursed to a provisional/conditional student until he or she has been fully admitted as a regular student (all admissions requirements have been approved by the college/program admissions office). Students who have an unpaid balance 30 days from the start of the term will be assessed a $50 fee.
student housing

Nova Southeastern University—Naples Campus does not offer on-campus housing. However, numerous apartments, condominiums, and other rental facilities are located near campus. Information concerning housing may be obtained by contacting Coordinator of Student Services and Recruitment 2655 Northbrooke Drive Naples, Florida 34119 (239) 591-4528, ext. 19
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.apaap.org

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

  National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants
  157 Technology Parkway, Suite 800
  Norcross, Georgia 30092-2913
  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.

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.