2013

Physician Assistant Fort Lauderdale 2013

Nova Southeastern University

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NSU MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Nova Southeastern University, a private, not-for-profit institution, is to offer a diverse array of innovative academic programs that complement on-campus educational opportunities and resources with accessible, distance-learning programs to foster academic excellence, intellectual inquiry, leadership, research, and commitment to community through engagement of students and faculty members in a dynamic, lifelong learning environment.

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 29,000 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 more than **143,000 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 **16 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, Mexico, 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 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 1,800-vehicle parking garage overlooks the Miami Dolphins Training Camp.

The Health Professions Division, with a student body of more than 5,800, is home to seven colleges.

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.)
- Master of Public Health (M.P.H.)
- Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics (M.S.B.I.)
- Master of Science in Disaster and Emergency Preparedness (M.S.)
- Graduate Certificate in Health Education
- Graduate Certificate in Public Health
- Graduate Certificate in Public Health Informatics
- Graduate Certificate in Medical Informatics

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
- Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmacy (Ph.D.)

COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY
- Doctor of Optometry (O.D.)
- Master of Science in Clinical Vision Research (M.S.)

COLLEGE OF HEALTH CARE SCIENCES
- Bachelor of Health Science (B.H.Sc.)
- Bachelor of Health Science (B.H.Sc.)—Cardiovascular Sonography
- Bachelor of Health Science (B.H.Sc.)—Vascular Sonography

COLLEGE OF HEALTH CARE SCIENCES (CONTINUED)
- Master of Health Science (M.H.Sc.)
- Master of Health Science (M.H.Sc.)—Anesthesiologist Assistant
- Master of Health Science (M.H.Sc.)—Cardiovascular Sonography
- Master of Health Science (M.H.Sc.)—Vascular Sonography
- Master of Health Science (M.H.Sc.)/Doctor of Health Science (D.H.Sc.)
- Doctor of Health Science (D.H.Sc.)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Health Science (Ph.D.)
- Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant (M.M.S.)
- Master of Occupational Therapy (M.O.T.)
- Entry-Level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (O.T.D.)
- Doctor of Occupational Therapy (Dr.OT)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Occupational Therapy (Ph.D./OT)
- Entry-Level Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.)
- Hybrid Entry-Level Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.)
- Transition Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Physical Therapy (Ph.D./PT)
- Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.)

COLLEGE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
- Master of Biomedical Sciences (M.B.S.)
- Certificate in Anatomical Studies

COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE
- Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.)
- Master of Science in Dentistry (M.S.)
- Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Education in General Dentistry
- Postgraduate Certificate in Endodontics
- Postgraduate Certificate in Operative Dentistry
- Postgraduate Certificate in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Postgraduate Certificate in Orthodontics
- Postgraduate Certificate in Pediatric Dentistry
- Postgraduate Certificate in Periodontics
- Postgraduate Certificate in Prosthodontics

COLLEGE OF NURSING
- Entry-Level Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.)
- R.N. to B.S.N.
- R.N. to M.S.N.
- Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.)—Nursing Education
- Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.)—Health Systems Leadership
- Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.)—Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, FNP
- Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (Ph.D.)

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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, Health Care Sciences, Medical Sciences, and Nursing, 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.
Health Professions Division 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, more than 81,000 individuals are in 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 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 39 percent through the year 2018, while the total number of jobs overall will only grow by 10 percent over the same time 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 PAs' scope of practice is identified; that delegation of medical tasks is appropriate to the PAs' 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.

MISSION STATEMENT

NSU Physician Assistant Department—Fort Lauderdale

- to provide a primary care training program designed for, and dedicated to, producing competent physician assistants who will provide quality health care in rural, urban, underserved, and culturally diverse communities
- to increase the accessibility of quality health care in the primary care setting
- to prepare students for lifelong learning and leadership roles
- to promote the physician assistant profession
Nova Southeastern University's College of Health Care Sciences provides the highest quality of education to students in a variety of health care disciplines, including occupational therapy, physical therapy, physician assistant, audiology, and health sciences. We offer entry-level programs to advanced health care studies that allow professionals to continue with their lifelong learning. The cutting-edge curricula offered in our programs will help our students gain future success in their fields.

The college is committed to providing health care educational opportunities in formats that meet the needs of prospective students in the community. These formats include both the standard, face-to-face classroom approach and innovative distance electronics. By combining the most contemporary teaching modalities with state-of-the-art technology, our students are assured of obtaining the most comprehensive education possible.

The College of Health Care Sciences believes in excellence and innovation in teaching, research, service, and learning. This is made possible by having an academically skilled and professionally qualified faculty and staff. We have diverse faculty members. They come from different backgrounds, have different degrees, and possess a wide range of educational experiences. Our faculty members are eager to share their knowledge of and expertise in the health care arena with their students. We also have an open door policy that encourages students to seek answers to their questions, allowing them to develop a solid understanding of the materials that they study.

All of these opportunities make the College of Health Care Sciences truly unique. The health care market 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. We are proud of the fact that we are training our students to become skilled and compassionate health care providers who are certain to make valuable contributions to the communities they serve. If you wish to become a graduate who is adequately prepared to assume a leadership role in health care, I encourage you to apply to our programs.

Richard E. Davis, PA-C, Ed.D.
Dean, College of Health Care Sciences
INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM

Master of Medical Science degree is conferred upon completion of the innovative and highly integrated 27-month curriculum.

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED FACULTY

Our 14 full-time faculty members include physician assistants, physicians, and others, all with terminal or advanced degrees in their professions. We have an outstanding student-faculty member ratio.

FACILITIES ON A BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS

We have dedicated classroom facilities on the beautiful Health Professions Division campus in the greater Fort Lauderdale area.

STATE-OF-THE-ART INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGIES

Instruction is provided using the latest, state-of-the-art educational technologies and methods. Computer-based patient simulators and an audience-response system enhance the educational process by providing a safe learning environment for students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills.

DIVERSE CLINICAL OPPORTUNITIES

Clinical training sites located throughout Florida provide diverse experiences and opportunities ranging from level I trauma centers to solo rural practices. Students also participate in community-sponsored activities for the medically underserved.

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 $100 fee.
COURSE OF STUDY
The Physician Assistant Program curriculum is completed following a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university in the United States. Graduates of foreign institutions with baccalaureate degrees should refer to item 4 under Admissions Requirements on page 15. The comprehensive curriculum, completed in a consecutive manner, is oriented to primary care and prepares the graduate to practice in a wide variety of clinical settings.

The first 15 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 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, with 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. No advanced placement, transfer of credit, or credit for experiential learning will be granted.

The clinical year is devoted to 12 months of training in nine required rotations. The five required core rotations are in family medicine, emergency medicine, pediatrics, surgery, and internal medicine. The students also complete one selective rotation in orthopedics, dermatology, or prenatal care/gynecology and three elective rotations in any area of medicine they wish to pursue. The required subject, selective, 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 substantially more 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 most recent graduates of the program had first-time pass rates on the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE) of 88, 95, 95, and 97 percent, with 98 percent for the class of 2011.

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.
FULL-TIME, ON-CAMPUS FACULTY

Melissa J. Coffman, M.P.A., PA-C
PA Department Chair, PA Program Director, and Assistant Professor
SPECIALTY: Cardiology

C. Richard Finley, Ed.D., PA-C, DFAAPA
Associate PA Department Chair, Academic Director, and Associate Professor
SPECIALTY: Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Morton Diamond, M.D., FACP, FACC, FAHA
Medical Director and Professor
SPECIALTY: Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Diseases

William H. Marquardt, M.A., PA-C, DFAAPA
Associate Dean for Physician Assistant Studies and Associate Professor
SPECIALTY: Primary Care and Neurology

Troy Elmstrom, M.P.H., PA-C
Assistant Clinical Director and Assistant Professor
SPECIALTY: Cardiology and Emergency Medicine

Harvey Feldman, M.D., FACP
Professor
SPECIALTY: Internal Medicine and Nephrology

Robert Grosz, Ed.D., FACSP
Professor
SPECIALTY: Physiology, Psychology, and Ethics

Pamela Jaffey, M.D.
Associate Professor
SPECIALTY: Pathology

Michael Johnson, M.P.A.S, PA-C
Assistant Professor
SPECIALTY: Internal Medicine and Family Medicine

Angela Mesa-Taylor, M.P.A.S., PA-C
Assistant Professor
SPECIALTY: Pediatrics

Kenny McCallum, M.P.H., CHES
Clinical Director and Assistant Professor
SPECIALTY: Public Health

John Rafalko, Ed.D., PA-C
Associate Professor
SPECIALTY: Surgery and Emergency Medicine

Mara Sanchez, M.M.S., PA-C, RD/LD-N
Assistant Professor
SPECIALTY: Family Medicine and Women's Health

Robin Schugar, M.P.A.S., PA-C
Assistant Professor
SPECIALTY: Surgery

J. Keith Williams, M.P.A.S, PA-C
Assistant Professor
SPECIALTY: Emergency Medicine
ACCREDITATIONS

The NSU Physician Assistant Program is accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA). The NSU Physician Assistant Program—Fort Lauderdale has enjoyed continuous accreditation since its inception and was recently awarded continuing accreditation until 2015, a seven-year term, which is the longest term allowed by ARC-PA. The department is a member of the Physician Assistant Education Association.

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.

NONDISCRIMINATION

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.

www.nova.edu/pa
CURRICULUM OUTLINE FOR THE MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE (M.M.S.)

Start Date ............. June 2013
Length ................. 27 months
Degree ................. Master of Medical Science (M.M.S.)
in Physician Assistant
Didactic ............... 15 months
Clinical ............... 12 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>ANA 5420</td>
<td>Anatomy</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 5400</td>
<td>Physiology</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5400</td>
<td>Clinical Pathophysiology</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5000</td>
<td>Physical Diagnosis I</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5002</td>
<td>Medical Terminology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCO 5300</td>
<td>Biomedical Principles</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5001</td>
<td>Introduction to the PA Profession</td>
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<td>TOTAL HOURS</td>
<td>232</td>
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### Second Semester: Fall (September–December)

<table>
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<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Lab</th>
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<tr>
<td>MIC 5400</td>
<td>Microbiology</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5404</td>
<td>Legal and Ethical Issues in Health Care</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5100</td>
<td>Physical Diagnosis II</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCO 5400</td>
<td>Pharmacology I</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5110</td>
<td>Clinical Medicine and Surgery I</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5130</td>
<td>Clinical Laboratory Medicine I</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5229</td>
<td>Electrocardiography</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL HOURS</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>20</td>
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Curriculum is subject to change as directed by the department.
### 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>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5200</td>
<td>Physical Diagnosis III</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5210</td>
<td>Clinical Medicine and Surgery II</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5310</td>
<td>Clinical Medicine and Surgery III</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>PAC 5131</td>
<td>Clinical Laboratory Medicine II</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>PCO 5410</td>
<td>Pharmacology II</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5410</td>
<td>Complementary Medicine and Nutrition</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5412</td>
<td>Interpretation and Evaluation of Medical Literature</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>PAC 5311</td>
<td>Clinical Behavioral Medicine</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>477</strong></td>
<td><strong>38</strong></td>
<td><strong>31</strong></td>
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### 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>PAC 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>58</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5129</td>
<td>Health Promotion and Disease Prevention</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5010</td>
<td>Core Competencies</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5407</td>
<td>Clinical Pharmacology</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5408</td>
<td>Clinical Genetics</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>210</strong></td>
<td><strong>84</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
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### Clinical Curriculum: Second Year (August–August)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Contact Hours</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6304</td>
<td>Selective Rotation (Orthopedics, Dermatology, or Prenatal Care/Gynecology)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6311</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6313</td>
<td>Surgery</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6315</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6317</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6318</td>
<td>Family Medicine</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6401</td>
<td>Elective I</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6402</td>
<td>Elective II</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6308</td>
<td>Elective III</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 6500</td>
<td>Graduate Project</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CONTACT HOURS FOR THE SECOND YEAR</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2,300</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>55</strong></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, integrity, altruistic attitude, and commitment to a PA career.

1. Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and a minimum science GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 grading scale, in order for your application to be considered. Successful applicants in the past have typically had both cumulative and science GPAs of 3.4 or higher, GRE scores (verbal, quantitative, and analytical) in the 40th percentile or higher in each of the three categories, and letters of recommendation from individuals with whom the applicant has had a professional working relationship in the health care field. Greater consideration will be given to applicants with prior patient-contact experience.

2. Prior to matriculation, applicants must have received a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

3. The college requires the students to earn a grade of C (2.0) or better in each of the following required courses (which must be completed within 10 years of application date):

<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*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human physiology*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry or organic chemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applicants are encouraged to complete their elective coursework in the areas of behavioral, physical, and social sciences or the humanities.

**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>

*If anatomy and physiology are taken as a combined course, both Anatomy and Physiology I and II must be taken.*
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 9 semester hours can be any course of the applicant’s choosing (excluding physical education).

5. 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 January 31. Applications will not be considered complete without GRE scores.

Testing information for the GRE may be obtained from www.gre.org or by telephoning (609) 921-9000.

6. 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.

7. Throughout the curriculum, students are required to access various instructional materials and information from the Internet. All students are required, therefore, to have a computer with the following minimum suggested specifications:

- PC or Macintosh computer
- Windows XP or later operating system
- sound card and speakers
- microphone
- CD-ROM
- Microsoft Office 2007 or later, with PowerPoint, Word, and Excel
- Internet connection with a private Internet service provider (ISP) for access from home to the Internet (A broadband connection is recommended. If a laptop or notebook computer is utilized, a wireless modem will allow access to the NSU wireless network while on campus.)
- convenient access to a printer
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

   The CASPA application deadline, in order to be considered for admission in June, is December 1.

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 the 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 advisor, 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 with whom you have worked or volunteered.

c. At least two out of the three required letters of recommendation (including the one from a physician or physician assistant) submitted

d. Exposure to the health care field

e. No more than two science prerequisites missing

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 Health Care Sciences, Physician Assistant Department, Office of Admissions, 3301 College Avenue, P.O. Box 299000, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33329-9905. The NSU code number is 5522. As stated earlier, the GRE must have been taken in the last five years and must be taken early enough for official scores to be received by the supplemental application deadline of January 31.

4. Once the CASPA application has been received by Nova Southeastern University, a supplemental application will be made available online.
Your complete supplemental application must be received no later than January 31 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 all of the requirements have been received.

5. Applicants may be considered for interviews if they have
   a. Competitive cumulative and science GPAs
   b. Competitive GRE scores

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 are usually held during the months of October through April. 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. Applicants with outstanding coursework will not be considered for an interview until they have completed all but two required outstanding courses.

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.
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
  2318 Mill Road, Suite 1300
  Alexandria, Virginia 22314-6833
  www.aapa.org

- For a list of accredited programs and a catalog of individual physician assistant training programs, contact
  Physician Assistant Education Association
  300 North Washington Street, Suite 710
  Alexandria, Virginia 22314
  www.paeaonline.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 100
  Johns Creek, 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
  www.stats.bls.gov

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**Student Housing**

Numerous apartments, condominiums, and other rental facilities are located near campus. Limited on-campus housing is also available. Information concerning on- and off-campus housing may be obtained by contacting

Nova Southeastern University
Office of Residential Life and Housing
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314-7796
(954) 262-7052
Tuition for 2012–2013 is $27,850. Tuition for 2013–2014 will subsequently be posted on our Web site (www.nova.edu/pa). A Health Professions Division general access fee of $145 is required each year. An NSU student services fee of $900 is also required annually. A clinical support charge of $400 will be assessed in each of the three semesters of clinical training. All tuition and fees are subject to change by the board of trustees without notice.

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.
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 variety of separate university publications. For information on financial assistance, contact

Office of Student Financial Assistance
Nova Southeastern University
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 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.