Physician Assistant Fort Lauderdale 2010

Nova Southeastern University

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NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

TABLE OF CONTENTS
Health Professions Division ........... 2
Letter from the Chancellor ............. 3
Physician Assistants .................. 4
Letter from the Dean ................... 5
Program Highlights .................... 7
The Physician Assistant Program ...... 9
Full-Time, On-Campus Faculty ......... 10
Accreditations and Nondiscrimination ..... 11
Curriculum Outline .................... 12
Admissions Requirements ............... 14
Application Procedures ................. 16
Additional Sources of Information ..... 18
Student Housing ....................... 18
Tuition and Fees ....................... 19
Expenses and Financial Aid .......... 20

NSU MISSION STATEMENT
Nova Southeastern University, a private, not-for-profit institution, offers a diverse array of innovative academic programs at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels, complementing on-campus educational opportunities and resources with accessible distance learning programs, and fostering intellectual inquiry, leadership, and commitment to community through engagement of students and faculty 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 28,000 students, is the sixth 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 103,000 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, 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.
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 (M.P.H.) and the Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics (M.S.B.I.) degrees. 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 a Master of Science in Clinical Vision Research (M.S.). The College of Allied Health and Nursing offers an entry-level Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree, as well as an R.N. to B.S.N. program, a Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) degree, a post-M.S.N. certificate, and a Ph.D. in nursing education. The college offers a physician assistant program that awards the Master of Medical Science (M.M.S.) degree in physician assistant, as well as programs offering a Master of Occupational Therapy (M.O.T.) degree and an entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) degree. Doctoral programs are offered in occupational therapy (Ph.D./O.T. Dr.OT), 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. There are also courses of study in Bachelor of Health Science—Vascular Sonography, Master of Health Science—Vascular Sonography, and Master of Health Science—Anesthesiologist Assistant. 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. Now, the college also offers a Master of Science in Dentistry (M.Sc.D.) degree, as well as postgraduate programs in endodontics, oral surgery, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics, and prosthodontics.

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.

This brochure is for information purposes only and does not represent a contract. Information contained herein is subject to change at any time by administrative decision on the direction of the board of trustees.
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
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 80,000 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 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 27 percent through the year 2016, 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 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 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 of 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 nursing programs (entry-level B.S.N., R.N. to B.S.N., M.S.N., post-M.S.N. certificate, and Ph.D.). In addition, the college is committed to a lifelong learning philosophy through the Ph.D. in physical therapy and the Dr.OT and Ph.D. in occupational therapy. We also have the Bachelor of Health Science (B.H.Sc.), Master of Health Science (M.H.Sc.), Doctor of Health Science (D.H.Sc.), and transition Doctor of Physical Therapy (T-D.P.T.) programs, as well as the Bachelor of Health Science—Vascular Sonography, Master of Health Science—Vascular Sonography, and Master of Health Science—Anesthesiologist Assistant specialty courses of study. These 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 challenging clinical rotations at a variety of health care facilities affiliated with the program. 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
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

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

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED FACULTY
Our 16 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.

DIVERSE CLINICAL OPPORTUNITIES
Clinical training sites located throughout Florida provide diverse experiences and opportunities.

TRAINING COMMUNITY HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND LEADERS
Student volunteers are involved in a wide variety of community service opportunities throughout Florida.

COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) REVIEW COURSE
Our annual CME review program brings hundreds of graduate physician assistants and students to the Fort Lauderdale area.

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.
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 graduate 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. No advanced placement, transfer of credit, or credit for experiential learning will be granted.

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 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 89, 94, 96, and 88 percent, with 95 percent for the class of 2008.

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.
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 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

Angela Mesa-Taylor, M.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

Steve Sager, M.P.A.S, PA-C, DFAAPA
Assistant Professor
SPECIALTY: Emergency Medicine

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

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

Rick Yarosh, M.P.A.S., PA-C
Assistant Clinical Director and Assistant Professor
SPECIALTY: Surgery
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 has enjoyed continuous accreditation since its inception and was recently awarded continuing accreditation until 2015. 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, non-disqualifying 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, non-disqualifying 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.)  
Physician Assistant Program, Fort Lauderdale

Start Date: June 2010  
Length: 27 months  
Degree: Master of Medical Science (M.M.S.) in Physician Assistant  
Didactic: 14 months  
Clinical: 13 months

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Semester: Summer I (June–August)</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANA 5420 Anatomy</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 5400 Physiology</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5400 Clinical Pathophysiology</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5000 Physical Diagnosis I</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5002 Medical Terminology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCO 5300 Biomedical Principles</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5003 Fundamentals of Medical Imaging</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5001 Introduction to the PA Profession</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS</strong></td>
<td><strong>242</strong></td>
<td><strong>78</strong></td>
<td><strong>19</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Second Semester: Fall (September–December)</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MIC 5400 Microbiology</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5404 Legal and Ethical Issues in Health Care</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5100 Physical Diagnosis II</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCO 5400 Pharmacology I</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5110 Clinical Medicine and Surgery I</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5130 Clinical Laboratory Medicine I</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5229 Electrocardiography</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS</strong></td>
<td><strong>316</strong></td>
<td><strong>44</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
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</table>

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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5311</td>
<td>Clinical Laboratory Medicine II</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCO 5410</td>
<td>Pharmacology II</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5410</td>
<td>Complementary Medicine and Nutrition</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5412</td>
<td>Interpretation and Evaluation of Medical Literature</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5311</td>
<td>Clinical Psychiatry</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>479</strong></td>
<td><strong>38</strong></td>
<td><strong>31</strong></td>
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</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>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 5006</td>
<td>PA and Health Care Dynamics</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 5010</td>
<td>Core Competencies</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC 5407</td>
<td>Clinical Pharmacology</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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<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>223</strong></td>
<td><strong>67</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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>Prenatal Care and 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>
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<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6500</td>
<td>Project</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CONTACT HOURS FOR THE SECOND YEAR</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,300</strong></td>
<td><strong>55</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></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 2.9 and a minimum science GPA of 2.9 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 3.2 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.

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 required courses. Successful completion of a bachelor's degree meets the requirement of the 30 upper division hours.

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</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>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>41</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</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chemistry laboratory</td>
<td></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. 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 computer
- Internet connection with private Internet service provider (ISP) for access from home to the Internet.
- If a laptop computer is utilized, a wireless modem will allow access to the campuswide NSU wireless network.
- Sound card and speakers
- CD-ROM
- Windows XP or NT operating system
- Microsoft Office 2003 or later, with PowerPoint, Word, and Excel
- Convenient access to a printer
The CASPA application may be submitted as early as April 15 of the year prior to matriculation.

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, shadowed, or volunteered.

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 January 31.

4. Once the CASPA application has been received by Nova Southeastern University, a supplemental application will be made available online. You may request a hard copy application from the admissions office by calling (954) 262-1101.

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.

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. 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

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
  Physician Assistant Education Association
  300 North Washington Street, Suite 505
  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
  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
  www.stats.bls.gov
Tuition for 2010-2011 (subject to change by the board of trustees without notice) is $24,785.

A Health Professions Division general access fee of $145 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.
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, 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.