

2019

Physician Assistant Orlando

Nova Southeastern University

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Dr. Pallavi Patel
College of Health Care Sciences

Physician Assistant

Orlando

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
HEALTH PROFESSIONS DIVISION
ENTERING CLASS 2019



NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY—synonymous with dynamic innovation and intellectual challenge—is the **second largest**, private, nonprofit university in the Southeast and **1 out of only 361 colleges and universities** nationally selected for the Carnegie Foundation's Community Engagement Classification. Situated on a beautiful, 314-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 183,000 alumni** and current enrollment of **nearly 21,000 students**. Accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the university awards bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees, as well as certificates 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 degree programs are administered through academic units that offer courses at the Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus, as well as at NSU's regional campuses, located in Fort Myers, Jacksonville, Miami, Miramar, Orlando, Palm Beach, and Tampa, Florida, and San Juan, Puerto Rico. NSU also has active distance education programs offered at instructional sites in 12 U.S. states, including Florida, in Puerto Rico, and in 4 countries.

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. Updated information can be found on our website (nova.edu/pa/orlando/).



FORT LAUDERDALE/DAVIE CAMPUS

THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS DIVISION (HPD), with a student body of nearly 8,000, is home to eight colleges. Located on the Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus, it occupies a \$70-million complex, covering 21 acres. It 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. Several of the HPD programs are also located at our regional campuses in Fort Myers, Jacksonville, Miami, Miramar, Orlando, Palm Beach, and Tampa, Florida, as well as in San Juan, Puerto Rico. These campuses extend our programs and resources to various communities. They offer you the ability to complete a degree at a location that may be more convenient to your home.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter from the Interim HPD Chancellor	2
HPD Degree Programs	3
Letter from the Dean	4
Physician Assistants	5
The Physician Assistant Program	6
Curriculum Outline	8
Admissions Requirements	10
Application Procedures	12
Additional Sources of Information	14
Tuition, Fees, Expenses, and Financial Aid	15
Physician Assistant Technical Standards	16

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.



Letter from the Interim HPD Chancellor

NSU's Health Professions Division is playing a pivotal role in leading the university to new levels of excellence. The division comprises eight distinctive colleges—osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, optometry, medical

sciences, dental medicine, health care sciences, nursing, and allopathic medicine—that together offer more than 60 degree and certificate programs.

The past year has been one of milestones. In September 2017, NSU received the largest philanthropic gift in its history from physicians Dr. Kiran C. Patel, M.D., and his wife, Dr. Pallavi Patel, M.D. The commitment from the Patel Family Foundation included a \$50-million gift and an additional \$150-million real estate and facility investment in a future 325,000-square-foot medical-education complex that will be part of NSU's new Tampa Bay Regional Campus in Clearwater, Florida.

In October 2017, our College of Allopathic Medicine received preliminary accreditation. As a result, the college was granted approval to begin interviewing and accepting its inaugural class of 50 students in August 2018. Finally, construction commenced on the HCA East Florida hospital that will be located on NSU's Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus.

These exciting developments will help ensure that our students receive the most-well-rounded education possible at an academic institution that prides itself on being cutting edge, dynamic, and interprofessional in its academic approach.

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to read 'Irving Rosenbaum', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Irving Rosenbaum, D.P.A., Ed.D.
Interim Health Professions Division Chancellor

Health Professions Division Degree Programs

Dr. Kiran C. Patel 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.]
- Master of Science in Disaster and Emergency Management [M.S.]
- Master of Science in Medical Education [M.S.]
- Master of Science in Nutrition [M.S.]
- Bachelor of Science in Public Health [B.S.]
- Graduate Certificate in Emergency Medicine
- Graduate Certificate in Functional Nutrition and Herbal Therapy
- Graduate Certificate in Health Education
- Graduate Certificate in Medical Informatics
- Graduate Certificate in Public Health
- Graduate Certificate in Public Health Informatics
- Graduate Certificate in Social Medicine

College of Pharmacy

- Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Affairs [M.S.]
- Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences [M.S.]
 - Concentration in Drug Development (Pharmaceutics)
 - Concentration in Molecular Medicine and Pharmacogenomics
 - Concentration in Social and Administrative Pharmacy
- Doctor of Pharmacy [Pharm.D.]
- Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmaceutical Sciences [Ph.D.]
 - Concentration in Drug Development (Pharmaceutics)
 - Concentration in Molecular Medicine and Pharmacogenomics
 - Concentration in Social and Administrative Pharmacy

College of Optometry

- Doctor of Optometry [O.D.]
- Master of Science in Clinical Vision Research [M.S.]
- Graduate Certificate in Clinical Vision Research

Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences

- Bachelor of Science—Cardiovascular Sonography [B.S.]
- Bachelor of Science in Exercise and Sport Science [B.S.]
- Bachelor of Health Science [B.H.Sc.]
- Bachelor of Science—Medical Sonography [B.S.]
- Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy [B.S.]
- Bachelor of Science in Speech-Language and Communication Disorders [B.S.]
- Master of Science in Anesthesia [M.S.]
- Master of Science in Athletic Training [M.S.A.T.]
- Master of Health Science [M.H.Sc.]
- Master of Occupational Therapy [M.O.T.]
- Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant [M.M.S.]
- Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology [M.S.]
- Doctor of Audiology [Au.D.]
- Doctor of Health Science [D.H.Sc.]
- Doctor of Philosophy in Health Science [Ph.D.]
- Entry-Level Doctor of Occupational Therapy [O.T.D.]
- Doctor of Occupational Therapy [Dr.O.T.]
- Doctor of Philosophy in Occupational Therapy [Ph.D.]
- Doctor of Physical Therapy [D.P.T.]
 - Professional Doctor of Physical Therapy [D.P.T.]
 - Postprofessional Doctor of Physical Therapy: Transition [D.P.T.]
- Doctor of Philosophy in Physical Therapy [Ph.D.]
- Doctor of Speech-Language Pathology [SLP.D.]
- Certificate in Audiologist Assistant
- Graduate Certificate in Clinical Research Associate
- Graduate Certificate in Clinical Trial Manager

College of Medical Sciences

- Master of Biomedical Sciences [M.B.S.]

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
- Postgraduate Certificate in Special Needs Dentistry

Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing [B.S.N.]
 - Entry Nursing
 - R.N. to B.S.N.
 - R.N. to M.S.N.
- Master of Science in Nursing [M.S.N.]
 - R.N. to M.S.N.
 - M.S.N. Clinical Concentrations
 - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Family Nurse Practitioner
 - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
 - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
 - M.S.N. Nonclinical Concentrations
 - Executive Nurse Leadership
 - Nursing Education
 - Nursing Informatics
- Doctor of Nursing Practice [D.N.P.]
- Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing [Ph.D.]
- Graduate Certificate in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Post-Master's Certificate in Family Nurse Practitioner

Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Allopathic Medicine

- Doctor of Medicine [M.D.]

Dual Degrees

- Bachelor of Science—Cardiovascular Sonography [B.S.] and Master of Health Science [M.H.Sc.]
- Bachelor of Science—Medical Sonography [B.S.] and Master of Health Science [M.H.Sc.]
- Master of Health Science [M.H.Sc.]/Doctor of Health Science [D.H.Sc.]
- Bachelor of Science in Public Health [B.S.]/Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine [D.O.]
- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine [D.O.]/Doctor of Dental Medicine [D.M.D.]

Concurrent Degrees

- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine [D.O.]/Master of Science in Medical Education [M.S.]
- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine [D.O.]/Master of Public Health [M.P.H.]
- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine [D.O.]/Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics [M.S.]
- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine [D.O.]/Master of Science in Disaster and Emergency Management [M.S.]
- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine [D.O.]/Master of Science in Nutrition [M.S.]
- Doctor of Pharmacy [Pharm.D.]/Master of Business Administration [M.B.A.]
- Doctor of Pharmacy [Pharm.D.]/Master of Public Health [M.P.H.]
- Doctor of Pharmacy [Pharm.D.]/Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics [M.S.]
- Doctor of Optometry [O.D.]/Master of Public Health [M.P.H.]
- Doctor of Audiology [Au.D.]/Master of Business Administration [M.B.A.]
- Master of Medical Science [M.M.S.]/Master of Public Health [M.P.H.]
- Doctor of Dental Medicine [D.M.D.]/Master of Public Health [M.P.H.]
- Doctor of Dental Medicine [D.M.D.]/Master of Business Administration [M.B.A.]



Letter from the Dean

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY'S Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences provides the highest quality of education to students in a variety of health care disciplines, including occupational, physical, and respiratory therapy; physician assistant; audiology; medical and cardiovascular sonography; anesthesiologist assistant; speech-language pathology; athletic training; exercise and sport science; 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 Dr. Pallavi Patel 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 Dr. Pallavi Patel 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Stanley Wilson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Stanley Wilson, Ed.D., PT, CEAS

Dean, Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences

Physician Assistants

Extending the Health Care Team

THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROFESSION was born at Duke University in the mid-1960s and was conceptualized by Eugene A. Stead, Jr., M.D. At that 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, according to the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants, there are more than 100,000 nationally certified physician assistants. Under the supervision of a physician, PAs practice medicine and provide health care to patients. Some PA duties include taking medical histories, performing physical examinations, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests,

diagnosing and treating illnesses, performing health maintenance screenings, performing medical/surgical procedures, assisting in surgeries, and writing prescriptions.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, as published in the 2017 *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, employment of PAs is expected to grow 37 percent from 2016 to 2026. This “much faster than average” growth of the PA profession reflects the increasing need for primary health care providers and PAs resulting from increasing numbers of physicians entering specialty areas of medicine, a growing and aging population, an increase in the number of individuals with access to health insurance, and the cost-effectiveness of physician assistants.



The Physician Assistant Program • Orlando

Course of Study

THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM curriculum is completed following a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university in the United States. Graduates of foreign institutions should refer to the specific Admissions Requirements and Application Procedures detailed in the respective sections of this brochure. 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 in the scheduled curriculum at Nova Southeastern University at Orlando.

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 time frame, students may be in class any time from Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Additionally, there may be occasional weekend hours.

The clinical year is devoted to 12 months of clinical training with required six-week clinical rotations in family medicine, emergency medicine, pediatrics, prenatal care/gynecology, general surgery, behavioral health, and internal medicine; one six-week selective rotation of orthopedics, dermatology, geriatrics, cardiology, neurology, or otorhinolaryngology; and one elective rotation of four weeks that may include other selectives or specialties.

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, participate in surgeries, interpret common diagnostic examinations, and help manage common medical problems. The attendance hours during clinical rotations are set by the preceptor and can include evening and weekend hours. Students are required to attend a minimum of 36 hours per week; however, many rotation sites may require students to work longer hours.



Upon completion of the course of study, students will have earned a Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant (M.M.S.) degree.

The Department of Physician Assistant is also pleased to offer an M.M.S./M.P.H. concurrent degree program providing an opportunity for students to attain an M.P.H. degree in addition to the entry-level Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant 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.

NSU Physician Assistant Program

Orlando

Mission Statement

- to provide a high-quality training program designed for, and dedicated to producing, culturally competent physician assistants who will provide quality health care in rural, urban, underserved, and culturally diverse communities
- to provide an exemplary educational experience that 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

Program Goals

- Produce competent graduates to provide primary health care.
- Increase accessibility of quality health care in the primary-care setting.
- Develop in students the skills necessary for lifelong learning, as well as leadership roles in, and promotion of, the physician assistant profession.

ACCREDITATIONS

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) has granted **Accreditation—Continued** status to the **Nova Southeastern University—Orlando Physician Assistant Program** sponsored by **Nova Southeastern University—Orlando**. Accreditation—Continued is an accreditation status granted when a currently accredited program is in compliance with the ARC-PA Standards.

Accreditation remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the Standards. The approximate date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA will be **March 2024**. The review date is contingent upon continued compliance with the Accreditation Standards and ARC-PA policy.

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate's, baccalaureate, master's, educational specialist, doctorate, and professional degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Nova Southeastern University.

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.

nova.edu/pa/orlando/



Curriculum Outline • Master of Medical Science [M.M.S.]

The Physician Assistant Program • Orlando

Start Date: May

Length: 27 months

Degree: Master of Medical Science [M.M.S.]
in Physician Assistant

Didactic: 15 Months

Clinical: 12 Months

First Semester: Summer I (May–August)

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	LECTURE	LAB	CREDIT HOURS
PAO 5000	Anatomy	48	32	4
PAO 5001	Pharmacodynamics	16	0	1
PAO 5002	Introduction to the PA Profession	16	0	1
PAO 5100	Physiology	48	0	3
PAO 5300	Physical Diagnosis I	22	44	3
PAO 5400	History Taking and Communication Skills	20	20	2
PAO 5406	Cultural Issues in Health Care	20	0	1
PAO 5605	Clinical Laboratory Medicine	36	0	2
TOTAL HOURS		226	96	17

Second Semester: Fall (September–December)

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	LECTURE	LAB	CREDIT HOURS
PAO 5003	Fundamentals of Medical Imaging	28	0	2
PAO 5006	Electrocardiography	30	0	2
PAO 5104	Clinical Pathophysiology	46	0	3
PAO 5200	Microbiology	42	0	3
PAO 5310	Physical Diagnosis II	18	36	2
PAO 5404	Legal and Ethical Issues in Health Care	30	0	2
PAO 5410	Pharmacology I	32	0	2
PAO 5421	Epidemiology/Biostatistics in Health Care	30	0	2
PAO 5500	Clinical Medicine and Surgery I	126	0	8
TOTAL HOURS		382	36	26

Third Semester: Winter (January–May)

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	LECTURE	LAB	CREDIT HOURS
PAO 5320	Physical Diagnosis III	34	42	4
PAO 5420	Pharmacology II	64	0	4

Curriculum is subject to change as directed by the department.

Third Semester: Winter (January–May) CONTINUED

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	LECTURE	LAB	CREDIT HOURS
PAO 5510	Clinical Medicine and Surgery II	156	0	10
PAO 5520	Clinical Medicine and Surgery III	148	0	10
PAO 5540	Clinical Behavioral Health	44	0	3
TOTAL HOURS		446	42	31

Fourth Semester: Summer II (Advanced Didactic; June–July)

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	LECTURE	LAB	CREDIT HOURS
PAO 5005	Genetics	20	30	2
PAO 5008	Health Promotion and Clinical Correlation	8	20	1
PAO 5009	PA and Health Care Dynamics	20	0	1
PAO 5407	Clinical Pharmacology	30	0	2
PAO 5408	Complementary Medicine and Nutrition	28	0	2
PAO 5412	Publication Skills and Medical Research	22	28	2
PAO 5460	Life Support Procedures and Skills	24	20	2
PAO 5560	Clinical Procedures and Surgical Skills	20	44	3
TOTAL HOURS		172	142	15

Clinical Curriculum: Second Year (August–August)

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	WEEKS/HOURS	CREDIT HOURS
PAO 6401	Elective	4/160	4
PAO 6410	Behavioral Health	6/240	6
PAO 6498	Graduate Project I	n/a	1
PAO 6499	Graduate Project II	n/a	1
PAO 6500	Graduate Project III	n/a	1
PAO 6310	Emergency Medicine	6/230	6
PAO 6320	Family Medicine	6/240	6
PAO 6330	Internal Medicine	6/240	6
PAO 6340	Pediatrics	6/240	6
PAO 6350	Prenatal Care and Gynecology	6/240	6
PAO 6360	General Surgery	6/240	6
PAO 6406	Selective [1 of 6*]	6/240	6
	• Orthopedics		
	• Dermatology		
	• Otorhinolaryngology		
	• Geriatrics		
	• Cardiology		
	• Neurology		
TOTAL			
WEEKS/CONTACT HOURS/CREDIT HOURS (second year)	52/2,070		55

*One of the six selectives is required. The other selectives may be used as electives.

Admissions Requirements

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 bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and a minimum science GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 grading scale at the time of application and must maintain that GPA through matriculation. Successful applicants in the past have typically had cumulative and science GPAs in the range of 3.3 to 3.5 or higher.
2. The college requires applicants to earn a grade of C (2.0) or better in each of the following **required courses** (science prerequisites must be completed by the end of the fall semester prior to matriculation).

COURSE	SEMESTER HOURS
• College math	3
• English (including 3 semester hours of English composition)	6
• Humanities/arts	3
• Social sciences.....	9
• General inorganic chemistry (I and II) including laboratory	8
• Microbiology including laboratory	4
• General biology (or zoology) including laboratory	4
• Human anatomy*	3
• Human physiology*	3
• Biochemistry	3
• Human genetics.....	3
• Medical terminology.....	1

In order to be considered for the May entering class, all science prerequisites must be completed by the end of the fall semester prior to matriculation and all nonscience prerequisites must be completed prior to matriculation. Applicants who have completed all prerequisite coursework prior to applying will be favored for interviews.

Upon review of a student's record, the Committee on Admissions may require additional coursework and testing as a condition of acceptance.

Recommended courses

COURSE	SEMESTER HOURS
• Organic chemistry.....	3
• Biochemistry or organic chemistry laboratory.....	1
• Anatomy laboratory	1
• Physiology laboratory.....	1
• Introduction to statistics.....	3

*If you take the combination class of Human Anatomy and Physiology I (A&P I), then you must complete the sequence by taking Human Anatomy and Physiology II (A&P II).

3. In addition to completion of all required prerequisite coursework, 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 missing prerequisites or upper-division science courses of the applicant's choosing (excluding physical education).

The Physician Assistant Program • Orlando

4. All applicants are required to submit official scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test to the Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA). **NSU's PA—Orlando Program school code is 0964.** The GRE must have been taken within the past five years and must be taken early enough for official scores to be received by CASPA by the supplemental application due date of January 15. Applications will not be considered without official GRE scores. If multiple exams have been taken, only the most recent GRE scores will be considered. Successful applicants in the past have typically had GRE scores in the 40th percentile or higher in each of the three categories (verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing). Testing information for the GRE may be obtained from gre.org or by telephoning (609) 921-9000.

5. All students are required to have a laptop computer and printer. **The computer must have the following minimum specifications:**

- combo DVD and RW drive
- sound capability and speakers
- Internet connection with private Internet service provider (ISP) for universal access to the Internet
- wireless capability
- printer
- webcam (internal or attached)

The following are recommended features:

- Intel Core i5 or i7 processor
- 4GB RAM (upgradeable to 6GB or more)
- 250 GB hard disk or larger (7200 RPM)
- Windows 7, SP1 or higher OR Mac OS X 10.6 or Mac OS X 10.7
- Microsoft Office 2007 with PowerPoint, Word, and Excel minimum
- surge suppressor electrical outlet
- flash drive

Background Checks

Admitted students are required to obtain background checks, as per the adopted policy of April 22, 2005. When requested, admitted students will be referred to the appropriate agency by the Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA). Students may also be required by the NSU Health Professions Division (HPD) to obtain background checks—or authorize clinical training facilities, where appropriate, to conduct checks—and to permit the results of the consumer reporting agency to be provided to the NSU HPD and/or the clinical training facilities. If a background check reveals information of concern that the NSU HPD may deem unfavorable, the NSU HPD 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 HPD within 10 business days of the date the communication is sent, unless another date is specified by the NSU HPD in its communication with the student.

Offers of admission will not be considered final until the completion of the background check 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 admission may be denied or rescinded, the student may be disciplined or dismissed, or the student's enrollment may be terminated.

Following initial background checks, 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 Procedures

The CASPA application may be submitted as early as April 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 portal.caspaonline.org/applicants16/index.cgi
- 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 May, is December 1.

- CASPA considers all academic coursework at the college level when calculating the applicant's science and cumulative GPA. This is a process known as no grade forgiveness. The Nova Southeastern University PA Program—Orlando has a no grade forgiveness policy as well; therefore, the program will not recalculate GPAs received from CASPA.
- It is the applicant's responsibility to know what his or her science and cumulative GPAs are. If you have questions regarding your GPA, you should see your academic advisor at your local college or university.
- **Applications submitted with GPAs that are below the minimum required GPA of 3.0 posted by the program will not be given consideration.**

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.
- Coursework taken at foreign institutions must be evaluated for U.S. institution equivalence by an approved National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) organization, such as one of the services listed here.

World Education Services, Inc.

Bowling Green Station
P.O. Box 5087
New York, New York 10274-5087

[212] 966-6311
wes.org

Josef Silny & Associates

7101 SW 102 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33173

[305] 273-1616 • [305] 273-1338 fax
jsilny.com

Educational Credential Evaluators

P.O. Box 514070
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203-3470

[414] 289-3400 • ece.org

It is the applicant's responsibility to have this coursework evaluated. An official course-by-course evaluation with a cumulative grade point average must be sent directly from the evaluation service to NSU's Enrollment Processing Services.

b. Two letters of recommendation are required.

- one from a physician assistant
- one from a health care professional (e.g., physician assistant, physician, dentist, pharmacist, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, or physical or occupational therapist)

Recommendations submitted by relatives, friends, personal health care providers, or friends of the family are not acceptable.

c. Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores must be submitted directly to CASPA.

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 15.

The school code number for NSU's PA—Orlando Program is 0964.

The Physician Assistant Program • Orlando

3. Once the CASPA application has been received by Nova Southeastern University, a supplemental application will be available online. You must submit a nonrefundable, \$50 application fee with your application. Applications are reviewed upon submission of all required documents received by the deadline. At minimum, the following must be received:

- CASPA application
- official GRE scores
- NSU supplemental application and \$50, nonrefundable application fee

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 at the Nova Southeastern University Orlando, Florida, site and are by invitation only. Interviews will be held during the months of September through February. An invitation to interview is not a guarantee of admission.

Competitive Interview Criteria

Applicants with the following criteria are more strongly considered for a possible interview:

- cumulative and science GPAs of 3.3 or higher
- GRE scores within the 40th percentile or higher in each of the three categories
- 80 or more total science semester hours
- 60 or more total BCP science semester hours
- science prerequisites completed in upper-division science courses
- prior health care experience hours and PA shadowing hours

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 Orlando Physician Assistant Program Office of Admissions.

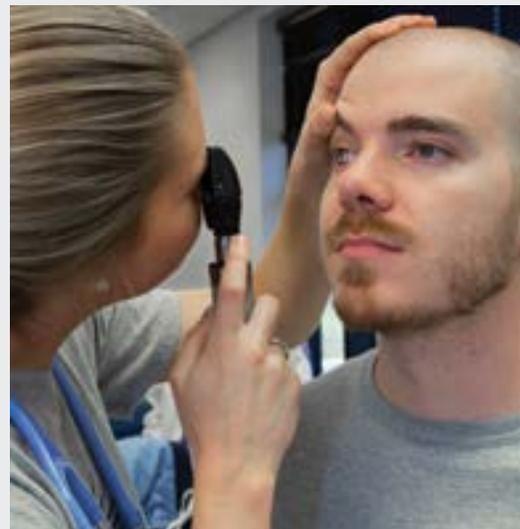
Transcripts

All applicants who are accepted and had courses in progress at the time of application must submit official transcripts of all completed coursework. All transcripts should be sent to

Nova Southeastern University
Enrollment Processing Services
Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences
Physician Assistant Admissions
3301 College Avenue, P.O. Box 299000
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33329-9905

Transcripts can be sent electronically from the originating college/university to the following address:

electronictranscripts@nova.edu.



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 late fee.

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
2318 Mill Road, Suite 1300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-6833
aapa.org
- For a list of accredited programs and a catalog of individual physician assistant training programs, contact
Physician Assistant Education Association
655 K Street NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20001-2385
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
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
<http://stats.bls.gov>



Student Housing

Nova Southeastern University—Orlando does not offer on-campus housing. However, numerous apartments, condominiums, and other rental facilities are located near the site. Information concerning housing may be obtained by contacting

Coordinator of Admissions Physician
Assistant Program

4850 Millenia Boulevard
Orlando, Florida 32839-6012

[407] 264-5153



Tuition, Fees, Expenses, and Financial Aid

Tuition and Fees

Tuition for 2019–2020 will be posted on our website (<http://healthsciences.nova.edu/pa/orlando/faq.html>). A Health Professions Division general access fee of \$145 is required each year. An NSU student services fee of \$1,350 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—\$500.** This is due February 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 approximately \$6,000 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**

Due to the demands of the program curriculum, the program strongly discourages any outside employment.



Physician Assistant Technical Standards

APPLICANTS FOR, and students enrolled in, physician assistant programs must have abilities and skills in the areas of observation, communication, motor, intellectual/critical thinking, interpersonal, and behavioral/social attributes. Reasonable accommodation for individuals with documented disabilities will be considered on an individual basis. Students wishing to request accommodations for disabilities should review the information at [nova.edu /disabilityservices/](http://nova.edu/disabilityservices/) and contact the Health Professions Division (HPD) coordinator.

Observation

Applicants and students must have sufficient capacity to observe in the classroom, laboratory, and diagnostic and treatment areas of inpatient and outpatient settings. Sensory skills to perform the procedures typically provided by physician assistants in both primary care and medical specialties are required. In any case where a candidate's or student's ability to observe or acquire information through sensory modalities is compromised, the candidate or student must demonstrate alternative means and/or abilities to acquire and demonstrate the essential information conveyed in this fashion.

Communication

Applicants and students must be able to communicate effectively in both academic and health care settings. Applicants and students must show evidence of effective written and oral communication skills. Applicants and students must be able to effectively communicate with patients in order to elicit and impart information.

Motor

The ability to participate in basic diagnostic and therapeutic maneuvers and procedures is required. Applicants and students must have sufficient motor function to execute movements reasonably required to properly care for all patients. Applicants and students must be able to perform motor functions with or without assistive devices.

Intellectual

Applicants and students must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, and synthesize. Problem solving, one of the critical skills demanded of health care professionals, requires all of these intellectual abilities. Applicants and students must be able to read and understand medical literature. In order to complete the physician assistant program, students must be able to demonstrate mastery of these skills and the ability to use them together in a timely fashion in health care problem-solving and patient care.

Interpersonal, Behavioral, and Social

Applicants and students in physician assistant programs must possess the emotional health and stability required for full utilization of their intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, and the prompt completion of all patient-care responsibilities. The development of mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients, families, and other members of the health care team is essential. The abilities to function in the face of uncertainties in clinical practice and display flexibility, compassion, integrity, motivation, interpersonal skills, and concern for others are all required.





NOVA SOUTHEASTERN
UNIVERSITY

Health Professions Division
Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences
Physician Assistance Program—Orlando
4850 Millenia Boulevard
Orlando, Florida 32839-6012

Coordinator of Admissions
(407) 264-5153

Office of Admissions
(954) 262-1101 • 877-640-0218

nova.edu

NSU Orlando Campus