2019

Physician Assistant Fort Meyers

Nova Southeastern University

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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.
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.
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 (HPD) 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 offer more than 60 degree and certificate programs.

We have seen the university reach many milestones recently. 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., which included a $50-million gift and an additional $150-million real estate and facility investment in Clearwater, Florida.

Then, in January 2018, the Patels provided additional gifts totaling close to $30 million, while a substantial contribution from longtime donors Ron and Kathy Assaf resulted in new HPD enhancements. The altruistic trend continued in February 2018, when a significant gift from Martin and Gail Press resulted in the renaming of the HPD Library.

In October 2017, our allopathic medicine college received preliminary accreditation. As a result, the college gained 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 ensure that our students receive a well-rounded education at an academic institution that prides itself on being dynamic, innovative, and interprofessional in its academic approach.

Irving Rosenbaum, D.P.A., Ed.D., M.P.A.
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.)
- Graduated Certificate in Emergency Medicine
- Graduated Certificate in Functional Nutrition and Herbal Therapy
- Graduated Certificate in Health Education
- Graduated Certificate in Medical Informatics
- Graduated Certificate in Public Health
- Graduated Certificate in Public Health Informatics
- Graduated Certificate in Social Medicine

College of Pharmacy
- Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences (M.S.)
- Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences (M.S.): Concentration in Drug Development (Pharmaceuticals)
- Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacogenomics (M.S.): Concentration in Social and Administrative Pharmacy
- Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences (Ph.D.): Concentration in Drug Development (Pharmaceuticals)
- Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacogenomics (Ph.D.): Concentration in Social and Administrative Pharmacy

College of Optometry
- Doctor of Optometry (O.D.)
- Master of Science in 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.)
- Bachelor of Science in Public Health (B.S.) and Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O)
- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) and 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 Science in 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.

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 this time, there was a lack of primary care providers, especially in certain areas. Stead, along with many other physicians and educators, realized the need for a new medical professional who would work in collaboration with physicians. These professionals were called Physician Assistants (PAs).

Today, 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 (BLS), U.S. Department of Labor, employment of physician assistants is projected to grow 37 percent from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations. As demand for health care services grows, physician assistants will be needed to provide care to patients. 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.

NSU Physician Assistant Program
Fort Myers

Mission Statement

In keeping with the principles of the mission statements of both Nova Southeastern University and the Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences, the NSU Physician Assistant Program—Fort Myers endeavors to

• provide an educational experience that emphasizes primary medical care
• enable graduates to demonstrate competency and skill in a variety of clinical and cultural settings
• provide health care experiences in medically underserved communities
• prepare students for lifelong learning
• prepare students for leadership roles
• cultivate professionalism throughout the program
The Physician Assistant Program • Fort Myers

Course of Study

THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM requires matriculants to have earned 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 3 under Admissions Requirements on page 10. The comprehensive curriculum is oriented to primary care and prepares the graduate to practice in a wide variety of clinical settings.

The department requires all matriculants to complete the entire program at this location because of the highly integrated and compact nature of the curriculum. No advanced placement, transfer of credit, or credit for experiential learning will be granted.

The first 14.5 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 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.

The clinical year is devoted to 12.5 months of training with required six-week rotations in family medicine, emergency medicine, pediatrics, prenatal care/gynecology, surgery, and internal medicine. One six-week selective rotation in behavioral health, otorhinolaryngology, orthopedics, rural or underserved primary care medicine, or an internal medicine subspecialty, as well as one six-week and one four-week elective rotation that may include other selectives or specialties are also required. All required rotations must be completed in the state of Florida, primarily within 100 miles from NSU’s Fort Myers Campus. Each student will complete at least one rotation in a rural or underserved area, which may entail traveling beyond the 100 mile radius of Fort Myers, Florida. For core rotations assigned by the program outside of the 100 mile radius, student housing will be provided.

Each required rotation has assigned readings and learning objectives. At the end of each rotation, a written comprehensive 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, although many rotation sites require students to work up to 60 hours per week.

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

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

ACCREDITATIONS

PA programs are accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for Physician Assistants (ARC-PA), Inc. Accreditation is important, as only graduates of accredited programs qualify to sit for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE), which is required for licensure.

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) has granted Accreditation—Continued status to the Nova Southeastern University Physician Assistant Program—Fort Myers sponsored by Nova Southeastern University. 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 2028. 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/fort-myers
Curriculum Outline • Master of Medical Science (M.M.S.)

The Physician Assistant Program • Fort Myers

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

First Semester: Summer I (May–August)

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<td>Physical Diagnosis I</td>
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<td>History Taking and Communication Skills</td>
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<td>Fundamentals of Medical Imaging</td>
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<td>Cultural Issues in Health Care</td>
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TOTAL HOURS: 212

Second Semester: Fall (August–December)

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<td>Clinical Laboratory Medicine I</td>
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<td>Clinical Pathophysiology</td>
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TOTAL HOURS: 330

Third Semester: Winter (January–May)

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Curriculum is subject to change as directed by the department.
### Third Semester: Winter (January–May) Continued

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<td>Interpretation and Evaluation of Medical Literature</td>
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**TOTAL HOURS**

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**TOTAL HOURS**

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### Clinical Curriculum: Second Year (August–August)

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<tr>
<td>PAN 6350</td>
<td>Prenatal Care and Gynecology</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 6360</td>
<td>Surgery</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 6371</td>
<td>Selective I [1 of 5]*</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Behavioral Health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Otorhinolaryngology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Orthopedics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Rural or Underserved Primary Care Medicine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Internal Medicine Subspecialty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 6376</td>
<td>Elective I</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 6381</td>
<td>Elective II</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAN 6601</td>
<td>Graduate Project</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL CONTACT HOURS FOR THE SECOND YEAR**

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,390</td>
<td>55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* One of the five selectives is required. The other selectives may be used as electives.
THE NSU PA PROGRAM—FORT MYERS utilizes a rolling admissions process. Applications are received through CASPA, as they are completed, until the deadline date, December 1. Interviews are conducted beginning in September and are continued until all seats are filled. The admissions process is very competitive, and due to the rolling admissions (possible acceptance beginning in September), it is advisable to apply early in the admissions cycle.

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 baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university. A baccalaureate degree in any field of study is acceptable, as long as all prerequisites are met. The program requires the students to earn grades of C (2.0) or better in each of the upper-division courses.

   Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and a minimum science GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 grading scale. Successful applicants in the past have typically had cumulative grade point averages in the range of 3.2 to 3.4 and higher.

2. The college requires the students to earn a grade of C (2.0) or better in each of the following required courses. Science course prerequisites must be completed by the end of the fall semester prior to matriculation.

<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</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)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Microbiology including laboratory .................................. 4
- General inorganic chemistry (I and II) including laboratory ........................................................................... 8
- Human anatomy* .................................................................. 3
- Human physiology* ......................................................... 3
- Biochemistry ........................................................................ 3
- Medical terminology ....................................................... 1
- Human genetics ............................................................... 3
- Electives

*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).

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

Recommended courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>SEMESTER HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organic chemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy laboratory</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiology laboratory</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Graduates of foreign institutions where English is not the primary language of instruction, in addition to completion of the required prerequisites, must present U.S. 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).
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—Fort Myers Program school code is 0951. 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. Applications will not be considered complete without GRE scores. Successful applicants in the past have typically had GRE scores (verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing) in the 40th percentile or higher in each of the three categories.

Testing information for the GRE may be obtained at gre.org or by calling (609) 921-9000.

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 background checks 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

1. Apply through 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—Fort Myers has a no grade forgiveness policy as well; therefore, the program will not recalculate GPAs received from CASPA.

   • Applications that are 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 involved with direct patient care

   None of the letters may be from relatives or friends. Applications submitted without these letters will not be given consideration.

   c. Send GRE scores 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. The school code number for NSU’s PA—Fort Myers Program is 0951.
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 site in Fort Myers, Florida, and are by invitation only. Interviews are typically held during the months of September through February. An invitation to interview is not a guarantee of admission.

**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 site in Fort Myers, Florida, and are by invitation only. Interviews are typically held during the months of September through February. An invitation to interview is not a guarantee of admission.

**Application Withdrawal**

If, at any time, you wish to withdraw your application from consideration, please do so in writing. Please direct this correspondence to

Nova Southeastern University
Physician Assistant Program—
Fort Myers, Admissions
3650 Colonial Court
Fort Myers, Florida 33913-6636

**Current College Coursework**

All prerequisite coursework, except the science prerequisite coursework, must be completed by the middle of May in order to be considered for the end of May entering class. All science prerequisite coursework must be completed for the end of the fall semester the year prior in order to be considered for the end of May entering class. If, at the time of application, any coursework is in progress or anticipated, please identify these courses on the supplemental application. Applicants who have completed all prerequisite coursework by the end of the fall semester the year prior will be favored for early interviews.

**Transcripts**

All applicants who are accepted must submit official transcripts of all completed coursework to the NSU EPS Physician Assistant Admissions prior to matriculation. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that arrangements are made to these transcripts to be sent to

Nova Southeastern University
Enrollement Processing Services
Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences
Physician Assistance Admissions
3301 College Avenue, P.O. Box 299000
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33329-9905
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
  paeanline.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—Fort Myers does not offer on-campus housing. However, numerous apartments, condominiums, and other rental facilities are located near campus. Information concerning housing may be obtained by contacting

Coordinator of Admissions
PA Program—Fort Myers
Fort Myers Campus
3650 Colonial Court
Fort Myers, Florida 33913-6636

(239) 274-6952
Tuition, Fees, Expenses, and Financial Aid

Tuition and Fees

Tuition for 2019–2020 will be posted on our website (http://healthsciences.nova.edu/pa/fort-myers/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.

All students are required to have a laptop computer or tablet device with wireless Internet capability, a printer, and a webcam. Students must have access to Microsoft Office or its equivalent. Please see the Hardware Guidelines for Computing at NSU (available at https://www.nova.edu/publications/it-standards/#/1/) for more detail regarding minimum specifications.

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 $25,000 per year for living expenses. In addition, students should anticipate spending $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

A limited number of part-time work assignments are available. However, because of 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/ 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.