2019

Physician Assistant Fort Lauderdale

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.

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).
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.

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.)
- 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 (Pharmacuetica)
  - 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 (Phamacuetica)
  - 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 (S.L.P.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
- Master of Science in Medical Education (M.S.)
- 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.

Stanley Wilson, Ed.D., PT, CEAS
Dean, Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences
Physician Assistants

Extending the Health Care Team

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, 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, 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.

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.

NSU Physician Assistant Program

Fort Lauderdale

Mission Statement

• to provide a primary care training program designed for, and dedicated to, producing competent, caring physician assistants who will provide quality health care in rural, urban, underserved, and culturally diverse communities
• to increase the accessibility of quality health care, mainly in the primary care setting, as well as in specialty care areas
• to prepare students for lifelong learning and leadership roles
• to promote the physician assistant profession

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Program Highlights
The Physician Assistant Program
Fort Lauderdale
Innovative Curriculum
Master of Medical Science degree is conferred upon completion of the innovative and highly integrated 27-month curriculum.

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

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

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

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

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

The first 15 months of study consist of basic sciences and clinically related didactic courses. All courses are required and must be successfully completed before advancing to the clinical year. During this time frame, students are generally in class from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, with occasional evening and/or weekend hours.

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

The clinical year is devoted to 12 months of training in nine required rotations. Students are required to complete six-week rotations in family medicine, emergency medicine, pediatrics, general surgery, and internal medicine. Students are also required to complete three-week rotations in women's health and behavioral medicine. In addition, students have three elective rotations in any area of medicine they wish to pursue. 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 approximately 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 99, 100, 99, and 97 percent, with 96 percent for the class of 2017.

The role of the physician assistant requires a high level of expertise and responsibility. The applicant must possess the ability and desire to complete a rigorous academic and clinical program and make a commitment to continued learning.
Full-Time, On-Campus Faculty

**Calvin R. Finley, Ed.D., PA-C, DFAAPA**  
PA Program Director and Associate Professor  
Specialty: Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

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

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

**Watfa Krayssa, M.M.S., PA-C**  
Assistant Professor  
Specialty: Surgery

**Lucia Lopez, M.M.S., PA-C**  
Assistant Professor  
Specialty: Women’s Health

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

**Alicia Bolden, M.P.A.S., M.P.H., PA-C**  
Academic Director and Assistant Professor  
Specialty: Internal Medicine

**Stephen Andreades, M.M.S., PA-C**  
Clinical Director and Assistant Professor  
Specialty: Orthopedics

**Diana Cherkiss, M.M.S., M.P.H., PA-C**  
Assistant Professor  
Specialty: Primary Care

**Natalee Covitz, M.M.S., PA-C**  
Assistant Professor  
Specialty: Family Medicine and Geriatrics

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

**Sylvia Fernandez, M.M.S., PA-C**  
Assistant Professor  
Specialty: Family Medicine
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

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) has granted Accreditation—Continued status to the Nova Southeastern University—Fort Lauderdale Physician Assistant Program sponsored by Nova Southeastern University—Fort Lauderdale. 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 2022. 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.
# Curriculum Outline • Master of Medical Science

## The Physician Assistant Program • Fort Lauderdale

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)

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<td>Introduction to the PA Profession</td>
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<td>Fundamentals of Medical Imaging</td>
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**TOTAL HOURS**  
230  
78  
18

#### Second Semester: Fall (September–December)

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**TOTAL HOURS**  
330  
44  
24

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

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**TOTAL HOURS** | **459** | **38** | **32**

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

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<td>Clinical Procedures and Surgical Skills</td>
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<td>PAC 5129</td>
<td>Health Promotion and Disease Prevention</td>
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<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL HOURS** | **210** | **57** | **15**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE #</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE</th>
<th>WEEKS</th>
<th>LAB</th>
<th>CREDIT HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6301</td>
<td>Behavioral Health</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6302</td>
<td>Women's Health</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6311</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6313</td>
<td>Surgery</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6315</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6317</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6318</td>
<td>Family Medicine</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6401</td>
<td>Elective I</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6402</td>
<td>Elective II</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6308</td>
<td>Elective III</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC 6500</td>
<td>Graduate Project</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL CONTACT HOURS FOR THE SECOND YEAR** | **2,390** | **55**
PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS are selected on a rolling admissions basis. The Committee on Admissions considers the overall qualities of the applicant. Areas of consideration include interpersonal skills, personal motivation, knowledge and understanding of the PA profession, academic performance and level of achievement, life experiences, quality and length of prior health care experience, and recommendations/evaluations. Personal interviews are offered to the most qualified applicants to assess interpersonal and communication skills, maturity, integrity, altruistic attitude, and commitment to a PA career.

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

2. Prior to matriculation, applicants must have received a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university. A baccalaureate degree in any field of study is acceptable, as long as all prerequisites are met.

3. The college requires the students 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 and prior to being invited for a personal interview.

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 laboratory</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy laboratory</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiology laboratory</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

<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</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical terminology</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 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).
4. Graduates of foreign institutions where English is not the primary language of instruction must present transcripts showing at least 18 semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours) of study from a regionally accredited college or university in the United States.

Of these 18 semester hours

- 3 semester hours must be in English composition (courses do not include ESOL)
- 3 semester hours must be in English literature (courses do not include ESOL)
- 3 semester hours must be in public speaking (courses do not include ESOL)

The remaining 9 semester hours can be any course of the applicant’s choosing (excluding physical education).

5. All applicants are required to submit official scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test to the Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA). **NSU’s PA—Fort Lauderdale Program school code is 0947.** 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 complete without GRE scores. If multiple exams have been taken, only the most recent GRE scores will be considered.

Testing information for the GRE may be obtained from 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. Applicants with formal certification in a health care field are considered more competitive.

7. 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
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

The CASPA application deadline, in order to be considered for admission in May, 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.

   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 below.

   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/evaluation (required)
      • one from a PA
      • one from another health care professional

   None of the letters of recommendation/evaluation should be from family, friends, or personal practitioners.

   c. Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores must be submitted directly to CASPA. The school code number for NSU’s PA—Fort Lauderdale program is 0947.

   As stated earlier, the GRE must have been taken in the last five years and must be taken early enough for official scores to be received by the supplemental application deadline.

3. Once the CASPA application has been received by Nova Southeastern University, a supplemental application will be made available online. You must submit a nonrefundable, $50 application fee with your application.

   Your complete supplemental application must be received no later than January 15 in order to be considered for admission for the May entering class. Once we receive the GRE scores 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.

4. Competitive interview criteria include
   a. higher cumulative and science GPAs
   b. higher GRE scores
   c. two letters of recommendation, including one from a physician or physician assistant, submitted
   d. health care experience
Personal Interviews

Once your application is complete, the Committee on Admissions will decide whether or not your application is strong enough to warrant an invitation for a personal interview. Interviews are conducted on the Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, campus and are by invitation only. Interviews are usually held during the months of October through February. An invitation to interview is not a guarantee of admission. Applicants will only be invited for an interview after demonstrating completion of all science prerequisites.

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 NSU prior to matriculation. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that arrangements are made for these transcripts to be sent to

Nova Southeastern University
Enrollment Processing Services
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.

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.
Additional Sources of Information

- For information on technical standards, go to

- 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

Disclaimer: Links to non-NSU Internet sites are provided for your
convenience and do not constitute an endorsement.

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

Nova Southeastern University
Office of Residential Life and Housing
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314-7796
(954) 262-7052
Tuition and Fees

Tuition for 2019–2020 will be posted on our website [http://healthsciences.nova.edu/pa/fortlauderdale/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.
Students should anticipate spending approximately $19,000 per year for living expenses. In addition, students should anticipate spending $5,000 for books and equipment during the 27-month program.

The primary financial responsibility for a student’s education rests with the student and his or her family. Economic circumstances for some families may make it necessary for the student to obtain assistance from other sources.

The purpose of the Student Financial Assistance Program at NSU is to help as many qualified students as possible to complete their health professions education. Various loans, scholarships, and grants are available to qualified students to help ease the high cost of a health professions education.

These financial assistance programs are described in a variety of separate university publications. For information on financial assistance, contact

Office of Student Financial Assistance
Nova Southeastern University
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314-7796
(954) 262-3380 • 800-806-3680

A limited number of part-time work assignments are available. However, due to the demands of the program curriculum, the program strongly discourages any outside employment.
Health Professions Division Complex and Center for Collaborative Research [see below for location on campus]

1 TERRY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

FIRST FLOOR
- Admissions
- Student Financial Aid
- One-Stop Shop
- HPD Cafeteria

SECOND FLOOR
- Dr. Palav Patel College of Health Care Sciences
  - Audiology Department
  - Health Sciences Department
  - Occupational Therapy Department
  - Physical Therapy Department
  - Physician Assistant Department

THIRD FLOOR
- College of Medical Sciences
- College of Pharmacy

FOURTH FLOOR
- Dr. Kran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine
- College of Optometry

FIFTH FLOOR
- HPD Administration
- Dr. Kran C. Patel College of Allopathic Medicine
- Public Health Program
- Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing
- Area Health Education Center

2 ASSEMBLY BUILDING

- Fleishman Auditorium (125 seats)
- Jonas Auditorium (125 seats)
- Melnick Auditorium (125 seats)
- Reznick Auditorium (125 seats)
- Terry Auditorium (125 seats)
- Auditoria A, B, and C (125 seats each)
- Robert A. Steele Auditorium (500 seats)
- HU Auditorium (550 seats)
- Seminar Rooms

3 LIBRARY/LABORATORY BUILDING

ACORN SEED
- Medication Therapy Management
- Harvey/Carac Patient Simulation Room
- Martin and Gail Press Health Professions Division Library
- Student Computer Laboratory
- Patient Simulation Center

4 PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL CARE CENTER

5 SANFORD L. ZIFF HEALTH CARE CENTER

FIRST FLOOR
- Audiology
- Family Medicine
- Geriatric Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Pediatrics
- Pediatric Physical Therapy
- Student Medical Center

SECOND FLOOR
- Optometry Clinics
- Optometry Dispensary

THIRD FLOOR
- Business Offices
- Employee Wellness Center
- OB/GYN
- Osteopathic Medicine Treatment Center

6 DENTAL MEDICINE BUILDING

FIRST FLOOR
- Dental Urgent Care Clinic
- Radiology Clinic
- Student Dental Clinic
- Clinic Support Laboratory
- Predoctoral and Postgrad Oral Surgery

SECOND FLOOR
- Occupational Therapy Laboratories
- Optometry Laboratories
- Physical Therapy Laboratory
- Student Lounge
- ROMA Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Laboratory

THIRD FLOOR
- Basic Science Laboratories
- Gross Anatomy Laboratories
- Microscopy Laboratory
- Research Laboratories
- Morin Pharmacy Practice Laboratory
- Pharmacokinetics Laboratory
- Pharmacodynamics Laboratory

7 PARKING GARAGE

8 HPD ASSEMBLY BUILDING

- Auditorium
- Computer Science Laboratory
- Research Laboratories
- Seminar Rooms
- Central Sterilization Area
- Administrative Offices
- Faculty Offices
- Student Dental Supply Depot

9 CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH

NSU Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus

A.D. Griffin Sports Complex with Lighted Softball Fields ........................................ 10
Administrative Services Center ........................................................................... 11
Alvin Sherman Library, Research, and Information Technology Center ............. 12
Athletics Fields ........................................................................................................ 13
Campus Support Center ....................................................................................... 14
Carl DeSantis Building ......................................................................................... 15
Center for Collaborative Research ..................................................................... 16
Cultural Living Center ............................................................................................ 17
Don Tatt University Center .................................................................................. 18
Farquhar Residence Hall ....................................................................................... 19
Founders Residence Hall ....................................................................................... 20
Health Professions Division Complex ................................................................ 21
Health Professions Division Parking Garage ...................................................... 22
Horvitz Administration Building ........................................................................ 23
Jim & Jan Moran Family Center Village ............................................................. 24
Leo Goodman Sr. Hall ............................................................................................ 25
Leo Goodman Sr. Residence Hall .......................................................................... 26
Library and Main Student Parking Garage ......................................................... 27
Maltz/Hollywood Building .................................................................................. 28
Maltz Building ....................................................................................................... 29
Miami Dolphins Training Facility ........................................................................ 30
NSU University School Lower School ................................................................. 31
NSU University School Middle School (Dauer Building) .................................... 32
NSU University School Upper (Sonksen Building) ............................................. 33
Parker Building ...................................................................................................... 34
Rosenthal Student Center ..................................................................................... 35
Shark Athletics Building ..................................................................................... 36
Student Affairs Building ...................................................................................... 37
The Commons Student Center ............................................................................ 38
University Park Plaza ........................................................................................... 39
Vetel Residence Hall ............................................................................................. 40
West Parking Garage ......................................................................................... 41