Physician Assistant

Graduates of the Physician Assistant Program will be able to:

1. Demonstrate broad knowledge and skills across the spectrum of clinical medicine, including medical knowledge, interpersonal and communication skills, patient care, professionalism and ethics, practice based-learning and improvement, and systems-based practice in alignment with the Physician Assistant (PA) competencies as defined by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA), the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA), the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) and the Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA).

2. Understand the history, central concepts, and evolution of the PA profession, including scope of practice, applicable laws, rules, and regulations concerning the practice of medicine; and the role of the PA as a member of an inter-professional team in a variety of health care settings.

3. Assess patients across the lifespan in acute, chronic, and emergent settings, conducting histories and physical examinations, obtaining and interpreting diagnostic studies, formulating diagnoses, performing medical and surgical procedures, developing and implementing management plans to include pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic treatment options, patient education, health promotion and disease prevention necessary for practice as a primary care PA.

4. Demonstrate cultural competency in interactions with patients of diverse socioeconomic, ethnic, and alternative backgrounds, with emphasis on the medically underserved.

5. Practice as a life-long learner by applying new and advancing medical knowledge in an evidence-based approach for the delivery of optimal patient care.