



Keck School of Medicine of USC Primary Care Physician Assistant Program

Prospective Students

Program Details

The Master of Physician Assistant Practice (MPAP), offered by the Primary Care Physician Assistant Program at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, trains students in a range of medical, social and behavioral sciences required for competent clinical practice.

The 33-month graduate curriculum includes integrated coursework in the basic sciences, medicine, clinical skills, public health and epidemiology, healthcare administration, and psychosocial and behavioral sciences.

Our unique location within the Keck School of Medicine of USC provides students with a vast array of educational and clinical resources that contribute to the excellence in training.

Our Mission

Our mission is to foster compassionate PAs who advance health equity through primary care, service, advocacy, and clinical excellence. We educate future health care leaders to work in medically underserved communities and shape the future of the PA profession.

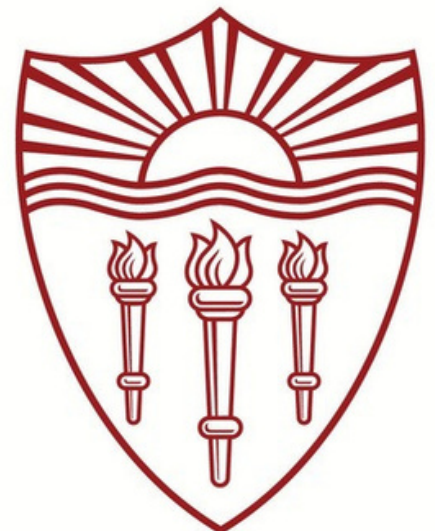
Goal No. 1: Prepare graduates with the medical knowledge and clinical skills necessary to enter clinical primary care practice as an entry-level certified physician assistant on a healthcare team.

Goal No. 2: Recruit students from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences. Recognize that individuals from underserved communities are often best equipped to return and provide care in these areas, fostering inclusion and access for all.

Goal No. 3: Train PAs to work in underserved communities.

Goal No. 4: Recruit and develop service-minded individuals.

Goal No. 5: Educate future health care leaders.



Prerequisite Coursework

Sciences:

Biology 1 year - 2 semesters or 3 quarters

Option 1: General Biology or Human Biology

- OR -

Option 2: One (1) semester/quarter of General Biology or Human Biology and one (1) semester or two (2) quarters of an additional Biology course(s) from the list below:

Cell Biology	Molecular Biology	Genetics
Endocrinology	Pharmacology	Immunology
Histology	Embryology	Neuroscience

All biology courses must be designed for biological-based science majors. If your school does not offer a general biology series, then scan the "Prerequisites Overview" QR code below to learn more.

Chemistry with Lab 1 year - 2 semesters or 3 quarters

Option 1: General Chemistry with Lab

- OR -

Option 2: One (1) semester/quarter of General Chemistry with Lab, and one (1) semester or two (2) quarters of an additional Chemistry course(s) with a lab from the list below:

Organic Chemistry	Quantitative Analysis	Inorganic Chemistry
Biochemistry	Analytical Chemistry	

All chemistry courses must be designed for biological-based science majors. If your school does not offer a general chemistry with lab series, then scan the "Prerequisites Overview" QR code below to learn more.

Microbiology with Lab 1 semester (3 units) or 1 quarter (4 units)

May be in one of the following:

Microbiology	Introductory Microbiology
General Microbiology	Medical Microbiology

If your institution does not offer one of the above courses, then you MUST send a course description and/or syllabus to uscpa@usc.edu for verification.

Human Anatomy with Lab* 1 semester (3 units) or 1 quarter (4 units)

Human Physiology* 1 semester (3 units) or 1 quarter (4 units)

*A combined Human Anatomy and Physiology (A&P) with Lab series can fulfill the Human Anatomy with Lab and Human Physiology prerequisites. If completing an A&P series, then you must complete one (1) year of sequential coursework (2 semesters or 3 quarters). For example, if your regionally accredited institution offers a three-quarter A&P series, then you must complete all three courses.

For more information regarding prerequisites, check out the following websites:

Prerequisites Overview



Course Equivalencies



Non-Sciences:

Beginning Spanish 1 year - 2 semesters or 3 quarters

Must be college-level credit earned either through coursework or by placement examination. There are no language substitutions.

Statistics 1 semester (3 units) or 1 quarter (4 units)

Introduction/General Psychology 1 semester (3 units) or 1 quarter (4 units)

Medical Terminology

A minimum of one (1) semester/quarter unit at a regionally accredited institution or a medical terminology certificate submitted by a regionally accredited institution or vocational program.

English Composition 1 year - 2 semesters or 3 quarters
(International Applicants Only)

How to apply:

Candidates must submit the following by September 1st:

- (1) Verified CASPA Application
- (2) USC PA Supplemental Application
- (3) USC Supplemental Fee

No invitation is needed for the completion of either application.

2024-2025 Average Interviewee

3.58

Overall GPA

3.50

Science GPA

3,797

Hours of clinical experience

1,695

Community service hours

PANCE Scores

Since the program's inception in 1972, program graduates have performed well on the PANCE. The Primary Care Physician Assistant Program at USC's first-time test taker five-year average pass rate is 91%.