General information on the profession and a list of accredited programs in the United States are available at:

Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA)
Accredited Physician Assistant Programs

Texas offers accredited programs where one can earn a Master’s degree in Physician Assistant Studies. Programs vary in length and in start dates. Check school web sites for details.

Texas Physician Assistant Studies Programs (Public)
Texas Tech University Health Science Center Physician Assistant Program (Midland)
University of North Texas Health Science Center Department of Physician Assistant Studies (Ft. Worth)
University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio Department of Physician Assistant Studies
University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) at Galveston Physician Assistant Studies Program
University of Texas Pan American - Physician Assistant Department (Edinburg)
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center Physician Assistant Studies Program (Dallas)

Texas Physician Assistant Studies Programs (Private)
Baylor College of Medicine Physician Assistant Program (Houston)

Application Service:
Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA)
Most PA programs including the Texas programs listed above participate in CASPA. For programs that do not participate in this service, see individual program web sites for application information.
Supplemental (or secondary) applications are required by some schools. Check school web sites.

Other Resources:
We provide links to valuable Pre-Physician Assistant Resources on the Pre-Physician Assistant pathway page.

In that section you can find information for prospective PAs, PA students, and practicing PAs to help plan and manage PA careers. There is information about PA education and training, licensure, practice settings, and continuing education. You can read about current news and issues, PA specialties, professional ethics, and more.

Several schools require completion of prerequisite courses by the application deadline or by the end of the fall semester of the application year, and most schools have minimum GPA requirements. Check individual school admissions web sites for this information and other detailed admissions requirements and preferences. Ultimately, it is the student’s responsibility to ensure proper courses are being taken and to stay informed of current admission policies.

Pre-physician assistant students are strongly encouraged to review school web sites and take advantage of opportunities to visit with school admission representatives at the annual UT Austin Health Professions Fair and when they speak at Pre-Physician Assistant Society meetings here at UT Austin.

As of March 2015, the following courses offered by The University of Texas at Austin meet the admission requirements for the Texas Physician Assistant Studies Programs listed below.

Read all the footnotes for important details.
**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES PREREQUISITE COURSES**

[REQUIREMENTS CAN CHANGE AT ANY TIME. CHECK BACK OFTEN AND REVIEW SCHOOL WEB SITES FOR UPDATES AND CHANGES.]

Prerequisite courses must be completed with a letter grade of C or higher. C- is not accepted.

*Course(s) listed in brackets are not required by the physician assistant program but are prerequisites for courses at UT Austin.

### Baylor, TX Tech HSC, UNT HSC, UTMB, UT Pan Am, UTHSC-SA, UTSW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Baylor</th>
<th>TX Tech HSC</th>
<th>UNT HSC</th>
<th>UTMB</th>
<th>UT Pan Am</th>
<th>UTHSC-SA</th>
<th>UTSW</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gen Biology (BIO)</td>
<td>[311C &amp; 311D]*</td>
<td>[311C &amp; 311D]*</td>
<td>[311C &amp; 311D]*</td>
<td>311C &amp; 311D</td>
<td>311C &amp; 311D</td>
<td>311C &amp; 311D</td>
<td>[311C &amp; 311D]*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen Biology lab (BIO)</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>206L</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>206L</td>
<td>not required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics (BIO)</td>
<td>[325]*</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology w/lab (BIO)</td>
<td>326R or 326M AND 226L</td>
<td>326R (prefer’d) or 326M AND 226L</td>
<td>326R or 326M AND 226L</td>
<td>326R or 326M AND 226L</td>
<td>326R or 326M AND 226L</td>
<td>326R or 326M AND 226L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen Chemistry w/lab (CH)</td>
<td>301 &amp; 302 AND 204</td>
<td>[301 &amp; 302 AND 204]</td>
<td>[301 &amp; 302 AND 204]*</td>
<td>301 &amp; 302 AND 204</td>
<td>301 &amp; 302 AND 204</td>
<td>301 &amp; 302 AND 204</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Science</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>[Note c]</td>
<td>[Note c]</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>BCH 369</td>
<td>[Note c]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math (M)</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>college algebra or higher</td>
<td>college algebra or higher</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>college algebra or higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>SDS 302 or ...</td>
<td>SDS 302 or ...</td>
<td>SDS 302 or ...</td>
<td>SDS 302 or ...</td>
<td>SDS 302 or ...</td>
<td>SDS 302 or ...</td>
<td>recommend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Terminology</td>
<td>recommend: CC 306M</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>recommend: CC 306M</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>recommend: CC 306M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and Behavioral Sciences</td>
<td>PSY 301 AND 3 hrs of PSY elective</td>
<td>3 hrs of PSY</td>
<td>PSY 301 AND 3 hrs of PSY, SOC, or ANT</td>
<td>6 hrs from PSY, SOC</td>
<td>PSY 301 or PSY 352</td>
<td>PSY 301</td>
<td>3 hrs of PSY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Non-Science</td>
<td>RHE 306</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>recommend: SPN</td>
<td>not required</td>
<td>recommend: EDP363-3, SPN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP/IB/CLEP (must be on transcript)</td>
<td>[Note f]</td>
<td>Not accepted for science courses</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes only for statistics &amp; PSY</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes; prefer classroom credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer/Work/Shadow [Note g]</td>
<td>Knowledge of profession &amp; volunteer w/ at-risk pops.</td>
<td>40 hrs w/PA (20 in primary care) and 40 hrs comm. serv</td>
<td>highly recommend</td>
<td>highly recommend</td>
<td>50 hrs shadowing; recommend hands-on care</td>
<td>100 hrs PA shadow; 500 hrs hands-on patient care; comm. serv (unspecified # of hrs)</td>
<td>highly recommend: hands-on patient care &amp; PA shadowing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLS [Note h]</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor's Degree</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRE</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT NOTES a through h ON PAGE 3.** [Click here for PA STUDIES PREREQUISITE COURSES TIME LINE]
FOOTNOTES

a  BIO 205L (taught before 2013) does satisfy this requirement.

b  CH 320N is the co-requisite for CH220C.
The course numbers for chemistry majors are CH 328M + CH 128K and CH 320N + CH 128L
CH 310M + CH 310N + CH 210C OR CH 318M + CH 118K and CH 318N + 118L are older course numbers that are also accepted.
UTPA does not require organic chemistry lab.

c  UNTHSC requires 6 hours of science electives. BIO 325 plus 3 hrs selected from genetics, immunology, cell biology, biochemistry, neuroscience, pharmacology, or histology will satisfy this requirement.
UTMB requires a course in immunology or virology in addition to the microbiology course. A course in nutrition, molecular biology, cellular biology, or embryology can be substituted. Contact UTMB admissions office for any questions.
UTHSCSA also accepts BCH 339F for biochem majors.
UTSW recommends biochemistry, cellular biology, immunology, and pharmacology.

d  Although PA Studies programs have minimal or no math requirements, as of the date of this document, CH 301 and CH 302 have a co-requisite of one of the following: SDS 302 or M 305G or one semester of calculus. Check the Course Schedule for current course prerequisites.

If you take SDS 302 to satisfy the CH 301 and CH 302 co-requisite, you will satisfy the statistics requirement for Texas PA programs.
If you did not take SDS 302, see [Note e] for your options.

e  All the Texas schools that require statistics as represented by this document have approved the following UT Austin statistics courses.
M 316, SDS 302, SDS 303, SDS 304, SDS 305, SDS 306, SDS 325H, SDS 328M (formerly BIO 328M), EDP 371, PSY 418, SOC 317L, STA 309, STA 309H. All the schools except UTMB have approved SW 318.

NOTE: Prior to Fall 2014 SDS courses used the prefix SSC. Both are accepted.
To request approval to use a statistics course other than what is listed here, contact the admissions office of the individual program.

f  Baylor accepts credits earned for AP and IB.
Baylor accepts CLEP except for science lab courses and combined lecture/lab courses.

g  Check school web sites for details about this requirement.
It is becoming increasingly difficult for PA’s and physicians to allow shadowing due to HIPAA regulations. Getting HIPAA training may help you to find volunteer/shadowing opportunities. Check online for ways to complete this training. If you are volunteering in a health care setting, check on the availability of HIPAA training. Getting CNA or EMT-B certification may help as well.

UTHSCSA provides details of the experience requirements in their comprehensive FAQs. http://uthscsa.edu/shp/pa/MPAS_FAs.pdf
In some cases, observation of direct hands-on patient care may be accepted toward this requirement. For questions about whether your experience qualifies as direct hands-on patient care for UTHSCSA PA, see the FAQs and/or contact the School of Health Professions Office of Admissions and Special Programs at shpwelcome@uthscsa.edu or 210-567-6220 [Toll-Free: 866-802-6288]

h  Schools vary on when they want you to complete BLS certification. Check individual school web sites for details.
The American Heart Association Basic Life Support course is accepted by most schools. Contact individual schools for questions.