



DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY
Where Learning Demands More

Year One: Didactic Year

Sample courses:

- Professional Development I
- The Science of Medicine
- Patient Assessment/Counseling I
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Clinical Medicine
- Diagnostic Methods
- Pharmacology
- Evidence-Based Medicine
- Medical Spanish

Total credits for Year One: 59 credit hours

Year Two: Clinical Year

Note: the order of clinical rotations varies among students.

- Bridge Course
- Emergency Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- OB/GYN
- Pediatrics
- Family Medicine
- Behavioral Medicine
- General Surgery
- Primary Care Selective
- Elective #1
- Elective #2
- Senior Seminar
- Evidence Based Medicine II, III and IV

Total credits for Year Two: 47 credit hours

Physician Assistant Studies

You can be a key part of the solution to today's health care challenges. Our Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant Studies prepares you for success in one of the nation's most rewarding and fastest-growing fields.

A young profession that has become indispensable

For nearly a century, health care reformers have had a persistent goal: to serve more patients at a reduced cost. The explosive growth in the number of physician assistants over the last decade has put that goal within reach. Physician assistants work to treat and prevent illness and injury under the supervision of medical doctors. The PAs order tests, prescribe medications, conduct exams, counsel patients on preventive care, and even assist in surgery. Today, more than 93,000 physician assistants are practicing medicine in the U.S. The number is projected to grow to 120,000 within a decade. It is the third fastest-growing occupation in the nation.

A special approach to graduate study

The program educates caring and skillful practitioners who contribute to the public good every day by serving patients with profound dedication and compassion. Our distinctive, relationship-centered approach to graduate study means that you'll gain not only professional skills but also a deep understanding of group dynamics and the interpersonal subtleties of today's multidisciplinary health care teams. You'll learn to communicate effectively with patients, and prepare to navigate the profession's social, legal and ethical complexities. In the classroom and in clinical settings, you'll prepare to play a vital role in positively transforming the way our nation provides health care.



"We learned a patient-centered model of assessment: building a relationship with your patients so you understand them and encourage their involvement. In this model, the patients are empowered to take care of his or her health care—but also has a provider they can trust."

Megan Kahue

Graduate, Physician Assistant Studies Program

Points to Consider

- Physician assistants begin practice after two years of professional school.
- The profession does not require a residency or an entrance test, such as the MCAT.
- Physician assistants carry out many duties once handled only by doctors. In today's society, it is among the most rewarding, respected and necessary professions.
- The average starting salary of a physician assistant is \$90,000 per year.
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the number of physician assistant positions will grow by 38% by 2022.
- Dominican's program is the only PA program in Illinois at a Catholic university, and one of only four in the nation at a Hispanic serving Institution. It offers students a new, distinctly humanistic approach to preparation for a rising profession.
- Each day as a physician assistant, you will be able to deliver high-quality health care that makes life better for others.



Our goal: your success

Accreditation Statement

The ARC-PA has granted Accreditation-Provisional status to Dominican University's Physician Assistant Studies Program. Accreditation-Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when a program holding Accreditation-Provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students. Accreditation-Provisional does not ensure any subsequent accreditation status. It is limited to no more than five years from matriculation of the first class

A high-tech, high-touch program of study

Physician assistants begin practice after two years of professional school. The profession does not require an entrance test (such as the MCAT) or a residency. In your first year, you'll study anatomy, pharmacology, physiology, diagnostic methods, evidence-based medicine and other topics. In your second year, you'll complete hospital and clinical rotations in specialty disciplines such as surgery, pediatrics, internal medicine and emergency medicine. You'll enjoy access to cutting-edge learning technologies and learn to employ medical informatics to improve patient outcomes. What's more, you'll become part of a welcoming community that intentionally includes military veterans and members of groups long underrepresented in health care.

Where will your master's degree take you?

The options may surprise you. Physician Assistants work wherever doctors are found—and many places where they are not found, including underserved rural areas and urban neighborhoods. They are key contributors to the most advanced and distinguished health-care systems in the country, such as the Mayo Clinic. They work not only in general medicine but also in a wide array of specialties. Our program is designed to give you maximum professional flexibility—preparing you to thrive in fields as diverse as research, emergency medicine, women's health, and surgery and its subspecialties. You'll be ready to respond effectively to both current and emerging health care needs.

Learn More!

Please contact:

Admissions

Physician Assistant Studies Program

✉ pa.admissions@dom.edu



"Physician Assistants are essential members of today's health care teams. They work closely with physicians but can be trained in half the time. They sustain the quality and extend the reach of health care, even as they substantially lower its cost. Our program offers a new and distinct approach to preparation for a rising profession."

Eric Johnson, MS, PA-C

Director, Physician Assistant Studies Program