DUKE UNIVERSITY PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

http://www.pa.mc.duke.edu

24 month program

Application: Duke University PA Program is a participant in CASPA (Centralized Application Service for PAs). To apply to our program, you must complete a CASPA application and a Duke supplemental application. The CASPA application will be available May 1. The deadline for the CASPA application is Oct. 1, 2006, and the Duke supplemental application deadline is Nov. 15, 2006, for the class entering in August 2007. Once the CASPA application has been received by the Duke University PA Program, the candidate will be e-mailed instructions on how to access the web-based supplemental application. You will receive instructions on how to complete the Duke supplemental application after your CASPA application has been received at Duke. Please allow 4 weeks following submission of your CASPA application before receiving the Duke e-mail linking you to the Duke supplemental application.

Three evaluation forms from recommenders are required, including at least one from a health care professional with whom the applicant has worked. This information will be collected with the CASPA application.

E-mail notification will be sent to you upon receipt of your CASPA application and, later, upon the receipt of your Supplemental Application in the PA Program office.

Application Deadline: October 1st – Duke supplemental deadline is Nov. 15th - Priority given to candidates who submit application and documentation by August 15th.

The PA Program is committed to recruiting and matriculating minority and disadvantaged students for careers as physician assistants. Additionally, the PA Program is committed to recruiting and matriculating students from underserved AHEC areas (Area Health Education Centers) in North Carolina - 24 month program

Basic Admitting Stats and requirements:

For the PA class entering in 2006, 513 CASPA applications were received. One hundred and thirty-three applicants were interviewed. Fifty-seven applicants accepted the offer of admission for the Fall 2006 entering class.

The ranges of academic and experiential qualifications for the middle 50 percent of accepted applicants for Fall 2006 were as follows:

- Overall GPA: 3.3– 3.8
- Natural science GPA: 3.1 – 3.8
- Total natural science credits: 42– 68
- GRE General Test scores:
  - Verbal: 460 – 570
  - Quantitative: 590 – 700
  - Analytical Writing: 4.0 – 5.0
- Months of full-time patient care experience: 12 – 29

A baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution is required. College seniors are eligible to apply, provided they will receive the baccalaureate degree prior to the August starting date of the PA program. College seniors or recent college graduates may be at a disadvantage because they often have fewer months of patient care experience than other candidates. Less than 10 percent of accepted applicants in 2004 were college seniors.
Those candidates who received their baccalaureate degrees from colleges and institutions outside of the United States must complete at least one year (30 semester hours) of additional undergraduate or graduate study at a U.S. college or university prior to application to the program.

Course Prerequisites:

- **General Biology:** At least five biological science courses of three semester credits or four quarter credits each are REQUIRED. Of these five courses, at least one must be in anatomy, one in physiology, and one in microbiology. Courses in human anatomy and human physiology are preferred to courses of a more general nature, and courses with labs are preferred. To fulfill the remaining biological science course prerequisite, the PA Program recommends courses in genetics, cell biology, molecular biology, embryology, histology, or immunology. While none of the latter courses are specifically required, they provide a good foundation for the study of medicine
  - BIO 181 & 183 or ZO 150 & 160
  - BIO 495 A & B or ZO 212 & 421 or ZO 412 & ZO 421
  - MB 351/352
  - Also recommended to fulfill requirements include – ZO 361, ZO 414, GN 411, MB 411, and ZO 370/371
- **General Chemistry:** one full academic year (a minimum of 6 semester hours or equivalent quarter hours). One semester of General Chemistry and one semester of Organic Chemistry will also fulfill this requirement.
  - CH 101/102 and CH 201/202 or CH 101/102 and CH 221
- **Statistics:** one semester (a minimum of 3 semester hours or equivalent quarter hours), preferably within the last five years.
  - ST 311

All prerequisite courses must be completed by the end of Fall Semester 2007 (December 2007). All prerequisite courses must be completed with grades of “C” or better (not C minus). Courses for which credit was awarded by examination only are not acceptable toward any of the prerequisite courses.

Test Scores:

Official scores are required from the Graduate Record Examination general test (GRE) taken no earlier than January 1, 2003, and no later than October 1, 2007. No other test scores are accepted in lieu of the GRE. GRE scores are required of ALL candidates, including candidates who have already earned masters or doctoral degrees.

To submit GRE scores, use 5156 as Institution Code and 0699 as the Department Code in completing the Score Report Recipient section of the registration form. Candidates should request a pink score report form at the computer testing center, and should fill in the proper Duke codes to ensure delivery of scores.

In addition to the official GRE scores sent to the program, the candidate must self-report GRE scores on the Duke supplemental application. Therefore, candidates who have not taken the GRE in the past four years should plan ahead accordingly in scheduling the GRE, so that scores will be available for self-reporting. **Applicants who have not taken the GRE in the past four years must take the GRE general test no later than October 1, 2007**

Clinical Experience:

A minimum of 1,000 hours of patient care experience is required with direct, "hands-on" patient contact (e.g., EMT or paramedic, health educator, RN, patient care attendant or nurse's aide, clinic assistant, Peace Corps
volunteer or other cross-cultural health care experience, technologist, therapist, clinical research assistant, etc.). 1,000 hours of patient care experience must be completed **no later than October 1, 2007**.

The following types of experience are NOT accepted toward the 1,000 hours of patient care experience: PA or physician observer or shadow, non-clinical research assistant positions, student clinical experience (student nurse, student EMT, student athletic trainer, or other health care student), student "intern" experiences, candy striper or junior volunteer positions, CPR or ACLS instructor, wilderness medicine instructor, patient transporter, pharmaceutical representative, ski patroller, life guard, aerobics instructor, unit clerk, insurance clerk, medical secretary or other clerical positions.

**Contact Information:**

For further information contact: paadmission@mc.duke.edu