METHODIST COLLEGE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM
http://www.methodist.edu/paprogram/
27 month program

Application: Must be made via CASPA – www.caspaonline.org – available by ~ May 1st

Documents that need to be submitted to CASPA are:

- Official transcripts from all colleges attended
- 3 letters of recommendation (Professional recommendations are recommended)
- Documentation of all patient contact experience, community service, honors/awards, etc.

GRE scores are to be sent directly to the MUPAP and must be submitted to the program for consideration for an interview. Our institutional code is 5426

An official letter will be mailed once your application is received. Those candidates who are most qualified will be invited for an on-campus interview. In the past, interviews are held on one Saturday a month beginning in October and lasting until we fill our class. If accepted, applicants must complete all requirements before the start date in August. Should one fail to do so, he or she will forfeit the seat.

For the Class of 2008 we had 294 applicants apply for 34 seats. All seats were accepted and we currently have students on our waiting list.

Application Deadline: March 1st, 2008 - For 2008 applicants - CASPA will still accept transcripts and letters of recommendation after this date. However, anything submitted after April 1st, 2008 will not be accepted. CASPA will reopen in May 2008 and all information received after April 1 will be carried over into next year’s cycle.

Basic Admitting Requirements:

- All applicants, if accepted, are required to have all of the following requirements completed upon entering the PA Program. These requirements do not have to be completed at the time of application, unless otherwise noted.
- A Bachelor’s degree from a four-year regionally accredited college or university.
- Satisfactory completion of the medical core prerequisite courses with an overall recommended GPA of 3.2 or better.
- Grades below C for any course will not be accepted.
- A recommended GPA of 3.0 or better on all college level work attempted.
- A minimum of 500 hours clinical experience with direct patient contact.
- Completion of the GRE, official scores must be provided prior to interview (recommended GRE Verbal and Quantitative combination is 1050).
- No history of drug abuse or conviction of a felony.
- No history of dismissal from another PA, medical, or nursing school for academic or disciplinary reasons.
- No advance placement.
- No experiential learning credit.
- All non US citizens or students who have English as a second language must submit their college transcripts to the Word Education Services for translation and have completion of the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language www.toefl.org).

Selection Factors –
• Overall GPA and GPA on Medical Core Prerequisites
• GRE scores
• Amount and quality of health care experience
• Evidence in the interview process and through letters of recommendation of the student’s ability to handle a demanding curriculum. The student must possess strong study skills.
• Students who have taken all or part of the undergraduate work at Methodist University will be given special preference over those who have not, if all other factors equal.
• Interest in serving medically under-served areas
• An understanding of the role of the physician assistant
• Personal qualities such as emotional and intellectual maturity, professionalism, strong verbal/writing communication skills, humanitarianism, and ethical qualities.
• Specific motivation toward pursuit of a health career and becoming a PA
• Understanding of the concept of a “team player” and how it relates to the medical field.
• Due to the PA program’s clinical affiliates, National Security and Criminal Background checks will be employed for each accepted student.

- Must possess the critical thinking and communication skills, visual ability, hearing and tactile abilities, motor and fine motor skills, and interpersonal abilities that will enable them to master the educational and clinical content of the program within a reasonable time frame.

**Course Prerequisites:**

*General Biology:* 16 semester hours to include:

- Anatomy & Physiology w/ lab
- Microbiology w/ lab
- And other human and/or animal life sciences. No botany, ecology, nutrition or physical education courses accepted

*NOTE: Anatomy & Physiology and Microbiology courses must be completed within six years of admission to the MC PA Program.*
  - 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:* 20 semester hours to include:

- General Chemistry I w/ lab 4 s.h. – CH 101/202
- General Chemistry II w/ lab 4 s.h. – CH 201/202
- Organic Chemistry I w/ lab 4 s.h. – CH 221
- Organic Chemistry II w/ lab 4 s.h. – CH 223
- Biochemistry with lab 4 s.h. – BCH 451

*Math:* 6 semester hours to include - College Algebra or higher & Applied Statistics  
*NOTE: Both courses must have a math or statistics prefix.*

- MA 107 or higher, ST 311

*Psychology:*  6 semester hours (See recommended Additional Courses)
Recommended Additional Courses

Biology

- Medical Microbiology – MB 411
- Developmental Biology ZO 370/371
- Genetics – GN 411

Chemistry & Physics

- General Physics I Or General Physics I - Calculus based – PY 211 or PY 205

Other

- Physiological Psychology
- Abnormal Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Public Speaking
- Creative Writing
- Religion in an Age of Science

*NOTE: All science, math, and psychology courses must be taken at a four-year regionally accredited college or university, or must be taken through a college transfer program within the United States.*

Test Scores:

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Clinical Experience:

- A minimum of 500 hours clinical experience with direct patient contact.

Acceptable Work:

- Emergency Room Technician
- Emergency Medicine Scribe
- Military Medic, Clinical Specialist or Independent Corpsman
- Surgical Technician
- Radiological Technician
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Nursing
- Orderly
- Certified Laboratory Technician
- Phlebotomy
- Athletic Trainers (there may be an exception depending on the type of work experience)
- Shadowing a Physician or Physician Assistant in their routine duties
- Certified Physical Therapist Assistant

Unacceptable Work:
- Clerical duties for any organization
- Veterinarian work
- Medical answering service
- Ward Secretary
- Massage Therapist

The major factor is direct patient contact or observation of direct patient contact. Extra consideration is given to applicants who are compensated for their contact hours. If any questions exist, or if there is any doubt, please contact the Director of Admissions.

Contact Information:

For further information contact: 910-630-7615