UTHSC DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

Admission Checklist

We will only consider applications that are verified by CASPA by September 1st, 2023 (11:59 p.m. CST)

Per CASPA, “Once all of your required application materials are received, your application's status changes to Complete and your application is placed in line to be verified. Verifications occur in chronological order and on average take two weeks to complete.”

We regret that we are not able to review individual transcripts or courses to determine qualifications.

• We strongly suggest that you have your materials submitted to CASPA by August 1st 2023.
• The CASPA 2023-2024 application cycle will open on April 27, 2023.
• We are only accepting applications for the class to matriculate in January of 2024

Program Minimum Requirement for grade point average (GPA) and PA-CAT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Your Score:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CASPA Cumulative GPA</td>
<td>Minimum CASPA cumulative GPA of a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. All course grades are used in this GPA calculation. The program will take the average grade of any class which is repeated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CASPA Science GPA</td>
<td>All course grades are used in this GPA calculation. The program will take the average grade of any class which is repeated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA-CAT</td>
<td>UTHSC does not have a minimum requirement for the PA-CAT.</td>
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</table>

Admission information and suggestions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university by August 31st of the year prior to matriculation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letters of Recommendation</td>
<td>We require 3 letters of recommendation (LORs). We prefer 1 from a professor, an MD, and a PA but will accept 3 from other sources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interview dates</td>
<td>Interviews will occur on two separate dates. The first interview session is for highly competitive applicants who are extremely interested in attending UTHSC. These interviews will occur between July 17-21, 2023 The next interview session will occur between September 18 - 22</td>
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| Notification of Invitation to Interview | July interview notices will be emailed on July 3rd, 2023  
September interview notices will be emailed on September 5th, 2023 |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Admission Decisions                    | Admission decisions for the July interview session will be announced on July 26th, 2023  
Admission decisions for the September interview session will be announced on September 27th, 2023 |
| Financial Aid                          | Should you intend to apply for financial aid we strongly encourage you to complete a FAFSA application. Due to our academic calendar you will need to complete one application for 2023/2024 and another for 2024/2025 should you be admitted and want to apply for financial aid. The FAFSA becomes available October 1st.  
FAFSA Link: [https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa](https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa)  
*(Completion of a FAFSA application does not guarantee an interview or admission to our program.)* |
| Direct Patient Care Hours              | **Desirable Patient Care Experience (in no particular order)**  
medical assistant, physical therapist/PT aide/assistant, respiratory therapist, occupational therapist, EMT/paramedic, licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, certified nursing assistant, nurse's aide, phlebotomist, medical corpsman, X-ray technician, surgical technician, medical technician, emergency room technician, athletic trainer, chiropractor, dietician, medical scribe  
**Not accepted for Patient Care Experience**  
non-clinical research positions, CPR or ACLS instructor, patient transporter, pharmaceutical representative, ski patroller, massage therapist, life guard, personal (fitness) trainer, aerobics instructor, registrar, laboratory-based researcher, unit or medical secretary, ward/insurance clerk, peer educator, reader or other non-medical work in waiting room or other medical setting, volunteering at marathons, blood donor clinics, fundraising for medical causes, caring for sick family member or friend |
| Prerequisite Courses                   | **Credits Needed**  
**Grade**  
**Anatomy and physiology with lab**  
- May be comparative anatomy or human anatomy  
- May be one course of anatomy and one course of physiology  
- Online anatomy and physiology lab courses will meet this prerequisite.  
- **8** |

**Prerequisite Courses**  
- **All pre-requisite courses must have been completed with a "C" or better.** If a course has been repeated, the grades will be averaged for the final grade.  
- Prerequisites older than 5 years may be accepted; however, the admissions committee reserves the right to request the applicant take additional courses to ensure they are appropriately prepared for the classroom setting.  
- We do not award advanced standing, or transfer credit, or credit for experiential learning.
**Admissions Policy**

UTHSC’s Physician Assistant Program evaluates applications using a holistic process. Robust applications show evidence of academic potential, healthcare system knowledge, motivation, personal maturity, self-assurance, and good interpersonal skills.

All verified applications that meet the minimum requirements are reviewed by faculty and receive a score based on our admission rubric. Applicant’s scores are weighted about GPA, GRE (verbal and quantitative) score, Prerequisite GPA, Direct care hours, medical certification/licenses held (e.g., medical assistant, CRN, RN, EMT, etc.), volunteer experience, and leadership experience.

In addition, applicants who have Tennessee residency, are UT alumni, have military experience, are applicants from groups currently underrepresented in the PA profession, are non-traditional students, and who represent the first in their family to pursue higher education, and/or have the willingness to provide care to the underserved, will receive additional consideration.

**Immunization Policy**

The University of Tennessee and the State of Tennessee require certain immunizations be obtained for enrollment/registration purposes. Please refer to this webpage to make sure you meet these requirements. https://uthsc.edu/student-health-services/immunization.php