

## Physician Assistant (MS)

27 Month Full Time Program



**DOWNSTATE**  
HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY



### Before you apply

- Review the website to learn more about our program.
- Sign up to attend an Information Session (bring copies of all college transcripts for prerequisite evaluation).
- Prepare an academic completion plan for any outstanding prerequisites.
- Assess the best time to apply; early applications are encouraged.
- Review the curriculum and the tuition to determine costs and duration of the program.
- For additional information, please visit the website.

**The Physician Assistant is a professional member of the health-care team who is qualified by academic and clinical education to practice medicine with supervision of a licensed physician. Following a medical model of patient care, physician assistants are qualified to perform a wide range of duties traditionally performed only by physicians.**

Physician Assistants obtain patient histories, perform physical examinations, diagnose illness, determine treatment plans, order and interpret laboratory, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, and prescribe medication as well as provide patient education, counseling and follow-up care. The Physician Assistant's scope of practice is delegated according to the medical discipline of the supervising physician, practice setting, level of expertise and institutional guidelines.

Employed in all health care settings and in every medical and surgical specialty, Physician Assistants function to increase access and enhance the quality of patient care while contributing to medical cost containment. Demand for Physician Assistant services is steady, with approximately two to three employment opportunities for every new Physician Assistant graduate.

### Steps to apply

1. Download and Read the Application Instructions.
2. Check the Deadline on our website.
3. **Prepare Your Documentation.**  
You may be required to upload documents related to your application.
4. **Submit Your Application via:**  
[www.tinyurl.com/3xuftyk7](http://www.tinyurl.com/3xuftyk7)
5. **Check Your Status.**  
Upon submitting your online application, you are able to log back in to upload additional documents and monitor your application status.

**See reverse for requirements >**

### Accreditation, Credentialing and Licensure

The Accreditation Review Committee for Physician Assistant (ARCPA) has granted accreditation to the State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate Health Sciences University Physician Assistant Program. Continued accreditation status is granted when a currently accredited program complies with the ARC-PA Standards.



**Scan the QR code  
to visit the school's  
website or:**

[www.tinyurl.com/downstate-PA](http://www.tinyurl.com/downstate-PA)

## Admission Requirements

- A **baccalaureate degree** in any discipline from colleges or universities accredited by one of the following: The Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), the New England Commission on Higher Education (NECHE), The Higher Learning Commission (HLC), the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) or the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), United States Department of Education (USDE). If you have any questions about whether a transfer course will be accepted, you should check with the Office of Admissions prior to enrolling in the course.
- A minimum undergraduate cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- A minimum of 500 hours of health-related experience.
- A minimum of 250 hours of non-clinical volunteer (community service) work.
- Three (3) letters of recommendation. At least one from a clinician (Physician Assistant, MD, Nurse Practitioner, etc).
- A grade of “B” or better in the following prerequisite courses (competitive applicants are those who have earned a “B+” or higher in the prerequisite science courses with labs):

Subject	Total Semester Credits
Anatomy & Physiology 1 with lab and Anatomy & Physiology 2 with lab*	8
General Biology 1 with lab and General Biology 2 with lab*	8
General Chemistry 1 with lab and General Chemistry 2 with lab*	8
Microbiology (not bacteriology) with lab*	3–4
Mathematics (not Remedial Math nor Statistics)	3
General Psychology	3
Abnormal Psychology or Life Span Psychology (birth to aging)**	3
English	6
Humanities or Social Sciences (Preferably writing intensive courses. Applicants may be required to submit a course description.)	6
Two Upper-Division Science courses	6–8

\* Science courses with a laboratory requirement must include an in-person (on-site) lab component and be designated for science majors. Online courses, including those with virtual lab components, will not be accepted toward the fulfillment of science prerequisites. All prerequisite coursework must be completed within eight (8) years prior to the planned date of matriculation.

\*\* More than one course may be required to fulfill the Life Span Psychology prerequisite.

\*\*\* One course **MUST** be Biochemistry, Organic Chemistry, Pathophysiology, Genetics, or Pharmacology. These courses are generally physical/life science courses numbered 300 or higher. They require prerequisite course and are typically completed at 4-year institutions. Applicants should consult with the registrar’s office at their institution to be sure the course is upper-division. Upper-division science courses completed at a community college will be accepted. However, applicants may be required to submit proof of the upper-division status of the course.

**Recommended Additional Courses:** Organic Chemistry, Genetics, Biochemistry, Pathophysiology, Nutrition, Neuroanatomy, Pharmacology, Statistics, Additional Upper-Division Biology Courses 300–400 level, Competitive applicants complete at least four (4) of the recommended courses.