

Ohio University PA Program

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Program overview and setup:

- Mission
 - Primary care and underserved communities specifically in urban and rural Ohio and Appalachia.
- Accreditation
 - Continued
- Faculty
 - Consists of PAs with experience in ED, surgery, family medicine, and urgent care as well as physicians with experience in pharmacy, pediatrics, internal medicine, aviation medicine for the Navy, hospice and palliative care.
- Dublin, OH Campus (only campus)
 - State of the art facilities and technologies: Full dissection cadaver lab with 4/1 student ratio, 4 types of human patient simulators, standardized patients in 2nd semester of year one (to focus on clinical skills), EMS ride alongs/nursing home and ED visits (these may not be available due to Covid-19)
 - Student Activities: have student clubs that organize outreach, service, and social events
- Year 1: Didactic
 - 5 days a week, 9a-5p, but not in class the whole time
 - Learning communities, faculty and advisor appointments
 - Focus on access to health care, social determinants of health care
- Year 2: Clinical
 - Students have ten 4-week rotations
 - 7 core rotations, 3 electives (work with faculty to find out interests)
 - Clinicals spread out all across Ohio (all students have at least one in an underserved area)—some out of state opportunities
 - Students are responsible for their own housing
 - PANCE Pass rate= 100% in 2020; out of 4 cohorts only 1 has had less than 100% pass rate

Admissions

- Minimum cumulative and math & science GPA must be greater than 3.00
 - Most recent class had an average cumulative GPA of 3.69 and math & science of 3.62
 - Alternative grading that was made available because of Covid-19 may be accepted but a letter from instructor verifying grade higher than C is required
- Accept transfer credit, AP credit, online classes
 - If OSU accepts the class for credit, OU will

- GRE must have been taken within 5 years
 - Scores from most recent class: Quantitative- 154, Verbal- 153, Writing- 4.2
- Any outstanding prerequisites count as incomplete
 - Can have 1-2 outstanding at the time of application
- No minimum patient care hours (required, but no minimum) and no requirement of shadowing (highly encouraged)
 - Recent class averages: Patient care hours- 2,173 and Service hours- 469
- Two letters of recommendation required
 - At least one should be from a PA or physician
- Application opens late April, CASPA must verify it by the deadline of August 1st
 - Recommend turning application in by July 15th
 - Year applying should be the year of graduation if no gap year is intended (because the program starts in January)
 - Start date for next cycle is January 2022
- Able to take anywhere from 35-40 students for this year's application cycle
- Invite 125-150 applicants to interviews in September-October
 - 3-hour period of interviewing
 - Group and individual interviews
 - Writing assessment
 - Round table discussion
 - Tour
 - Q&A
- Applicants will either get accepted, waitlisted, or denied
 - Waitlisted has a decent chance of getting in

What are they looking for in an applicant?

- Strong scholar, good academics (cumulative GPA, science GPA, GRE)
 - Self-directed learner
- Experience
 - Patient care hours, volunteering and community service
- Mission fit/leader
 - Experience with underserved communities
- Mature
 - Emotional intelligence, self-awareness, accountability, professionalism

Q&A

- Are there any changes in shadowing/patient care/GRE policy due to Covid-19?
 - Don't require minimum patient care or shadowing, so no changes
 - Can take at home version of GRE
- Do students receive a living stipend during their clinical year?
 - No, but can apply for loans such as a state loan (Stafford Loan) or special graduate student loan (Grad PLUS Loan—covers rent, living expenses)

- Since CASPA has the option for 3 letters of recommendation, is there a way to prioritize letters that go to OU since only 2 are required?
 - Submit your chosen 2 letters first
- Is OU going to start asking for the PACAT?
 - Not requiring it now, not looking at scores
 - Considering for future but waiting until more data comes out (2-3 years down the road)
- Are admissions on a rolling basis?
 - No, but applicants may get denied early if they don't meet minimum requirements

Random Notes/Tips:

- OU will look at job descriptions in CASPA so clarify what kind of patient care you do
- No familial relations allowed for PA letter of recommendation
- For the personal statement, focus on no fluff—just tell them about yourself