



Health Professions Pathways Program (H3P)

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PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT RECOMMENDED COURSEWORK

Physician Assistant schools do not require a specific undergraduate major for admission; however, they do expect applicants to complete foundational coursework in the basic sciences. The Health Professions Pathways Program, in collaboration with campus academic partners, recommends the following coursework to help students meet common U.S. physician assistant school prerequisites and prepare for competitive admission.

Because prerequisite requirements vary among PA schools, these recommendations may not satisfy all requirements for every institution. Coursework beyond the recommendations listed below may be required or recommended by specific PA schools. Additionally, some PA schools may accept equivalent coursework that fulfills the same subject requirement. Students should use these recommendations as a guide, consult with their academic advisors, and verify requirements through the [PAEA Program Directory](#) and individual program websites.

RECOMMENDED GU COURSEWORK ALIGNED WITH COMMON PA SCHOOL PREREQUISITES	CREDITS
4 Semesters of Biology	
BIOL 105/L Info Flow in Biological Systems with lab	4
BIOL 106 Energy Flow in Biological Systems	3
BIOL 207/L Genetics with Lab	4
BIOL 370/L Microbiology with lab	4
4 Semesters of Chemistry (see additional considerations)	
CHEM 101/L General Chemistry with lab	4
CHEM 102/L General Chemistry II with lab	4
CHEM 230/L Organic Chemistry I with lab	4
CHEM 307/L Biochemistry I with lab (<i>previously listed as CHEM 245/L</i>)	4
2 Semesters of Anatomy & Physiology	
HPHY 241/L Human Anatomy & Physiology I with lab	4
HPHY 242/L Human Anatomy & Physiology II with lab	4
1 Semester of Mathematics	
MATH 121 Statistics	3
1 Semester of Social Science	
PSYC 101 General Psychology	3
TOTAL	45

Additional Considerations:

- Biochemistry is required or recommended by approximately 60% of PA programs. Students who choose not to complete Biochemistry should carefully research admission requirements for prospective programs to ensure prerequisite coursework is met.
- AP, IB, and dual-enrollment credit may not satisfy prerequisite requirements.

Student Responsibilities:

Students are responsible for confirming prerequisite or minimum-grade requirements, co-requisites that must be completed concurrently, registration restrictions (major, minor, class standing) and course availability and scheduling. Verify this information through Zagweb, the Gonzaga course catalog, or consultation with an academic advisor.