YOUR COURSES

Students interested in our pre-physician assistant program typically choose between two majors and two minors.*

Majors
- Biology
- Chemistry

Minors
- Biology
- Chemistry

PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT CORE
- Human Anatomy
- General Microbiology
- Cell & Molecular Biology
- Integrated Physiology
- Organic Chemistry II
- Biochemistry
- Principles of Physics I
- Principles of Physics II

Additional suggested courses:
- Mathematics Modeling
- Introduction to Sociology
- Developmental Psychology
- Immunology
- Analytical Chemistry
- Medical Terminology

*Full course load depends on major(s)/minor(s) chosen.

Students pursuing admission to physician assistant programs should they should take MA 142 Mathematics Modeling as their mathematics and additional courses in psychology. Some programs require PS 306 Abnormal Psychology. Most physician assistant programs require a BS degree.

OVERVIEW

Students interested in Mount Mercy’s pre-physician assistant program typically choose between majors and minors in biology, biochemistry, chemistry, and psychology. Double majors, or combinations of a major and minor, are easy to accomplish with a well-planned schedule and steady academic progress.

Student research guided by award-winning faculty help students hone their critical thinking skills—the same skills essential for success in top physician assistant programs.

Prep matters. Our faculty take pride in supporting students in their academic growth, helping prepare application materials, encouraging patient care hours, and coaching students in studying for professional placement exams. Since 2010, a majority of MMU’s pre-physician assistant program students who applied were accepted to the program of their choice—due in large part to outstanding faculty advising, a strong academic curriculum and close ties to two award-winning hospitals.

INTERNSHIPS & EXPERIENCE

Students gain experience through community collaboration and club activities, and take coursework that exceeds the requirements for their postgraduate program of choice.

Beyond core courses, students are encouraged to take classes unique to their professional interest, including genetics, human anatomy, exercise physiology, immunology, and introduction to psychology.

Mount Mercy graduates have been accepted to physician assistant graduate programs at rates above the national average. Top schools that students apply to include University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, Des Moines University, Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, Ross University School of Medicine, and University of Minnesota Medical School.

CONTACT US
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37% — growth —
Employment of physician assistants is projected to grow 37% from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations. —U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

$104,860 — median annual wage —
The median annual wage for physician assistants was $104,860 in May 2017. —U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

FAST FACTS
• 25+ student organizations and clubs, like Science Club, help students gain valuable experience outside the classroom.
• Mount Mercy’s strong ties to many STEM-based businesses help graduates find jobs quickly.