Harding University Physician Assistant Program

Early Assurance for Interview (EAI) for Harding undergraduates

This program is intended to guarantee highly qualified Harding students an interview for a student position with the Harding Physician Assistant program. Successful completion of all admission requirements and maintenance of certain academic criteria at Harding University must be met.

To be eligible for the assurance of an interview, current Harding undergraduates must meet the following requirements:

1. Enroll at Harding by the spring of their Freshman year.
2. Complete the application for EAI by September 15th of their Sophomore year and submit EAI form to PA Admissions Director (paprogram@harding.edu). A copy will be forwarded to their pre-PA advisor.
3. Once admitted to EAI a student must meet the following academic requirements to be guaranteed an interview:
   a. Be continuously enrolled at Harding University while in the EAI program and be in good academic standing with no disciplinary actions for misconduct.
   b. Satisfy all of the prerequisite classes for entry into the PA program with a B or better with courses taken as follows:
      1. All coursework to be completed in a University setting (one which confers bachelor degrees), with Harding being our preference. (see 3 below for exceptions)
      2. If coursework is completed during the summer terms, get prior approval from the PA Admission Director to ensure that the course meets the requirements. This can be done via email with institution name and course number and name. (paprogram@harding.edu)
         i. Get pre-approval from Harding also using the Transfer Course Pre-approval form on pipeline.
   3. Math, general psychology and medical terminology may be taken in a non-bachelor degree granting institution (community college or junior college) if needed and approved. AP credit is accepted for these courses also.
   4. There will only be allowed 1 repeated course OR 1 withdrawal from the required prerequisite courses.
   c. Participate in at least 2 Interprofessional Seminars (Night at the RoundTable)
   d. Participate in 1 PA information session – notifications will be sent. Must respond if require and sign in.
   e. Participate in at least 4 Health Science Club meetings. Must sign-in at these meetings.
   f. Meet with PA Admissions Director in the spring term during your sophomore and junior years. You will be contacted to make this arrangement.
   g. Communicate in a timely and effective manner with the pre-PA advisor and the PA admissions office as needed.
   h. At the time of PA application through the Centralized Application Service for PAs (CASPA), normally at the end of the junior year:
      • Have attained a minimum cumulative GPA (total GPA) of at least 3.5 and math/science GPA of 3.4 (as computed by CASPA) and a prerequisite GPA of 3.4 (as computed by the PA program).
      • Have no more than 1 prerequisite left for completion for the fall term of the application year and have no prerequisites left to complete during the spring term of that same academic year.
         i. This should NOT be the upper level biology course. So plan accordingly. If Topics course, get prior approval from PA admissions (paprogram@harding.edu)
      • Obtained 250 hours of patient care experience by the time of the CASPA application submission.
         i. Examples of the types of direct patient contact we are looking for can be found on our website. These experiences can begin the summer after high school graduation. If health care experience was obtained for academic credit, there must be additional experiences beyond what was used for academic credit.
         ii. Partial credit is given for experiences used for academic credit.
            1. For those participating in health care experiences for academic credit, we will count up to 125 hours of those hours towards the 250 hours required.
      • Obtain a minimum of 20 hours of PA shadowing.
- CASPA application must be **submitted** by August 15th of application year.
- GRE must be taken by September 1st of application year and the results must be supportive of GPAs
  i. Adhere to the Code of Conduct at Harding University.

Undergraduate students at Harding University enrolled in EAI who have satisfactorily met all of the above will be given an interview with the PA program after a review of their CASPA application. A supplemental application will also be sent, but the fee associated with the supplemental application will be waived.

The interview is the final step in the admissions process and is weighed heavily in the decision for admissions.

**Participation in EAI is not a guarantee of a student offer.**

Applications from Harding undergraduate students who do not participate in this program are very welcome and encouraged and will still be invited to interviews if their applications present them as well-prepared.

For those who choose to take a “gap year” after graduation, this will negate the EAI contract but **NOT** their ability to apply to HUPA and receive full consideration.

Below is a chart of the requirements – **PLEASE** still read above for expanded explanations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Did you meet?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Night at the Round Table</td>
<td>attend 2</td>
<td>Prior to CASPA submission - you will be notified of these times. Be sure to respond and sign in.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA Information session</td>
<td>attend 1</td>
<td>Prior to CASPA submission - usually the spring one prior to your CASPA submission will be the most helpful to you.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Science Club</td>
<td>attend 4</td>
<td>Prior to CASPA submission - be sure and sign in</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Meet with PA admissions</td>
<td>attend 2</td>
<td>Prior to CASPA submission during the spring terms. I will be in contact with you.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total GPA</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>As computed on your CASPA application</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science GPA</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>As computed on your CASPA application</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisite GPA</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>As computed by the Program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisite Courses</td>
<td></td>
<td>Only 1 left to complete in fall term of application yr and <strong>NOT</strong> the upper level biology. If you are taking Topics course, get prior approval from PA admissions (<a href="mailto:paprogram@harding.edu">paprogram@harding.edu</a>)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA Shadowing</td>
<td>20 hours</td>
<td>At the time of CASPA application submission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient Care hours</td>
<td>250 hours</td>
<td>At the time of CASPA application submission</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CASPA application submission</td>
<td></td>
<td>Must have a CASPA <strong>submitted</strong> by date of August 15th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>GRE</td>
<td>taken</td>
<td>Must have a taken by date of September 1st</td>
<td></td>
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