About Harding University

Harding University graduate and professional programs are offered at the master’s, specialist and doctoral levels, providing a world-class education taught from a Christian perspective. As a community of mission, the University is committed to the development of Christian scholarship and ethics and the promotion of citizenship with a global perspective. The PA program strives to develop caring physician assistants who practice competent, patient-centered primary care in diverse environments. Find your place and your mission here.

“When this program started in 2005, it was the first program in Arkansas. We went out into a health care community that had very little knowledge of what a PA was, and we have seen that change in the last 10-12 years with a large shift in the medical community accepting and utilizing PAs.”
Mary, PA-C, Class of 2007

Contact Us

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Department of Physician Assistant Studies
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Outcomes

Physician assistants work in a variety of settings including: primary care, urgent and emergent care, orthopedic, dermatology, geriatrics, internal medicine, cardiology, oncology, rheumatology, surgery specialties, mental health, urology, and pediatrics.

Harding has an excellent first-time pass rate on the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam:
- 2015 – 94%
- 2016 – 97%
- 2017 – 100%
- 2018 – 85%
- 2019 - 97%

“One of the things that really impressed me with this program is the way the faculty and staff invest not only their knowledge and experience but their lives into all of their students. From an academic basis to a personal basis — even to a spiritual basis — they are trying to develop us as people and professionals and not just as students and PAs.” Paul, PA-S, Class of 2020

Mission:

To develop caring physician assistants who practice competent patient-centered primary care in diverse environments.

Clinical Experience

Students will complete four clinical semesters in six required and two elective rotations, each lasting six weeks. These are usually within the state of Arkansas and conducted at clinical practices and hospitals. On occasion, there are opportunities for an international elective rotation or preceptorship.

Prerequisites

- General Chemistry I & II with labs: 8 hours
- Organic Chemistry or Biochemistry (no lab): 3 hours
- Microbiology with lab: 4 hours
- Human Anatomy with lab: 4 hours
- Human Physiology with lab: 4 hours
- College Algebra or Calculus or Statistics: 3 hours
- General or Developmental Psychology: 3 hours
- Psychology elective: 3 hours
- Upper-Level Biology in University Setting: 3 hours
- Medical Terminology: 1-3 hours

See website for more specific details.

Admission Requirements

- A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution in the U.S.
- GPA of at least 3.0 on prerequisites with a C or higher in all required courses
- Cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0
- GRE within the last five years

See a list of complete requirements at harding.edu/paprogram.

Apply online through CASPA at caspa.liaisoncas.com.