

Physician Assistant School Application Guide

Where Dreams Find Direction™

My PA School Shortlist

Where am I applying, and what does each program require?

Use the six program spaces below to compare schools side by side. Review each program's current admissions requirements before recording your answers.

PA APPLICANT PRO TIP: Don't assume requirements are the same across PA programs. Review each program's current admissions requirements and record them here before application season.

PROGRAM 1

School / Program: _____
Location: _____
Degree: _____
Minimum GPA: _____
Patient Care Requirement: _____
Shadowing Requirement: _____
Testing Requirement: _____

☐ Prerequisites Reviewed
☐ CASPA?
☐ Supplemental Application?
☐ Interview Required?

PROGRAM 2

School / Program: _____
Location: _____
Degree: _____
Minimum GPA: _____
Patient Care Requirement: _____
Shadowing Requirement: _____
Testing Requirement: _____

☐ Prerequisites Reviewed
☐ CASPA?
☐ Supplemental Application?
☐ Interview Required?

PROGRAM 3

School / Program: _____
Location: _____
Degree: _____
Minimum GPA: _____
Patient Care Requirement: _____
Shadowing Requirement: _____
Testing Requirement: _____

☐ Prerequisites Reviewed
☐ CASPA?
☐ Supplemental Application?
☐ Interview Required?

PROGRAM 4

School / Program: _____
Location: _____
Degree: _____
Minimum GPA: _____
Patient Care Requirement: _____
Shadowing Requirement: _____
Testing Requirement: _____

☐ Prerequisites Reviewed
☐ CASPA?
☐ Supplemental Application?
☐ Interview Required?

PROGRAM 5

School / Program: _____
Location: _____
Degree: _____
Minimum GPA: _____
Patient Care Requirement: _____
Shadowing Requirement: _____
Testing Requirement: _____

☐ Prerequisites Reviewed
☐ CASPA?
☐ Supplemental Application?
☐ Interview Required?

PROGRAM 6

School / Program: _____
Location: _____
Degree: _____
Minimum GPA: _____
Patient Care Requirement: _____
Shadowing Requirement: _____
Testing Requirement: _____

☐ Prerequisites Reviewed
☐ CASPA?
☐ Supplemental Application?
☐ Interview Required?

My Application Timeline

A staged checklist to keep your PA school application moving.

6–12 MONTHS BEFORE APPLYING

- ☐ Build my PA program shortlist
- ☐ Compare prerequisite requirements
- ☐ Identify prerequisite gaps
- ☐ Review patient care experience requirements
- ☐ Review shadowing requirements
- ☐ Continue tracking PCE/HCE
- ☐ Research program deadlines
- ☐ Begin identifying potential evaluators

3–6 MONTHS BEFORE APPLYING

- ☐ Confirm my program list
- ☐ Review my academic history
- ☐ Organize college/transcript information
- ☐ Update résumé/CV
- ☐ Organize experience records
- ☐ Ask potential evaluators
- ☐ Begin personal statement brainstorming
- ☐ Review supplemental application requirements

WHEN CASPA OPENS

- ☐ Create/access CASPA account
- ☐ Add programs
- ☐ Complete Personal Information
- ☐ Complete Academic History
- ☐ Follow transcript instructions
- ☐ Enter experiences
- ☐ Request evaluations
- ☐ Draft/revise essay
- ☐ Complete Program Materials

BEFORE SUBMITTING

- ☐ Proofread application
- ☐ Verify coursework
- ☐ Verify PCE/HCE/shadowing hours
- ☐ Confirm evaluator information
- ☐ Review every program's deadline
- ☐ Complete required supplemental materials
- ☐ Final essay review
- ☐ Submit

AFTER SUBMISSION

- ☐ Monitor application status
- ☐ Confirm transcripts received
- ☐ Monitor evaluations
- ☐ Monitor verification
- ☐ Check email regularly
- ☐ Check spam folder
- ☐ Track program communications
- ☐ Prepare for interviews

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PA Program Deadline Tracker

Record what must be completed by each deadline, not just the date.

APPLICATION DEADLINE RECORD 1

PA Program _____

CASPA Deadline	**Deadline Requirement / Status**
_____	_____
Supplemental Application Due	**Decision / Status**
_____	_____

- ☐ Prerequisites Confirmed
- ☐ Evaluators Confirmed
- ☐ Application Complete
- ☐ Supplemental Completed
- ☐ Experience Requirements Confirmed
- ☐ Application Submitted
- ☐ Application Verified (if applicable)
- ☐ Interview

APPLICATION DEADLINE RECORD 2

PA Program _____

CASPA Deadline	**Deadline Requirement / Status**
_____	_____
Supplemental Application Due	**Decision / Status**
_____	_____

- ☐ Prerequisites Confirmed
- ☐ Evaluators Confirmed
- ☐ Application Complete
- ☐ Supplemental Completed
- ☐ Experience Requirements Confirmed
- ☐ Application Submitted
- ☐ Application Verified (if applicable)
- ☐ Interview

APPLICATION DEADLINE RECORD 3

PA Program _____

CASPA Deadline	**Deadline Requirement / Status**
_____	_____
Supplemental Application Due	**Decision / Status**
_____	_____

- ☐ Prerequisites Confirmed
- ☐ Evaluators Confirmed
- ☐ Application Complete
- ☐ Supplemental Completed
- ☐ Experience Requirements Confirmed
- ☐ Application Submitted
- ☐ Application Verified (if applicable)
- ☐ Interview

PA Program Deadline Tracker

Record what must be completed by each deadline, not just the date.

APPLICATION DEADLINE RECORD 4

PA Program _____

CASPA Deadline	**Deadline Requirement / Status**
_____	_____
Supplemental Application Due	**Decision / Status**
_____	_____

- ☐ Prerequisites Confirmed
- ☐ Evaluators Confirmed
- ☐ Application Complete
- ☐ Supplemental Completed
- ☐ Experience Requirements Confirmed
- ☐ Application Submitted
- ☐ Application Verified (if applicable)
- ☐ Interview

APPLICATION DEADLINE RECORD 5

PA Program _____

CASPA Deadline	**Deadline Requirement / Status**
_____	_____
Supplemental Application Due	**Decision / Status**
_____	_____

- ☐ Prerequisites Confirmed
- ☐ Evaluators Confirmed
- ☐ Application Complete
- ☐ Supplemental Completed
- ☐ Experience Requirements Confirmed
- ☐ Application Submitted
- ☐ Application Verified (if applicable)
- ☐ Interview

APPLICATION DEADLINE RECORD 6

PA Program _____

CASPA Deadline	**Deadline Requirement / Status**
_____	_____
Supplemental Application Due	**Decision / Status**
_____	_____

- ☐ Prerequisites Confirmed
- ☐ Evaluators Confirmed
- ☐ Application Complete
- ☐ Supplemental Completed
- ☐ Experience Requirements Confirmed
- ☐ Application Submitted
- ☐ Application Verified (if applicable)
- ☐ Interview

My CASPA Prep Sheet

Gather the information and organize the experience records you'll need.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Colleges / Universities Attended

_____

_____

_____

☐ Official Transcript Process Reviewed

☐ Prerequisite Courses Verified

Courses In Progress / Planned _____

EXPERIENCES

☐ Patient Care Experience Total: _____ hours

☐ Healthcare Experience Total: _____ hours

☐ PA Shadowing Total: _____ hours

☐ Volunteer Experience Organized

☐ Leadership Experience Organized

☐ Employment History Organized

→ **Use your PA Applicant Experience Tracker for detailed records.**

MY EVALUATORS

EVALUATOR 1

Name _____

Role / Relationship _____

☐ Asked ☐ Confirmed ☐ CASPA Request Sent ☐ Completed

EVALUATOR 2

Name _____

Role / Relationship _____

☐ Asked ☐ Confirmed ☐ CASPA Request Sent ☐ Completed

EVALUATOR 3

Name _____

Role / Relationship _____

☐ Asked ☐ Confirmed ☐ CASPA Request Sent ☐ Completed

Personal Statement Workspace

Not the essay itself. Use these prompts to begin thinking through your story.

Why do I want to become a PA?

Which experiences most influenced that decision?

What have I learned from caring for patients?

What did PA shadowing teach me?

What makes PA the right healthcare profession for me?