PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
MASTER’S DEGREE PROGRAM

Physician Assistant Master’s Degree Program
• Established at Central New York’s only medical university.
• Great SUNY tuition.

Physician assistants:
• Are highly qualified licensed health care professionals who practice medicine with physician supervision.
• Complete a demanding academic and clinical curriculum.
• Are found in many settings and disciplines.
• Examine, diagnose, and treat patients. This includes: taking the patient’s medical history, performing physical exams, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, performing clinical procedures, and formulating plans for managing an illness.

For more information:
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Chair, Assistant Professor
Physician Assistant Studies
SUNY Upstate Medical University
(315) 464-4570
e-mail: adm iss@upstate.edu
www.upstate.edu/chp/pa

PA employment opportunities include:
• Primary care, including family practice, pediatrics, and internal medicine
• Hospitals
• Emergency rooms
• Urgent care centers
• Nursing homes
• Medical subspecialties, such as cardiology, gastroenterology, endocrinology
• Surgical subspecialties, such as orthopedics, ENT, urology, plastic surgery

Apply on line at
www.upstate.edu/chp/pa

Students in the PA program spend their first 15 months on campus, in Syracuse. The remaining 12 months are spent at clinical sites in Central New York communities.

www.upstate.edu/chp/pa • SYRACUSE, NY
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The PA master’s program is full-time, starts in the summer, and is 27 months long. The first 15 months focus on classroom training with a strong emphasis on basic sciences, pharmacology, clinical medicine, interviewing skills, physical diagnosis, diagnostic studies, professionalism and ethics, and research methods. The remaining 12 months are spent in month-long rotations at supervised practice sites. In addition to these 11 clinical rotations, students must complete a Master’s Project Seminar on a relevant medical topic of the student’s choosing.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

PA admission requirements include:
• Baccalaureate degree, including General Biology I & II, Anatomy & Physiology I & II (for a semester of each) General Chemistry I & II Organic Chemistry or Biochemistry Microbiology Genetics Statistics English (2 courses, including composition) Behavioral or Social Science (2 courses) Medical Terminology All science courses, with the exception of genetics, require a lab.
• Suggested GPA of 3.0 or greater.
• GRE scores ranked in the 50th percentile or greater.
• 1,000 hours of paid or volunteer health care related experience. For a complete list of requirements, call (315) 464-4570, e-mail admis@sunyupstate.edu or visit upstate.edu/chp/pa
• Shadowing of a PA is strongly recommended
• Application Deadline: December 1

CLINICAL ROTATIONS

A full year of the PA program is devoted to hands-on experience in supervised patient care settings. These clinical rotations will primarily be in rural or medically underserved communities throughout Upstate New York—including the regions surrounding cities like Watertown and Binghamton, NY. Students will be responsible for acquiring their own housing and covering their living expenses. Students can select a desired region for their rotations, and SUNY Upstate will attempt to place them with preceptors in the area.

The physician assistant profession is one of the fastest growing in the United States. To gain a state license and then practice, a PA must graduate from an accredited physician assistant program and pass the national certification exam. The certification exam, developed by the National Commission on Certification, is usually taken by students within the first five weeks of graduation.

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) has granted Accreditation - Continued to the State University of New York (SUNY) Upstate Medical University Physician Assistant Program sponsored by the State University of New York. Continued accreditation is an accreditation status granted when a currently accredited program is in compliance with the ARC-PA Standards. Continued Accreditation remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the Standards. The approximate date for the next comprehensive review of the program by the ARC-PA will be Spring 2016.

The personal attention I received from everyone was incredible, and the work ethic required to succeed at Upstate helped to prepare me for life as a working PA.”
-Chris Bertino, MS (Class of 2011) Cardiology Physician Assistant, Bassett Healthcare, Cooperstown