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VISION

We aspire to be a leader in physician assistant (PA) education whose diverse graduates provide superior healthcare within the communities they serve.

MISSION

Our mission is to empower aspiring physician assistants (PAs) to become leaders in health care by cultivating the values of compassion, inclusion, integrity, and dedication to lifelong learning.

GOALS

- Educate physician assistant students to provide delegated services in an ethical, safe, legal, and competent manner under the supervision of a licensed physician.
- Provide educational and clinical experiences that prepare the physician assistant student to work collaboratively and lead interprofessional teams.
- Provide an educational experience that stresses the importance of furthering education through advanced study and continuing education, applying the concepts of evidence-based, patient-centered medicine.
- Provide students with educational opportunities and a wide variety of clinical experiences that will enable them to recognize social determinants of health and work effectively in all primary care settings including underserved and diverse communities.
- Prepare students to become effective communicators, educators, and responsible members of the community who utilize critical thinking skills in the clinical setting and base their practice on evidence-based, patient-centered medicine and sound ethical values.
- Enable students to meet the eligibility requirements and successfully pass the *National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA)* certifying examination upon graduation.

GRADUATE OUTCOMES

Primary care physician assistants contribute to the care of patients throughout all stages of life. Traditionally, they work with a Family Medicine Physician, Internal Medicine Physician or Pediatrician to deliver medical care while integrating all that addresses the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual components. They provide reliable care within the context of a team and they work in multiple healthcare settings. The University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB) PA Program works to teach its graduates the necessary attitudes, knowledge and skills to serve communities in a compassionate, caring and ethical manner. The program has adopted the NCCPA PA Competencies as our graduate outcomes, and has further defined milestones that students will work toward as they enter into the profession and continue in their lifelong learning journey as healthcare professionals.

System-Based Practice

- SBP-1 Provides cost conscious care
- SBP-2 Emphasizes patient safety
- SBP-3 Advocates for individual and community health
- SBP-4 Coordinates team based care

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

- PBLI-1 Locates, appraises and assimilates evidence from scientific studies related to their patient's health problems
- PBLI-2 Demonstrates self-directed learning
- PBLI-3 Improves systems in which the physician assistant provides care

Patient Care

- PC-1 Cares for acutely ill or injured patients in urgent and emergency situations and in all settings
- PC-2 Cares for patients with chronic illnesses
- PC-3 Partners with the patient, family and community to improve health through disease prevention and health promotion
- PC-4 Partners with the patient to address issues of ongoing signs and symptoms or health concerns that remain overtime without clear diagnosis despite evaluation and treatment in a patient centered cost effective manner
- PC-5 Perform specialty appropriate procedures to meet the healthcare needs of individual patients, families and community and is knowledgeable about procedures performed by other specialists to guide patient care and referral.

Medical Knowledge

- MK-1 Demonstrates medical knowledge of sufficient breadth and depth to practice primary care
- MK-2 Applies critical thinking skills to patient care

Professionalism

- Prof-1 Completes a process of professionalization
- Prof-2 Demonstrates professional conduct and accountability
- Prof-3 Demonstrates humanism and cultural proficiency
- Prof-4 Maintains emotional, physical and mental health and pursues continual personal and professional growth

Communication

- IC-1 Develops meaningful, therapeutic relationships with patients and their families
- IC-2 Communicates effectively with patients and their families
- IC-3 Develops relationships and effectively communicates with members of the healthcare team
- IC-4 Utilizes technology to optimize communication

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES FOR THE 2020-2021 ADMISSION CYCLE FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND BALTIMORE PA PROGRAM

The completed CASPA application deadline for the University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB) Physician Assistant Program class entering 2021 is **September 1, 2020**. Applicants are encouraged to submit their CASPA applications by July 1, 2020 to ensure the application is completed by the September 1, 2020 deadline. **Only applications that reflect all of the completed program requirements will be reviewed.** Applications that do not reflect all of the listed program requirements will be considered incomplete; applicants still working on the listed program requirements are encouraged to wait until the next admissions cycle to apply. Please review the applicant checklist prior to clicking "submit" on your CASPA application to be sure it is a complete application.

Applications are considered complete when the following criteria have been met:

- **A completed CASPA application** has been received by UMB's Graduate School Admissions Office. A complete application includes all three letters of recommendation, Patient Contact Experience, test scores and all official transcripts confirming degree and all prerequisite courses received on the CASPA application.
- Bachelor's degree or higher from a nationally recognized institution.
- Official GRE scores sent to CASPA from **ETS using the code (0517) for the University of Maryland Baltimore Graduate School Physician Assistant Program** (do not send official scores directly to the program). Scores must be within five (5) years of the date the CASPA application is submitted and noted as received on the CASPA application.
- All six (6) prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of 3.0 (B) or higher and reflected on the completed CASPA application. **The Anatomy & Physiology 1 and 2 prerequisites must be completed within the last seven (7) years of the date the CASPA application is submitted.**
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher as calculated on the CASPA application.
- Foreign Medical Graduates and International Students: ECE or WES official course-by-course evaluation for all higher level institutions attended submitted to CASPA by deadline date (UMB may request official evaluation later in admission process), and English requirement (TOEFL) met (see the section on Foreign Medical Graduates and International Students).

A supplemental application is **NOT** required at the time that the CASPA application is submitted.

Applicants will receive notification regarding application status after a completed CASPA application is reviewed. If all the program requirements have been met, applicants will receive a request to complete the UMB Physician Assistant Supplemental Application via email. There is no fee associated with the supplemental application.

The Physician Assistant curriculum is a 25-month full-time program. Students should plan their personal matters and financial resources accordingly. Employment while enrolled in the Physician Assistant program is not recommended.

CASPA APPLICATION

All applicants must apply online through [CASPA](#). The 2020-2021 portal will open April 2020. CASPA is a convenient, Web-based application service that allows applicants to submit an application to AACC/UMB Collaborative Physician Assistant Program and is received by UMB's Graduate School Admissions Office. Please ensure you have the following reflected on your CASPA application:

- Official transcripts/evaluations that verify all for-credit coursework, all prerequisites and conferred degree.
- Official GRE scores within the last 5 years sent from ETS with the designated code for University of Maryland Baltimore Physician Assistant Program*
- Listed patient contact experience. UMB admissions staff may randomly contact listed supervisors to verify hours reported on CASPA application.
- Three letters of recommendation.
- The UMB Physician Assistant Program must receive a complete electronic CASPA application by the September 1, 2020 deadline. You are encouraged to submit all application materials to CASPA by July 1, 2020 to ensure meeting this deadline.
- TOEFL score within 2 years of the date of application submission if your native language is not English.*

It is the applicant's responsibility to follow up with CASPA to ensure that the application is complete, accurate and reflects the listed program requirements by the application deadline.

If you have any questions or need assistance, you can call CASPA at (617) 612-2080. CASPA's Customer Service Representatives are available M-F, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. EST, or you may email CASPA at CaspalInfo@caspaonline.org.

* Official GRE and official TOEFL scores must be submitted to CASPA by the application deadline.

FOLLOWING THE REVIEW OF CASPA APPLICATIONS

All completed CASPA applications will be reviewed and notification regarding application status will be sent via email.

Applicants are responsible for contacting the UMB Graduate School Admissions Office if they have **not received an email response** from the program one month after the date the application was completed by CASPA.

DEGREE

Applicants to the UMB PA program must have earned a bachelor's degree or higher from a nationally recognized institution (please see the section on Foreign Medical Graduates and International Students for more information).

PREREQUISITES

CASPA applications must reflect course equivalency for the following prerequisites with a minimum grade of B in each course. (B minus grades will **not** be accepted.)

Course	Credits
General Microbiology (with lab)	4
Anatomy and Physiology 1 (with lab)	4
Anatomy and Physiology 2 (with lab)	4
General Chemistry 1 or (with lab)	} 4
General Chemistry 2 or (with lab)	
Organic Chemistry or (with lab)	
Biochemistry	
Introduction to Psychology or	} 3
Developmental Psychology or	
Human Growth and Development	
Elementary Statistics or	} 3
Statistics in Social and Behavioral Sciences or	
Biostatistics	

PLEASE NOTE:

- Applicants are responsible for reviewing the listed prerequisites to ensure equivalency prior to submitting the CASPA application. **Transcript evaluation services are not available.**
- All prerequisite science courses **must** include a lab component.
- The anatomy and physiology courses are required to have been completed within the last seven (7) years of the date the CASPA application is submitted.
- Only prerequisites that are on the completed CASPA application will be considered. **NO** exceptions. Please review the applicant checklist prior to clicking “submit” to be sure it is complete.
- We can accept AP scores (must be official scores from College Board) for Psychology, Statistics and General Chemistry. A score of 4 or 5 is acceptable. Scores under 4 are not accepted.
 - If a prerequisite will be satisfied by using an AP score, official scores must be submitted to UMB Graduate School Admissions Office when application is completed through CASPA. Please be prepared. Order official scores and submit them early to UMB to prevent a delay in your CASPA application review process.
- CLEP scores are not accepted; no exceptions.

CUMULATIVE GPA

A minimum cumulative (total) GPA of 3.0 is required. The cumulative GPA, as calculated by CASPA, will be used for screening all applications. If CASPA's calculated cumulative GPA is lower than 3.0, the applicant will **not** be eligible for consideration (the GPA will not be rounded up).

All repeated course grades are counted in the CASPA GPA calculation. For information on how CASPA calculates GPAs, please go to their Frequently Asked Questions Web page at <https://portal.caspaonline.org/caspaHelpPages/frequently-asked-questions/>.

PATIENT CONTACT EXPERIENCE

A minimum of 1400 hours of Patient Contact Experience is recommended but not required. The UMB PA Program defines Patient Contact Experience as follows:

Provision of services or care by a health care worker in a clinical setting, or an assigned home-based setting, that has a direct influence/benefit on the outcome of the patient. Examples of duties in this role would include: evaluation/assessment/management of a patient, patient education and implementation of a care plan.

Patient Contact Experience must be reported on the CASPA application and may be randomly checked for verification of hours. Patient Contact Experience cannot be updated once the CASPA application has been completed.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Letters of recommendation provided to CASPA should be from individuals who can objectively comment on the applicant's performance in an academic and/or professional setting. It is recommended to request references from those who have known the applicant for a minimum of 6 months.

The applicant should advise the writers of the letters of recommendation to return the completed forms to CASPA as soon as possible. Letters from personal or family friends are considered inappropriate and are detrimental to the application.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all three letters of recommendation are received by CASPA or the application will be considered incomplete and ineligible for consideration.

GRE

The GRE must be taken within five years from the date the CASPA application is submitted. Official scores must be submitted and be noted by CASPA no later than the application deadline. Exam can be taken through the Educational Testing Service (ETS) at www.ets.org/gre. Existing master's degree or higher does not waive the GRE requirement. There is no minimum score required; however, a score of 40% or higher in both the quantitative and the verbal portion of the GRE is recommended and will be given preference when evaluating applications.

Official GRE Scores are submitted electronically to CASPA directly from ETS using a special CASPA GRE code. **The code for the UMB Graduate School is 0517.**

Official GRE scores from ETS can be received by CASPA at any point during the application cycle, even after an application is submitted or verified; however, the UMB Graduate School requires scores to be submitted to CASPA by the application deadline. Once Official GRE scores are attached to the application, they cannot be removed.

To submit official GRE scores to CASPA:

1. Provide the UMB Graduate School code to ETS and request that scores be released. Check with ETS about their turnaround and processing times.

2. After ETS processing, scores are sent to CASPA in batches and then posted to applications every 2-3 days. Only scores that are requested using CASPA codes will post to applications. Scores attached to the application in the Standardized Tests section can be viewed with the **Check Status** tab.

It is the applicant's responsibility to follow up on any missing GRE scores in a timely manner. If scores are not posted within ETS's processing period, contact ETS and ask which Batch # your scores were sent in. Then, contact CASPA customer service to provide them with this Batch #.

Note: If an applicant's name or date of birth appears differently on the GRE than it does on the CASPA application, scores will not automatically post to their account. This often happens with applicants with hyphens, apostrophes, etc., in their names. Wait until ETS processes the scores, then contact customer service so they can manually connect the scores to the application.

RECOMMENDED COURSES

We strongly recommend for your success in the program that you take Biochemistry, Medical Terminology, and Developmental Psychology, and earn a B or better in each.

- Only recommended courses that are on the completed CASPA application will be considered. **NO** exceptions.

FOREIGN MEDICAL GRADUATES AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

All foreign-educated applicants must have transcripts of **all** higher education institutions attended evaluated by [World Education Services](#) (WES) **or** [Educational Credential Evaluators](#) (ECE) prior to submitting the CASPA application. All foreign transcripts must be evaluated (course-by-course evaluation is required) by one of these organizations listed above; no other evaluation services will be accepted. Please be advised that *this process may take several months* and must be submitted with the completed CASPA application by the application deadline of September 1, 2020.

TOEFL Requirement:

Applicants whose native language is not English must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The minimum acceptable TOEFL score for admission is 250 for computer-based tests or 100 for the internet-based tests. Please note that TOEFL scores are only valid for two years.

Official TOEFL scores **must** be reported on the CASPA application and be sent to CASPA by the application deadline. **The UMB Graduate School TOEFL code is 0517.**

Exemptions from English Language Proficiency Requirement

Individuals who have received a Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution in the U.S. or a nationally recognized university in one of the countries on the list below do not need to submit an English proficiency exam. Complete, official transcripts and a copy of the diploma from said college/university are required.

Students who are citizens of any of the countries on the list below and whose total education (primary – tertiary) was conducted in English are not required to take an English proficiency exam:

- Antigua
- Australia
- Barbados
- Belize
- Bermuda
- Botswana
- Canada (English-speaking, i.e. not Quebec)
- Cayman Islands
- Dominica
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Grand Turks and Caicos Islands
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Ireland
- Jamaica
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Montserrat
- Namibia
- New Zealand
- Nigeria
- Sierra Leone

- Singapore
- South Africa (English-speaking, i.e. not Afrikaans)
- St. Lucia
- St. Vincent
- Swaziland
- Tanzania
- The Bahamas
- The British Virgin Islands - St. Kitts & Nevis, Anguilla
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Uganda
- United Kingdom
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

Any individual who does not meet the above criteria, but who believes that s/he should be exempt from the English language proficiency requirement for whatever reason(s), must provide a written appeal to the UMB Graduate School. The appeal must include a rationale for the request specifically addressing length of stay in the U.S., prior work and educational experiences in the U.S., and any prior English language assessments and/or instruction. A recent CV or resume is also highly recommended. This request must be submitted **AND** approved by the application deadline of September 1, 2020.

Degree

Official course-by-course evaluations must reflect a U.S. equivalency of a bachelor's degree or higher (language must reflect a bachelor's degree, master's degree or Doctor of Medicine).

GPA

CASPA does not compute GPA from WES and ECE evaluations. Therefore, the UMB Graduate School will manually calculate the GPA from these documents. The GPA calculations are consistent with the way the GPA is calculated by CASPA, which includes all repeated coursework (often not calculated in the GPA reflected in the official evaluations).

Valid Immigration Documentation for International Students

See the section on Valid Immigration Documentation for International Students for required documentation if conditionally selected for the program.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The University of Maryland Baltimore Physician Assistant program's mission is to empower aspiring physician assistants (PAs) to become leaders in health care by cultivating the values of compassion, inclusion, integrity, and dedication to lifelong learning.

In keeping with this mission, the selection criteria used to evaluate each applicant will include, but are not limited to:

- Cumulative GPA
- Natural Sciences GPA and Credit Hours
- Letters of Recommendation
- Patient Contact Experience
- Community, Military and/or Civil Service
- Conversational Fluency in Multiple Languages
- GRE Scores
- Recommended Courses
- Interview

Following the interview and committee selection decisions, eligible applicants will receive a letter assigning one of the following categories: Conditional Acceptance, Alternate Candidate or Regret.

Conditional Acceptance: Applicants who have met the academic and admission requirements and have been selected into the program are offered conditional acceptance. Final acceptance into the program is contingent on the following:

- Submission of all official transcripts (and/or evaluation if applicable)
- Satisfactory completion of a criminal background check, and
- Satisfactory completion of a health examination record by the designated deadline dates.

Failure to comply with these requirements will result in the withdrawal of our conditional acceptance offer. A non-refundable \$500.00 deposit is required upon acceptance to the program. This deposit will be applied to the first semester bill.

PLEASE NOTE:

- No admission decisions will be communicated via telephone and/or email.
- The decision of the UMB Physician Assistant Admissions Committee is final.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AND DRUG SCREENING

All health sciences students who are offered admission and/or clinical placement are required to submit to a complete criminal background check and urine drug screen. All student applicants' final acceptance in the program shall be contingent upon satisfactory completion of a criminal background check and of a urine drug screen.*

All letters of acceptance state that the acceptance is conditional and contingent on submission to a criminal background check and urine drug screen—as may be required by the program—that results in satisfactory reports. If an accepted student tests positive for an illegal or un-prescribed drug, the student is denied admission or terminated from the PA program.

Separate, additional criminal background checks and urine drug screens may be required by clinical sites prior to placements. Students with an unsuccessful background check or urine screening who are denied by a clinical site that is required to meet program competencies shall be dismissed from the program and their registrations shall be withdrawn from courses related to the program of study. If the student tests positive for an illegal or un-prescribed drug, the student shall be denied admission or terminated from any health sciences program even if a denied placement was not required to meet program competencies. Successful reports of criminal background checks and urine drug screens do not assure eligibility for specific clinical site placement, program completion, and/or eligibility to sit for professional licensure/board examinations.

Students are reminded that licensing boards for certain health care occupations and professions may deny, suspend, or revoke a license or may deny the individual the opportunity to sit for an examination even if the individual has completed all program course work if it is determined that an applicant has a criminal history or has been convicted of, or pleads guilty, or pleads nolo contendere or the like to a felony or other serious crime.

Successful completion of a health sciences program of study at the University of Maryland Baltimore does not guarantee licensure, the opportunity to sit for a licensure examination, certification or employment in the relevant health care occupation.

Students may be automatically denied admission or, if enrolled, dismissed from the program if they have not been truthful or have provided inaccurate information on the application or on any other form or submission. Students who have questions or concerns are encouraged to contact the UMB Graduate School Admissions Office at gradapply@umaryland.edu.

* Notwithstanding the statements herein regarding urine drug screens, as of September 2010, only certain programs will be requiring drug screening. UMB shall inform students which programs presently require them. However, UMB, at any time, has the right, upon notice, to require any and all students in any and all programs to comply with drug screening.

TECHNICAL STANDARD REQUIREMENT

Students who are conditionally accepted to the UMB PA program will be required to complete the **Health Examination Record**. The Health Examination form will be reviewed to ensure that the candidate has met the technical standard requirements of the Physician Assistant program.

Qualification: Good physical and mental health.

Admission Criteria: Student must be free of contagion and possess sufficient physical stamina and mental stability, with or without reasonable accommodations, to fulfill the requirements of the program and the customary requirements of the profession:

- Work for 8 -12 hours performing physical tasks requiring physical energy without jeopardy to patient and student safety, as for example, bending, lifting, turning and ambulating patients.
- Perform fine motor movements and be able to manipulate instruments and equipment.
- Establish and work toward goals in a consistently responsible, realistic manner.
- Have auditory acuity sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.
- Have visual acuity sufficient for observation and assessment necessary for patient care.

CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR), ADVANCED CARDIAC LIFE SUPPORT (ACLS), AND PEDIATRIC ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT (PALS)

Students must maintain American Heart Association BLS CPR certification during their matriculation through the program. ACLS and PALS must be completed prior to the beginning of clinical rotations and remain current throughout the program. These courses are not part of the program curriculum; therefore, payment for and completion of these certifications will be the students' responsibility.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Students are required to have individual health insurance coverage throughout the duration of the program. Please visit <http://www.umaryland.edu/studenthealth/university-administered-insurance-plans/> for more information regarding health insurance plans through UMB.

VALID IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTATION FOR NON U.S. CITIZENS

Non-U.S. citizen applicants must submit valid immigration documentation to the UMB Office of International Services upon acceptance to the PA program. For assistance regarding immigration documentation needed, please call 410-706-7488. Incomplete university applications may result in non-selection of a health sciences program.

Please note: Students without a Social Security number may not be permitted at some clinical rotation sites; site availability may delay or inhibit progression in the program. A representative in the UMB Office of International Services may be able to assist international students with F-1 visa status to obtain a social security number through Practical Training; please contact them at 410-706-7488. For additional information, you may check their website at <https://www.umaryland.edu/services/international-services/>

GENERAL INFORMATION

READMISSION

Students seeking readmission are considered on a case-by-case basis.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

The University of Maryland Baltimore Physician Assistant program does not provide advanced standing. Advanced standing is defined as a waiver of required coursework in the PA curriculum for applicants to the program or a waiver of required coursework included in the PA curriculum for currently enrolled students in the program, which results in the student advancing in the curriculum without completing required curriculum components at the sponsoring institution.

TRANSFERS

Transfers will be considered on a rare and individual basis.

ACCREDITATION

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA) has granted **Accreditation-Continued** status to the **University of Maryland Baltimore/Anne Arundel Community College Physician Assistant Program sponsored by University of Maryland Baltimore**. Accreditation-Continued is an accreditation status granted when a currently accredited program is in compliance with the ARC-PA *Standards*.

Accreditation remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws for the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the *Standards*. The approximate date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA will be September 2029. The review date is contingent upon continued compliance with the Accreditation *Standards* and ARC-PA policy.

TRANSPORTATION

All students must have the ability to transport themselves to all clinical sites and clinical activities.

EQUIPMENT NEEDS

Information on equipment needs is provided during the new student orientation.

POSITION STATEMENT ON DIVERSITY

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) is committed to building a diverse and inclusive campus community and fostering a climate that promotes and values diversity and respect for the individual. This commitment includes: Cultivating an environment that fosters an awareness and understanding that diverse perspectives are not only educationally sound and vital, but also are an indispensable part of continuous human learning; Building a harmonious culture that capitalizes upon the unique backgrounds and experiences of its students, faculty, and staff as a primary key to continued growth; Providing opportunities to learn respect for each other and to value each other's unique skills and different perspectives. Helping individual members recognize the inherent value and dignity of all members of the campus community and their impact on the University's well-being and overall progress.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY

The Office of Accountability and Compliance is available to advise and assist all students, staff and faculty with their request for reasonable accommodations. Questions or concerns should be addressed to the that office at <https://www.umaryland.edu/oac/areas-of-responsibility/nondiscrimination-policies/disability/>

The University of Maryland Baltimore Physician Assistant program reserves the right to revise the admission requirements, selection criteria, administrative procedures, and the Physician Assistant curriculum as deemed necessary without prior notification.

The University of Maryland Baltimore does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, physical or mental disability, marital status, protected veteran's status, or age in its programs and activities. Specifically, Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in UMB's programs and activities. UMB will take steps to eliminate prohibited conduct, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects.

The following persons have been designated to handle or coordinate inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

For inquiries regarding staff or faculty at UMB:

Sheila G. Blackshear, MS, CAAP
Manager of Diversity, Equal Employment
Opportunity, and Affirmative Action
Human Resource Services
University of Maryland, Baltimore
620 W. Lexington Street, 3rd Floor
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-706-7302
sheila.blackshear@umaryland.edu

<http://www.umaryland.edu/oac/areas-of-responsibility/eeo-and-affirmative-action/>

For sexual misconduct inquiries
regarding students at UMB:

Director of Compliance and
Engagement
Mikhel Kushner, Title IX Coordinator
Office of Accountability and
Compliance
University of Maryland, Baltimore
620 W. Lexington Street, 5th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-706-1850

www.umaryland.edu/titleix

For all other inquiries regarding students or third parties:

Roger J. Ward, EdD, JD, MPA
Chief Accountability Officer
University of Maryland, Baltimore
220 N. Arch Street, 14th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-706-1850

<http://www.umaryland.edu/oac/areas-of-responsibility/nondiscrimination-policies/>

Inquiries regarding Title IX may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator (above) or a member of UMB's Title IX Compliance Team. See www.umaryland.edu/titleix.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, including Title IX inquiries, contact the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, The Wanamaker Building, Ste. 515, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, PA 19107, or call 1-800-421-3481.

Support Services for Students with Disabilities

UMB Office of Educational Support and Disability Services (ESDS) Statement: The ESDS coordinates services to assist students with disabilities in obtaining reasonable accommodations through an interactive process involving the student and the school. For additional information, go to: <http://www.umaryland.edu/studenthealth/services--hours/disability-services/>

PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK DESCRIPTIONS

Applicants are responsible for reviewing this information to ensure that all of the prerequisites have been met prior to applying to CASPA.

1. **ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 1***

4 credit hours -- Three hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory weekly; one term.

A study of biological chemistry, cell structure and function, tissues, and the histology, gross anatomy and physiology of the integumentary, skeletal, muscular and nervous systems.

2. **ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 2***

4 credit hours -- Three hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory weekly; one term.

A study of the histology, gross anatomy and physiology of the circulatory, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, endocrine, urinary and reproductive systems and early human development.

3. **GENERAL MICROBIOLOGY**

4 credit hours -- Three hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory weekly; one term.

Study of the fundamental principles of microbiology, the diversity of microorganisms and the relation of microorganisms to disease and industry. Laboratory work includes the preparation of media, culture methods, microscope examinations and identifications, the control of microorganisms by physical and chemical means and some quantitative techniques.

4. **GENERAL CHEMISTRY 1**

4 credit hours -- Three hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory weekly; one term.

Study atomic theory and periodic relationships, chemical bonding, gases, liquids and solids, stoichiometry, kinetic-molecular theory, solutions, oxidation-reduction, reactions of molecules and ions and nuclear chemistry. Laboratory work includes basic techniques and principles as well as quantitative measurements by titration, colorimetry and stoichiometry.

OR

GENERAL CHEMISTRY 2

4 credit hours -- Three hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory weekly; one term.

Examine kinetics; gaseous and aqueous equilibria - including acids, bases, solubility and complex ions; thermodynamics; electrochemistry; and nuclear chemistry. Study introductory organic chemistry and consider aspects of environmental chemistry. Laboratory work includes qualitative analysis and quantitative measurements.

OR

FUNDAMENTALS OF ORGANIC AND BIOCHEMISTRY

4 credit hours -- Three hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory weekly; one term.

Study an introduction to the chemistry of carbon compounds and of living systems. Nomenclature, structure, properties and reactions of the principal organic families are studied, and anthropogenic carbon compounds are discussed in relation to health and the environment. The biochemistry studies the structure, properties, and functions of carbohydrates, proteins, lipids and nucleic acids. Protein synthesis, enzyme regulation and metabolism are included.

***Required to be completed within the last 7 years of the date the CASPA application is submitted.**

OR

GENERAL, ORGANIC AND INTRODUCTION TO BIOCHEMISTRY

4 credit hours -- Three hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory weekly; one term.

Examines general principles and problem solving of inorganic chemistry; structure, bonding and functional groups of organic chemistry. Includes an introduction to chemical compounds important in living systems. The laboratory work includes basic techniques of quantitative measurements and the application of clinical principles.

OR

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY 1

4 credit hours -- Three hours of lecture and six hours of laboratory weekly; one term.

Study the chemistry of hydrocarbons and their simple derivatives, emphasizing their structures, properties and mechanisms of reactions. Use general laboratory techniques and procedures in organic chemistry and learn modern methods of analysis, including gas chromatography.

OR

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY 2

4 credit hours -- Three hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory weekly; one term.

Study the chemistry of the families of organic compounds, emphasizing preparations, reactions, and mechanisms of reactions. Learn to apply spectroscopy to determine structure, and preview compounds of biological importance. Synthesize representative organic compounds in the laboratory. Use modern methods of analysis, including infrared and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy.

5. STATISTICS

3 credit hours -- Three hours weekly; one term.

Use meaningful data to explore concepts in probability and statistics including measures of central tendency and dispersion. Develop statistical literacy by studying graphical representations of data, discrete and continuous probability distributions, and sampling techniques and theory. Construct and interpret confidence intervals, find lines of best-fit, and perform hypothesis tests for means, proportions, and independence. Technology use is required throughout the course for statistical analyses.

OR

STATISTICS IN SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

3 credit hours -- Three hours weekly, one term.

Study basic statistics used in social and behavioral sciences. Covers standard topics in parametric statistics through a two-way analysis of variance. Also covers correlation, linear regression and non-parametric statistics.

6. INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

3 credit hours -- Three hours weekly; one term.

A basic course intended to expose students to major psychological theories and concepts and related current research findings. Topics include learning, physiological bases of behavior, motivation and emotions, human development, personality and abnormal behavior.

OR

DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY OR HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

3 credit hours -- Three hours weekly; one term.

Examination of current research and principles and theories of human growth and development. Provides an overview of the development of thinking, language, personality, motor behavior and social behavior from infancy through maturity.

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND BALTIMORE
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM**

Physician Assistant Class Profiles

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>
<u>Age Range</u>	21-43	22-49	21-41
<u>Average Age</u>	26	28	26
<u>Gender</u>	36% Male 64% Female	22% Male 78% Female	26% Male 74% Female
<u>Residency</u>	In-State: 77% Out-of-State: 23%	In-State: 77% Out-of-State: 23%	In-State: 72% Out-of-State: 28%
<u>Education</u>	All have bachelor's Master's degrees: 8 Doctorate: 1	All have bachelor's Master's degrees: 4 FMG's: 2	All have bachelor's Master's degrees: 5 Doctorate: 1
<u>Major Fields of Undergraduate Study</u>	Biology: 11 Exercise Science: 4 Kinesiology: 7 Nursing: 4	Biology: 12 Exercise Science: 4 Genetics: 2 Psychology: 3	Biochemistry: 2 Biology: 14 Exercise Science: 5 Public Health: 4
<u>Average Cumulative GPA</u>	3.49	3.55	3.56
<u>Average Science GPA</u>	3.46 (84 credits)	3.50 (83 credits)	3.52 (83 credits)
<u>Common Patient Care Experience</u>	PCT/CNA, Ophthalmic Tech, Medical Assistant, Paramedic/EMT, PT Tech, RAD Tech	Medical Assistant, Paramedic/EMT, Medical Technician, RAD Tech, PT Tech	CNA, Medical Assistant, Medical Scribe, Paramedic/EMT, Phlebotomist, PT Tech, Respiratory Therapist
<u>Average Patient Contact Hours</u>	4,575	4,256	3,532

**Physician Assistant Course Outline
University of Maryland Baltimore PA Program**

Year One

Course Number	Course Name Summer Term	Number of Credits
PA 465	Foundations of PA Practice	5
PA 470	Applied Medical Sciences	7
MHS 600	Introduction to Library Resources & Scholarly Writing	1
MHS 602	Legal/Ethical Issues for Health, Human Services and Clinical Professionals	2
	Total Credits for Semester:	15
Course Number	Course Name Fall Term	Number of Credits
PA 512	Clinical Medicine 1	8
PA 512 LB	Clinical Medicine 1 Lab	0
PA 514	Pediatric Medicine 1	2
PA 515	Psychiatric Medicine	3
PA 520	Pathophysiological Approach to Pharmacotherapeutics 1	3
MHS 615	Biostatistics for the Health Professional	3
	Total Credits for Semester:	19
Course Number	Course Name Spring Term	Number of Credits
PA 518	Clinical Medicine 2	8
PA 518 LB	Clinical Medicine 2 Lab	0
PA 519	Pediatric Medicine 2	2
PA 521	Emergency Medicine	4
PA 522	Patient Evaluation Lab	1
PA 523	Pathophysiological Approach to Pharmacotherapeutics 2	3
PA 551	Clerkship Boot Camp	1
MHS 630	Essentials of Chronic and Infectious Disease Epidemiology	3
	Total Credits for Semester:	22

Year Two

Course Number	Course Name Summer Term	Number of Credits
MHS 633	Clinically Applied Social and Behavioral Health Theory	3
MHS 652	Communication and Leadership	3
PA 671	Clerkship 1	4
PA 672	Clerkship 2	4
Total Credits for Semester:		14
Course Number	Course Name Fall Term	Number of Credits
MHS 608	Research Seminar 1	3
MHS 660	Applied Advanced Pharmacology	3
PA 673	Clerkship 3	4
PA 674	Clerkship 4	4
PA 675	Clerkship 5	4
Total Credits for Semester:		18
Course Number	Course Name Spring Term	Number of Credits
MHS 609	Research Seminar 2	3
MHS 622	Improving Quality of Care in Health Systems	3
PA 676	Clerkship 6	4
PA 677	Clerkship 7	4
PA 678	Clerkship 8	4
PA 680	Issues and Trends in Health Care	3
Total Credits for Semester:		21
Course Number	Course Name Summer Term	Number of Credits
PA 679	Clerkship 9	4
MHS 700	Capstone Presentation	3
Total Credits for Semester:		7
Total Credits:		116

*Please note that curriculum may be subject to change.



Master of Science in Health Sciences Physician Assistant Concentration

Note: Notwithstanding any other provision of this or any other University publication, the University reserves the right to make changes in tuition, fees and other charges at any time such changes are deemed necessary by the University and the University System of Maryland Board of Regents.

	Summer Term 1	Fall Term 1	Spring Term 1	Summer Term 2	Fall Term 2	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 3	Totals	Resident	Non-Resident
Credit Hours	15	19	22	14	18	21	7	116	\$84,216 (\$726 per credit)	\$112,636 (\$971 per credit)
Student Activities		\$25.50	\$25.50		\$25.50	\$25.50		\$102	\$102	\$102
Student Government		\$11	\$11		\$11	\$11		\$44	\$44	\$44
Technology Fee	\$60	\$60	\$60	\$60	\$60	\$60	\$60	\$420	\$420	\$420
Off Campus Student Services Fee		\$150	\$150		\$150	\$150		\$600	\$600	\$600
Accident Insurance		\$15	\$15		\$15	\$15		\$60	\$60	\$60
Professional Liability Insurance		\$4.50	\$4.50		\$4.50	\$4.50		\$18	\$18	\$18
Matriculation Fee	\$55								\$55	\$55
									\$85,515.00*	\$113,935.00*

*Health insurance can be purchased through UMB for \$1,936 per semester if the student does not have adequate coverage. This price is subject to change. When an Account is forwarded to the State Central Collection Unit, a 17% collection charge is added to the balance.

Checklist: Am I a Qualified and Competitive Applicant?

Are you a qualified applicant?

- Do you have a bachelor's degree or higher from a nationally recognized institution?
 - If you have not completed your bachelor's degree, **do not submit a CASPA application until the degree is reflected on a transcript. No exceptions.**

For foreign medical graduates a World Evaluation Services (WES) or Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) course-by-course evaluation must reflect a minimum of a bachelor's degree, master's degree or doctorate under "U.S. Equivalency"; no other wording is acceptable. If you have international coursework that has not been evaluated by one of these two listed services, you must have a course-by-course evaluation completed before submitting your CASPA application (for details visit our website at <https://www.graduate.umaryland.edu/Admissions/International-Applicants/>)

- Do you have the required minimum, cumulative GPA of 3.0?
 - Please note, CASPA includes repeated coursework in their GPA calculation. In order to calculate your GPA, add all of the quality points on your transcripts and divide them by the total number of credits attempted. The cumulative GPA should include all credit coursework taken, including coursework (as well as repeated courses) taken on the undergraduate, graduate and doctorate level.
 - The CASPA GPA calculation does not include coursework from evaluations or institutions that are not nationally recognized. Evaluations, sent with the CASPA application, are verified and calculated by UMB PA admission staff using the same method of calculation for the CASPA GPA.

- Have you completed each required prerequisite with a grade of B (3.0) or higher?
 - Prerequisites are not transferred in; however, they must be equivalent to the course descriptions listed in the admission requirements. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the basic information listed in the course descriptions is covered for each prerequisite. Please do not send or email transcripts to our office for transcript evaluation.
 - **A&P 1 and 2 prerequisites must be completed within 7 years of the date you submit your CASPA application.** If coursework is older than 7 years it must be retaken with a grade of B (3.0) or higher and reflected on the CASPA application. All of the other required prerequisites (Microbiology, Chemistry, Statistics and Psychology) do not have a time requirement.
 - Online courses are accepted provided they are equivalent. Science prerequisites that are completed online must include a lab component that covers the same material as listed in the course descriptions.

- Courses **must** appear on the CASPA application with a final grade. Before you request your official transcripts, make sure the final grade is on the transcript. This is the applicant's responsibility. If you have not completed all of the prerequisites, you must **wait to submit your CASPA application until the grades are posted on your official transcript**. No exceptions.
- All prerequisites are required to have a grade of B (3.0) or higher. A grade of B- (minus) will not meet the prerequisite requirement.
- For foreign medical graduates: prerequisites that were taken internationally must be reflected, with similar course name and number of credits, on the course-by-course evaluation.
- Have you taken the GRE (Graduate Record Examination)?
 - The GRE must be taken within five years from the date your CASPA application is submitted.
 - Official GRE scores are required to be sent directly to CASPA (not UMB) from ETS so that they are reflected on the CASPA application under the section for *Standardized Test*. **Official scores must be reported on the CASPA application and verified by CASPA by the application deadline.**
 - No minimum score is required; however, a score of 40% or higher in both the quantitative and verbal portion of the GRE is recommended and will be given preference when evaluating applicants.
 - Applicants who have not taken the GRE must register to take the exam through the Educational Testing Service (ETS) at www.ets.org/gre.
 - An existing master's degree does not waive the GRE requirement.
 - The GRE scores are viewed as a 'piece' of the academic profile; however, they are never the sole criteria for admission.
- Can you demonstrate English proficiency?
 - If your native language or language of the home is not English, you must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The minimum acceptable TOEFL score for admission is 250 for computer-based tests, 100 for the internet-based tests. Please note that TOEFL scores are only valid for two years. **Official TOEFL scores must be reported on the CASPA application and verified by CASPA by the application deadline.** Applicants who earned a bachelor's degree or higher from a nationally recognized institution in the United States may be eligible to submit a request to waive the TOEFL requirement-See TOEFL requirements in Admissions booklet.
- Have you completed all of the requirements by the application deadline?
 - The UMB PA program must receive a completed CASPA application by **September 1st**.

- It is strongly recommended that applicants submit their CASPA application by **July 1st** to ensure that the application is verified by CASPA prior to the program application deadline. Once the application has been verified, the UMB PA admissions office will notify applicants via e-mail that the application has been received and further instructions will be provided.
- The CASPA application must reflect all of the program requirements as complete to be considered qualified and eligible for further consideration.
 - **Be sure to check transcripts to ensure that recent coursework and degrees are reflected prior to sending transcripts to CASPA and submitting your application. Once a CASPA application has been completed by CASPA it cannot be updated, and we will not accept your application if all coursework and conferred bachelor's degree are not verified.**
–see applicant checklist in Admissions booklet.
- Do you have three letters of recommendation submitted to CASPA?
 - Three letters of recommendation, preferably from a professor or others who can attest to the quality of your academic performance and scholastic potential. These letters must be submitted to CASPA, not directly to the UMB PA program. It is strongly recommended that applicants use individuals that know them well (minimum of 6 months).

Are you a competitive applicant?

- Do you have a minimum of 1400 hours of Patient Contact Experience (PCE)?
 - The UMB PA program defines Patient Contact Experience as: *provision of services or care by a health care worker in a clinical setting, or an assigned home-based setting that has a direct influence and/or benefit on the outcome of the patient.* Examples of duties in this role would include: evaluation, assessment, management of a patient, patient education and implementation of a care plan.
 - If an applicant is looking to obtain PCE, one semester courses such as the Patient Care Technician/CNA and EMT can be suggested. Other programs such as Surgical Technologist and Medical Assistant are also options.
 - PA shadowing will not be considered as Patient Contact Experience and volunteering will be considered as Community Service.
- Do you have a competitive science GPA and science credits?
 - The science GPA of students who have matriculated into our program ranges from 3.30 - 3.5. Applicants who wish to be more competitive can take additional natural science courses to increase the science GPA.
 - Applicants with a non-science degree are strongly recommended to have a minimum of 40 science credits. The higher the number of science credits an applicant takes, the more competitive they will be. The number of science credits taken by students who have

matriculated into the program ranges from 60-100. Visit the CASPA website for a list of CASPA Course Subjects (<https://portal.caspaonline.org/caspaHelpPages/frequently-asked-questions/academic-history/course-subjects/index.html>).

- Do you have a well-written personal statement?
 - A personal statement consisting of 300-500 words outlining your goals and objectives in pursuing the physician assistant program and profession is recommended.
- Do you have community, civil or military service?
 - The UMB PA Program values service to country, state and local government as well as the community. Be sure to report this information on the CASPA Application under the Community Service and/or Military sections.
- Do you have conversational fluency in another language in addition to English?
 - The UMB PA program recognizes and promotes the value of diversity as well as the ability to communicate in other languages. Be sure to report additional spoken languages under the Personal Data section of the CASPA application.
- Did you follow the recommendations?
 - In addition to the program requirements, the following courses are strongly recommended for your success in the program: Medical Terminology, Biochemistry, and Developmental Psychology with a B or better. Applicants that have completed the recommended coursework, in addition to meeting the program requirements, may be more competitive.

UMB Physician Assistant Program CASPA Application

2020-2021 Cycle

APPLICANT CHECKLIST

Please make sure that you review this list and do not submit your application to CASPA unless you are able to answer yes to every question.

- I have completed all prerequisite courses with a grade B (3.0) or better and I understand that a B- (minus) grade will not be accepted.
- I have confirmed that the prerequisite courses have been posted with grades on the official transcripts that will be submitted to CASPA.
- I have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0.
- I have confirmed that my conferred bachelor's degree (or higher) is posted on the official transcript that will be submitted to CASPA.
- I have taken the GRE and will submit my official results to CASPA. CASPA must receive official scores by application deadline to be considered.
- If I am a foreign-educated applicant, I have had my foreign transcripts evaluated by WES or ECE and will submit my official evaluations to CASPA.

CASPA APPLICATION PROCESS

Once you submit your CASPA application it will move through the following process. Please note that your application must be considered COMPLETE by CASPA by the application deadline of September 1, 2020.

In-Progress: Your application has not yet been submitted or you haven't paid the application fee.

Received: Your application has been submitted, but you are missing required documents.

Complete: All required materials were received and your application is in line for verification and is considered complete. Once your application enters this status, it can take up to four weeks to move to the Verified status.

Undelivered: An error was found in your application and it was returned to you to correct.

Verified: Your application was processed and, if applicable, your GPA was calculated. You'll receive a confirmation notification that your application was verified. Please note that any information that is updated after the verification process will not be re-verified. UMB will only consider verified coursework.

**Physician Assistant Applicant
Patient Contact/Healthcare Experience**

Acceptable

Acupuncturist, if clinical	Gerontology Aide	Orthopedic Tech
Anesthesia Tech	Lactation Specialist	Paramedic
Athletic Trainer	Massage Therapist, if clinical	Patient Care Assistant
Cardiovascular Tech	Medical Assistant – Clinical	Pharmacist
Caregiver, formal only	Medical Assistant – Non Clinical	Pharmacy Technician, Clinical/Advanced Certificate
Chiropractor	Medical Laboratory Tech	Phlebotomist/Venipuncture
Clinical Research	Medical Scribe	Physical Therapist
Corpsman	Medical Technologist	Physical Therapy Aide
CT Tech	Medicine Aide	Physical Therapist Assistant
Dental Assistant	Natural Pathologists	Psychologist
Dental Hygienist	Neurophysiology Technologist	Radiologic Tech
Diagnostic Medical Sonographer	Nuclear Med Tech	Rehab Technician
Dietician	Nursing – RN/LPN/CRNP	Research/ Patient Education (Clinical)
EEG Tech	Nursing Aide – PCT/GNA/CNA/PCA	Residency, if care plans
EKG Tech	Nursing Tech	Respiratory Therapist
EMT	Nutritionist/Registered Dietician	Social Worker/Counselor
Exercise Physiologist	Occupational Therapist	Sonographer
Foreign Medical Grad	Ophthalmic Tech	Speech Therapist
Forensic Pathologist	Optometrist	Surgical Technologist

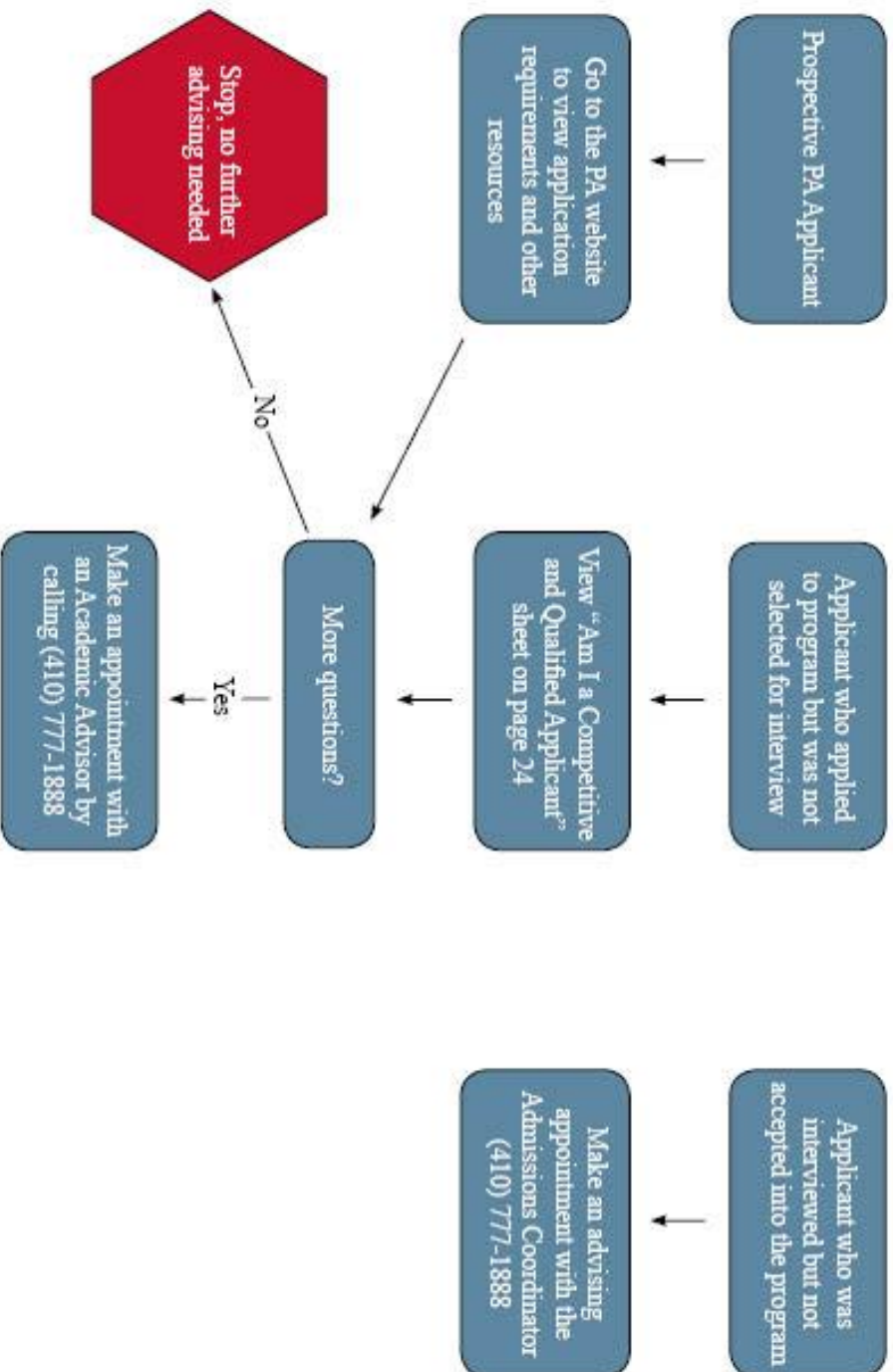
Unacceptable

Chaplain	Patient Transporter
Front Office/Receptionist	Personal Trainer
Health Information Tech	Pharmaceutical Rep
Histotechnologist	Pharmacy Technician
Medical Billing/Coding	Shadow
Medical Records Clerk	Student Internships
Medical Transcriptionist	Vet Assistant
Mortuary Science	Vet Tech
Office Administrator	

Please note that this list is not all inclusive and should only be used as a guide.



Physician Assistant Advising Process Chart



Directions

**TO UMB GRADUATE SCHOOL:
620 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, MD 21201**

Information on travelling to the UMB campus by car, train or plane are available here - <https://www.umaryland.edu/parking/traveling-to-umb/>

Campus maps are available here - <https://www.umaryland.edu/maps/>

Information on parking at and near the UMB campus is available here - <https://www.umaryland.edu/parking/parking-at-umb/>

**TO THE ARNOLD CAMPUS:
101 College Parkway, Arnold, MD 21012**

ANNE ARUNDEL COMMUNITY COLLEGE, eight miles north of Annapolis, MD, is easily accessible from the Baltimore-Washington-Annapolis triangle.

From **WASHINGTON** or **ANNAPOLIS**: Take Route 50 east to exit 27, Route 2 North (Gov. Ritchie Hwy.) toward Baltimore. Stay on Route 2 for approximately three miles. Turn right at the light onto West Campus Drive. Florestano is the building with the green roof.

From **BALTIMORE**: From Interstate 695 take exit 2, Route 10 toward Severna Park. Stay on Route 10 until it ends at Route 2 (Gov. Ritchie Hwy.) Follow Route 2 south approximately five miles. Turn left at the light onto West Campus Drive. Florestano is the building with the green roof.

MASS TRANSIT: The MTA's Number 14 bus, which runs between Baltimore and Annapolis, stops frequently on the Arnold campus. Bus schedules are available at the Student Services Center.

**AACC AT ARUNDEL MILLS:
7009 ARUNDEL MILLS CIRCLE, HANOVER, MD 21076**

From the **ANNAPOLIS** Area: Route 2 North (Gov. Ritchie Hwy) to Route 100 West or I-97 North to Route 100 West to exit 10. At the foot of the ramp, turn left on 713, Arundel Mills Blvd. Turn right into the Arundel Mills Mall and turn right on Arundel Mills Circle. AACC at Arundel Mills is located on the outside of Arundel Mills Circle, directly across from Cinemark.

From **BALTIMORE**: From I-95 take Route 100 East to Exit 10A, Arundel Mills Blvd. or from Rt. 295 (Baltimore-Washington Parkway), take the Arundel Mills Blvd. exit and turn into the Arundel Mills Mall. AACC at Arundel Mills is located on the outside of Arundel Mills Circle directly across from Cinemark.

MASS TRANSIT: Use the MTA's No. 17, Red Express Route through Howard Transit. The Annapolis Transit C-60 bus route runs from Annapolis to Arundel Mills via Glen Burnie and BWI.



**University of Maryland Baltimore
Physician Assistant Program**

PA Program Website
Graduate School Admissions Office
PA Program Information Sessions
UMB Office of the Registrar
Academic and Transfer Advising
UMB Website
Financial Services

graduate.umaryland.edu/mshs-pa-umb/

www.umaryland.edu/registrar/forms-and-services/

www.umaryland.edu

www.umaryland.edu/fin

Phone: 410-706-7347

Fax: 410-706-0824

aidtalk@umaryland.edu

UMB Physician Assistant Program
Frequently Asked Questions

1. Do I have to apply through CASPA?

YES, all applicants must apply through CASPA and the application must be completed and received by UMB Graduate School by September 1 for consideration. UMB Graduate School will send notification via e-mail when the application is received and instructions regarding how to proceed with the admission process.

2. Do my prerequisites need to be completed by the application deadline?

All prerequisites must be posted with grades on official transcripts submitted to CASPA.

3. Does my degree need to be completed by the application deadline?

Conferred degree and date must be posted on official transcripts submitted to CASPA.

4. Does the type of bachelor's degree matter?

No, any bachelor's degree or higher from a nationally recognized institution is acceptable.

5. If I retake a course, which grade will count for my GPA?

For cumulative GPA and science GPA (as calculated by CASPA) ALL courses will be counted in the GPA. UMB uses the GPA calculated by CASPA.

6. Do I still need to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) if I already have a master's degree or higher?

Yes, official scores within the last five years must be submitted from ETS directly to CASPA using the identified code for the UMB Graduate School Physician Assistant Program. The UMB Graduate School normally requires GRE scores for admission and uses GRE scores as part of the data on which it bases its admission decisions. The scores, however, are never the sole criteria for admission.

7. Can I work while I am in the UMB Physician Assistant program?

The program is very challenging and students need a time commitment for studying and clinical education. For your success in the program, we do not recommend that you work while matriculating in this program.

8. Can I get credit for previous academic work or work experience?

No, the UMB PA Program does not grant credit for prior academic or work experience. Prerequisite requirements and work experience are factored into the ranking system used to evaluate applicants. Work experience is verified as needed through the admission and CASPA application process.

9. How often do you admit students?

Once a year. Since the CASPA cycle opens mid-April, we recommend submitting a CASPA application by July 1 so that a completed CASPA application is received by the UMB Graduate School by the deadline date of September 1. Interviews are held in the fall for competitive applicants and selections are made for the new class that begins in the following May of each year.

10. Do you offer a part-time PA program?

No, our program is a 25-month, full-time program.

11. I am a foreign educated applicant; will you accept my foreign transcript?

After completing the CASPA application, UMB Graduate School may request official evaluations for all foreign transcripts (for all higher-level institutions attended), evaluated by one of the following organizations:

- World Education Services (WES) at www.wes.org or
- Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) at www.ece.org or

UMB Graduate School will not evaluate these documents prior to going through this process. No other evaluation services will be accepted.

12. I am foreign educated; do I have to take the TOEFL?

All foreign educated students whose native language is not English must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) prior to submitting their CASPA application. The minimum acceptable TOEFL score (reflected on the CASPA application) for admission is 250 for the computer-based test and 100 for the internet-based test. Please note that TOEFL scores are only valid for two years from the date the CASPA application is submitted.

13. If I send letters of recommendation to CASPA, do I need to submit them to UMB as well?

No, the UMB Graduate School obtains letters of recommendation from CASPA. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that CASPA receives all three letters of recommendation.

14. I do not have a background in the health care field. How can I obtain patient contact experience?

Patient contact experience is recommended; however, it is not required. A student who does not have patient contact experience can begin to accrue patient contact experience hours as a paid health professional (or nationally certified professional such as an EMT). Volunteer and student hours are not considered under the program's current definition for patient contact experience.

15. What are the PANCE first-time pass rates?

Please visit the UMB Physician Assistant Program web page <https://graduate.umaryland.edu/mshs-pa-umb/> and click on NCCPA PANCE Summary Report under Frequently Asked Questions for pass rates.

16. How many seats are available in the PA program?

There are 40 seats available.

17. How many applications does your program typically receive?

The typical number of applications received is 600.

18. If I am offered a seat in the program, how do I apply for financial aid?

Financial aid for the program is completed through the University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB) Office of Student Financial Assistance. The school code is 002104 and you can contact them directly at 410-706-7347 or email: aidtalk@umaryland.edu or visit <http://www.umaryland.edu/fin/prospective-students/applying-for-financial-aid/>