



Area: University of Oklahoma School of Community Medicine PA Program, Tulsa
Title: Admissions Procedure and Standard

In order to be considered for admission to the University of Oklahoma Physician Assistant Program-Tulsa, a completed application must be submitted through the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) and a supplemental application must be submitted to the OUHSC Office of Admissions and Records. Supplemental applications for the University of Oklahoma Physician Assistant Program-Tulsa are available June 1st. Application through CASPA opens in April each year. To qualify for entrance into the PA program, the online application and all supporting documentation must be submitted to CASPA by October 1st. A completed CASPA application includes:

1. CASPA application and payment
2. Three letters of reference. (These are submitted as part of the application through CASPA)
3. Personal statement uploaded to CASPA application.
4. Official transcripts sent directly to CASPA and the OUHSC Office of Admissions and Records from all schools attended.

OUHSC Supplemental Application Deadline: October 1st

Applications will not be considered complete until the CASPA and supplemental applications and all required documents for both applications have been received.

English-proficiency requirements: All applicants born outside the United States, regardless of citizenship status, are required to provide a TOEFL score of 79 or better on the Internet-based test or secure a TOEFL waiver by October 1st to be considered for admission.

Admission and Prerequisite Requirements:

A bachelor's degree must be earned from an accredited college or university prior to matriculation. No more than one science and one non-science prerequisite can be in progress after December 31st of the year prior to enrollment in the program.

A minimum grade point of average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, as computed by CASPA, for both the overall and science GPA must be achieved.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education require that all applicants meet minimum academic requirements to be eligible applicants. The following courses are required with a letter grade of "C" or better:

- English Composition I and II (6 semester hours)
- College Algebra or higher (3 semester hours)
- Psychology (6 semester hours)
- Chemistry (12 semester hours) *
- Microbiology with lab (4 semester hours)
- Human Anatomy (4 semester hours)**
- Human Physiology (4 semester hours)**
- Upper division science (6 semester hours)***

*General chemistry or above as required for science majors. Three hours must be Organic Chemistry or Biochemistry with lab.

** One semester of Anatomy and one semester of Physiology OR two semesters of a combined anatomy and physiology course (A&P). Must be completed within the last 7 years.

***Must be 3000 or 4000 level biological science course. There is no preference for a particular course. Must be completed within the last 7 years.

Pass/Fail grading, Advanced Placement (AP) and CLEP courses are accepted.

In addition to meeting the minimum admission requirements established by the Program, the applicant must also be deemed qualified for entry through the institutional interview process. No applicant is guaranteed an interview. A prescreen score is assigned to each applicant using an internal formula configured from a combination of GPA scores. The Admissions Committee evaluates all applicants in a holistic manner who have met minimum requirements and completed the application process to determine those who receive an invitation to interview.

In reviewing applications, many factors are considered that contribute to the competitiveness of the applicant.

Preference is given to the following:

- Oklahoma resident
- Academic Excellence: cumulative GPA and science GPA

Additional factors considered include:

- Commitment to primary care and serving underserved populations
- Healthcare experience - Healthcare experience is strongly recommended but not required for the PA program applicant.
- PA Shadowing - The Tulsa PA program does not facilitate shadowing experiences.
- Community service, particularly with an underserved population
- Other life experiences and extracurricular activities
- Letters of reference

The Admissions Committee consists of all program faculty members. Additional committee members may be included, as approved by the Chair. The Admissions Committee are assisted in conducting interviews by a group of community member interviewers. Interviewers evaluate each applicant using a standard assessment rubric. No one shall be granted acceptance to the Physician Assistant Program without an interview. All applicants are ranked on a scale using a weighted holistic admissions formula of the traits considered essential by the Admissions Committee.

The Admissions Committee reviews all information and extends final admissions decisions of accept, reject or wait-list. Where an applicant falls on the waitlist is confidential. Applicants who interviewed and are not accepted for admission can request formal feedback of their application by submitting a written request. Formal review of applications is completed by the Admissions Director and is conducted via email.

Accepted applicants must secure their seat by submitting a \$300 deposit within ten business days of receiving the acceptance email.

A request from an accepted applicant for a one year deferral of enrollment may be considered by the OU School of Community Medicine Physician Assistant Program upon receipt of a written request. Requests to defer enrollment will be reviewed individually for suitability by the Admissions Committee. As general guidance, only requests related to academic pursuits and unanticipated and compelling personal circumstances will be considered. Additional information may be requested before a decision is rendered.

The decision of the Admissions Committee will be communicated to the applicant via email, to which the applicant will notify the Committee of their desire to accept the delayed enrollment offer. Subsequently, the student must contact the Admissions Committee in writing by December 31st of that same calendar year to confirm intent to

matriculate with the new entering class. Forfeiture of the delayed enrollment will occur if notification has not been received by the deadline.

A denial of a written request will require the applicant to submit a complete, new application through CASPA. An applicant's previous acceptance to the program does not guarantee acceptance into another class.

A national Criminal Background Check ("CBC") and Urine Drug Screen ("UDS") is required of each conditionally accepted applicant prior to full admission and at least annually thereafter for every continuing student.

Policy Date: 3/12/2025