

# PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

- MISSION/GOALS
- ACCREDITATION

Utah Valley University's Physician Assistant Program provides a dynamic and supportive learning environment that will enable our students to master the professional competencies needed to practice as a physician assistant in any healthcare team. The UVU PA Program faculty and staff value professionalism, compassion, and clinical competence as key principles of clinical practice and education. If being an exceptional PA is your goal, then UVU is the ideal place for you.

## IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	JANUARY
<p><b>26</b> Apply via Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA)</p> <p>Supplemental/UVU Graduate School Application open for submission. Admission applications will not be reviewed until this supplemental application and the \$50 fee are received</p>	<p><b>15</b> Supplemental / UVU Graduate School Application must be submitted by 11:59 MST</p> <p><b>15</b> Last day to submit CASPA application. Application must be submitted by 11:59 pm EST</p>	<p><b>15</b> Application must be verified in CASPA by 11:59pm EST. Verified means the CASPA application material has been processed. All applications that do not meet this verification deadline, will not be eligible to be considered for admission.</p>	<p><b>FIRST OF SEPTEMBER</b> Interview invitations sent via email</p> <p><b>19</b> Candidate Interviews</p> <p><b>20</b> Candidate Interviews</p> <p><b>21</b> Candidate Interviews</p>	<p><b>7</b> Acceptance letters emailed for the 2025 January cohort (Class of 2027)</p> <p><b>15</b> Seat deposit due for the 2025 January cohort</p>	<p><b>1</b> After this date, if seats are available, alternate 2025 January cohort candidates are invited to take a seat.</p>	<p><b>6</b> New student orientation and classes begin for 2025 cohort</p> <p><b>13</b> Last day for alternate 2025 candidates to join cohort</p>

**10 Rotations**  
**30 Students**  
**95 Credits**

[PROGRAM OVERVIEW](#)

**2 Applications**  
**3 Letters**  
**6 Prerequisites**

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**7 Semesters**  
**28 Months**  
**\$79,520**

[TUITION](#)

### Connect With Us

#### Request Information

Physician Assistant Program

**First Name \***

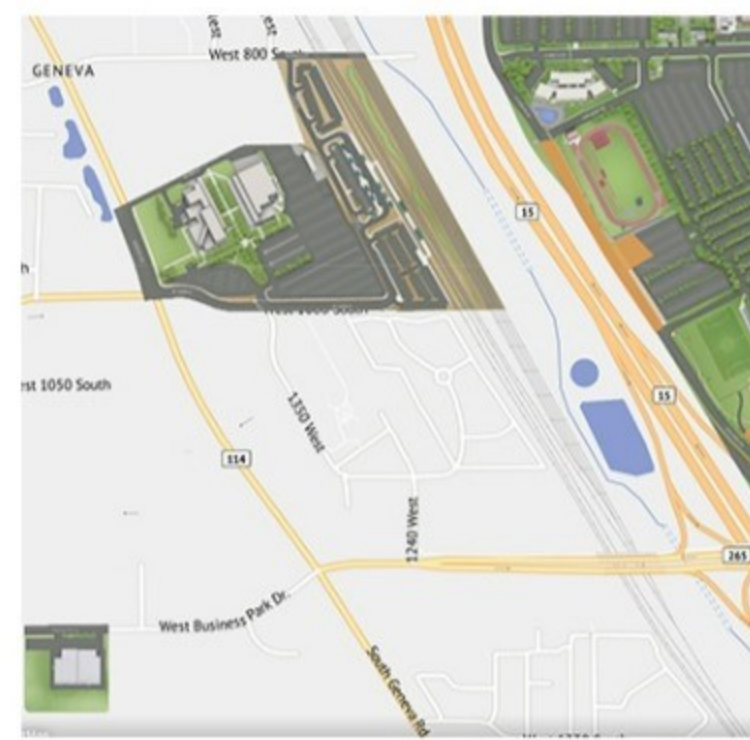
**Last Name \***

**Email \***

**Comments**

[Submit](#)

#### Visit in Person



Health Professions Building HP 116  
987 S Geneva Rd  
Orem, UT 84058-5999

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### PRE-ADVISING

We recommend that prospective applicants visit with a pre-PA advisor at the college or university that the applicant attended or where the applicant graduated from. Pre-PA advising offices at colleges and universities in Utah are listed below:

#### UTAH SCHOOL PRE-ADVISING PAGES

[University of Utah](#)

[Brigham Young University](#)

[Utah Valley University](#)

[Utah Tech University](#)

[Southern Utah University](#)

[Utah State University](#)

[Weber State University](#)

[Westminster College](#)

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### WHAT WE LOOK FOR

A mission-aligned, holistic admissions review process

The UVU PA Program strives to incorporate a holistic admissions review process. The admissions process considers a broad range of factors - experiences, attributes, and academic metrics - when reviewing applications. Holistic review allows the admissions committee to consider the “whole” applicant, rather than focusing on any one factor.

Evaluation factors for the application and review process	
• Evidence of academic strength is indicated through applicant's overall and science GPAs and completion of prerequisite courses	
• Patient care knowledge demonstrated with direct patient and health care hours	
• Keen understanding of the Physician Assistant profession through shadowing medical professionals. Shadowing physician assistants, doctors, nurses and nurse practitioners. We do not score shadowing hours in the application. Shadowing provides needed insight and experience	
• Professional Letters of Recommendation (see admission requirement section)	
• A strong commitment to the community through <i>consistent</i> volunteer service that demonstrates compassion and a desire to work and serve medically marginalized or underserved populations	
• A dedicated and demonstrated work ethic	
• Exemplary leadership by showing an engaged attitude	
• Achievements demonstrated by honors, awards, scholarships and/or publications	
• Preference given to veterans, applicants who attended the majority of K-12 in a Utah school district, first-generation students, and non-Utah residents (See admissions requirements section)	
• Video answers to essay questions that allow the candidate to highlight their maturity, interpersonal and communication skills that demonstrate an ability to articulate ideas and knowledge. Applicants will be invited to do this portion of the application. Invitation sent via email.	

CURRENT MATRICULATED UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY PA STUDENTS Class of 2024 and 2025 (Combined Stats)	
Percentage of Female Students	50%
Percentage of Male Students	50%
First-Generation Students	24%
Average Age of Students	29
Average Cumulative GPA	3.56
Average Science GPA	3.52
Average Leadership Hours	1,972
Average Volunteer Hours	1,196
Minimum Patient/Healthcare Hours	2,805
Maximum Patient/Healthcare Hours	44,712
Average Patient/Healthcare Hours	7,565

### INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY

UVU is committed to preparing all students and employees for success in an increasingly complex, diverse, and globalized society. We promote civility and respect for the dignity and potential of each individual. We seek to advance the understanding of diverse perspectives. We value and promote collegial relationships and mutual respect among students, faculty, and staff. We acknowledge and seek to address the needs of populations who are underrepresented and students with varying levels of academic preparation, even as we strive to provide access and support for all students and employees in ways that are culturally relevant and responsible.

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### INFORMATION SESSIONS

We strongly recommend that prospective candidates attend an information session. There will be a presentation followed by a question and answer session.

Information sessions will be centered around the April-July 2023 admissions cycle that will seat the cohort that begins in January 2024. Please register for a session via the form below.

**Information session dates and times for 2023:**

**Fall of 2023**

- **Tuesday, October 24, 2023** at 6:00 pm, **IN-PERSON session**, at the UVU PA Program Learning Center. Limited seating, first come, first serve via the registration form (see below)
- **Tuesday, November 14, 2023** at 10:00 am (virtual meeting on Microsoft Teams)
- **Wednesday, November 15, 2023** at 6:00 pm (virtual meeting on Microsoft Teams)

**Information session dates and times for 2024:**

**February**

- **Tuesday, February 06, 2024** at 10:00 am (virtual meeting on Microsoft Teams)
- **Wednesday, February 21, 2024** at 6:00 pm (virtual meeting on Microsoft Teams)

**March**

- **Wednesday, March 05, 2024** at 10:00 am (virtual meeting on Microsoft Teams)
- **Wednesday, March 20, 2024** at 6:00 pm, **IN-PERSON session**, at the UVU PA Program Learning Center. Limited seating, first come, first serve via the registration form (see below)

Students: Meeting details will be emailed to registered students prior to the meeting date. Meeting size may be limited, so registration is required. Requested registration is primarily for our ability to track attendance numbers and to provide you with an invitation to the virtual meeting. Please take note of the date you signed up for. We cannot assure that you will receive a reminder email.

Physician Assistant Program Information Sessions

**First Name \***

**Last Name \***

**Email \***

**Date Requested/Comments**

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## COMMUNICATION

### What to expect from the UVU Physician Assistant Program

- Applicants will be notified by the program via email when the CASPA application has been verified, the graduate school application is complete, and the fee has been paid. Once this is confirmed the application is ready to be reviewed. Apply as early as possible to ensure the application is verified by CASPA before the August 15, 2024 deadline. Applications that remain unverified by the deadline will not be reviewed by The UVU PA Program Admissions Committee.
- Applicants will be notified by the program via email when they have completed the first pass review and are moving forward with the second pass review. Qualified applicants will be given instructions to complete a video essay and questions via Kira Talent. If an applicant does not qualify to move to the second pass review, an email will be sent to inform the applicant that they are denied from the program.
- Applicants will be notified by the program via email after the completion of the second pass review. Applicants will receive an email either inviting them to an interview in September of 2024 or informing them that they have been denied an interview and the admissions process is complete. Please be aware that this notification will not occur until sometime before the first week of September.
- Applicants will be notified by the program via email throughout the admissions cycle if additional clarification is needed. Because communication is via the email listed on the CASPA application, it is extremely important that applicants notify the program if there is a change to the email.

*Expectations from applicants to the UVU PA Program: As a program, we value professionalism and courtesy. When contacting and communicating with the program, we expect the interactions to demonstrate the applicant's professional attitude. This means the program expects honesty, professional intonations, and a positive attitude. The Admissions Committee will consider any unprofessional communications when contacting the program. Unprofessional interactions include dishonesty, threatening, argumentative, or offensive language or attitudes.*

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## INTERVIEW PROCESS

In-person interviews will be conducted September 19, 20 and 21, 2024

Candidates will be invited to attend an in-person interview on campus in the Health Professions Building. This building is located on the west side of Utah Valley University campus. A tour of the UVU Physician Assistant Department/Lab/Classroom area in the Health Professions Building will be a part of the interview day process.

### WHAT TO EXPECT ON INTERVIEW DAY

Please plan to spend three hours at the UVU PA Program. Candidates will participate in one-on-one interviews with members of the UVU PA Program faculty, UVU faculty and staff, and community stakeholders. Following the interviews, there will be Q&A sessions with currently enrolled students and the UVU PA Program faculty. Candidates will have an opportunity to see the facilities and meet the principle faculty and staff and current students during their assigned interview block.

There will be a medical terminology exam that will be given to the **admitted** candidates. If a student scores below 80%, they will be required to review a medical terminology module and then complete a comprehensive medical terminology test and receive at least 80% prior to the first day of school. If a score of 80% or higher is not completed by the first day of school, the student will work with their faculty advisor to meet the requirement.

### ADMISSION STATUS

After interview day, offers of admission will be extended to the top 30 candidates and alternates will be ranked. Candidates may be offered one of several options:

- **Full Admission:** All admissions requirements are complete. Candidates give written acceptance of the offer and pay the full non-refundable \$750 seat deposit to secure the seat by the deadline given in the offer email. The seat deposit funds mandatory drug screening and background check and membership in professional organizations.
- **Conditional Admission:** Candidates that have an ongoing Human Anatomy or Human Physiology course will be invited to take a seat as long as the remaining prerequisite courses are fulfilled, and official documentation of satisfactory completion is received no later than December 31, 2024. Candidates must give written acceptance of the offer and pay the full non-refundable \$750 seat deposit to secure the seat by the deadline given in the offer email.
- **Admission Alternate (Wait List):** Candidates selected as alternates will be notified of their admission status as early as mid-November 2024 or until early January 2025. If these candidates are not admitted to the Program by January 15, 2025, they will need to reapply to be considered for an upcoming cohort.
- **Denial:** Candidates not selected to be admitted to the class of 2027 will be notified in writing via email.

*Full admission and conditional admission offers and denial status are sent to the candidates via email by the first week of October. Thirty students will be offered a seat in the class of 2027.*

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-  IMPORTANT DATES
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-  ADMITTED STUDENTS



### TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The goal of the program is to prepare students to become competent, caring physician assistants possessing the skills for lifelong learning necessary to incorporate new knowledge and methods into medical practices required to adapt to the changing professional environment. All students admitted to the program are expected to continually demonstrate the specific technical standards specified below. These technical standards are considered to be prerequisites for admission, for progression throughout the program, and to qualify for graduation from the UVU PA Program.

Every physician assistant student must be able to perform independently, with or without reasonable accommodation, a diversity of skills related to effective performance as a professional student and health care practitioner in training. A detailed description of those essential functions and technical standards required of each physician assistant student is described below:

- 1. OBSERVATION:** PA students must have the ability to observe and participate as appropriate in the lecture hall, laboratory, and in the spectrum of clinical environments. This includes all outpatient, inpatient, emergency department, and operating room settings. They should also possess the ability to use their other somatic senses as needed to enhance their ability to accurately observe and interpret these situations.
- 2. INTELLECTUAL ABILITY AND CAPACITY:** PA students must be able to learn, analyze, synthesize, problem solve, reason, and come to logical conclusions both in the didactic and clinical phase. They are expected to remain alert and attentive at all times in didactic and clinical settings.
- 3. COMMUNICATION:** PA students must be able to practice effective, professional verbal and non-verbal communication skills with other students, faculty, preceptors, and patients. This includes building trust, being sensitive, and using discretion with personal and sensitive information in all situations. Additionally, PA students must have the ability to work effectively in groups with other students and with other healthcare professionals.
- 4. MOTOR:** PA students must be able to complete a full physical exam and basic clinical procedures. They must also be able to manipulate the equipment, instruments, apparatus, or tools required to collect and interpret data appropriate to the domain of study, practice, or research. Students must be able to respond to emergency situations in a calm and timely manner, and must always adhere to universal precautions in all clinical settings.
- 5. BEHAVIORAL:** Enrollment in a PA program can be stressful and requires the ability to handle a significant workload. All PA students must have the physical and emotional stamina to commit to their education and maintain a high level of function. PA students must also be able to accept criticism and have the ability to appropriately modify their behavior. They must understand the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of medicine and function within both the law and ethical standards of the medical profession.

*Admitted students who have a disability and need accommodation should initiate discussions with the Office of Accessibility Services as soon as the offer of admission is received and accepted. Each student must be fully cognizant of the technical standards. Questions or concerns about the technical standards should be discussed with the Program Director. If a health condition arises that would in any way alter the student's ability to perform in the didactic or clinical setting, it is the student's responsibility to report this immediately to the Program Director. See the UVU PA Program Technical Standards Attestation Form in (Appendix A)*

### IMMUNIZATIONS & DRUG SCREENINGS

In order to participate in the clinical component of the physician assistant program, students will be required to abide by the immunization, health screening, and drug testing requirements of our clinical program partner sites, subject to individual accommodations. If placement at alternative clinical sites is not an available accommodation, the only available accommodations from UVU may be deferral or temporary withdrawal from the program.

In accordance with UVU policy 548, applicants to clinical programs at UVU must pass a drug test. Students will be tested upon acceptance to a clinical program. The responsibility for passing the drug test resides with the student regardless of possession of a medical cannabis card that is legal in any state. Clinical programs reserve the right to repeat drug tests at any time during the clinical program.

### ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

**To be considered for an interview, all applicants for whom English is a second language must take the TOEFL and score as described.**

**Exception:** Candidates who have fully completed high school in the United States and who also have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education in the United States. High school transcripts may be requested.

Achieve a score in each section (Reading, Listening, Speaking, Writing) that falls in the high-intermediate to advanced range on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Register to take the TOEFL at [www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org). Test scores should be submitted with the CASPA application by the July 15, 2024 deadline.

Official TOEFL scores should be mailed directly to CASPA as described in the standardized tests section of their website:

Official TOEFL scores should be mailed to CASPA in paper format. They must be original copies of the test and sent to CASPA directly from ETS. CASPA cannot accept photocopied or electronic TOEFL scores.

Please mail all official TOEFL scores to:

CASPA TOEFL Scores  
PO Box 9108 Watertown, MA 02471

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>FIRST OF SEPTEMBER</b> Interview invitations sent via email</li> </ul> <p><b>19</b> Candidate Interviews begin</p> <p><b>20</b> Candidate Interviews</p> <p><b>21</b> Candidate Interviews conclude</p>	<p><b>7</b> Acceptance letters emailed for the 2025 January cohort</p> <p><b>15</b> Seat deposit due for the 2025 January cohort</p>	<p><b>1</b> After this date, if seats are available, alternate January 2025 cohort candidates invited to take a seat</p>
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### PREREQUISITES

Qualified applicants will show evidence of academic strength by GPAs and prerequisite coursework

#### BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning in the United States **MUST** be completed at the time of application

**Exception:** Those candidates who received their baccalaureate degrees from colleges and institutions outside of the United States must complete an international transcript evaluation by an approved foreign credential evaluating company and meet US equivalency. For UVU's approved evaluating companies, please see the [transfer credit website at UVU](#). In addition to the international four year degree equivalent, international applicants must complete at least one year (30 semester hours) of additional undergraduate or graduate study at a US regionally accredited college or university. All the required program prerequisites **MUST** be completed in the United States. All the required program prerequisites and/or the 30 hours of US university study **MUST** be completed within the last five years at the time of application and must be verified by CASPA.

To determine if your university or college is a regionally accredited institution of higher learning, please see this [website](#).

#### CUMULATIVE GPA OF 2.8\*

If the cumulative GPA is below a 3.0, but no lower than a 2.8, then a calculation on the last 60 hours (90 quarter hours) of undergraduate work will be conducted. This calculation must be a 3.0 or better to qualify the application to be reviewed by the admissions committee. However, a cumulative GPA above a 3.0 is strongly encouraged to be a competitive UVU PA Program applicant.

\*as determined by CASPA

#### SCIENCE GPA OF 2.8\*

If the science GPA is below a 3.0, but no lower than a 2.8, a calculation on the last 30 hours (45 quarter hours) of undergraduate science coursework will be conducted. This calculation must be a 3.0 or better to qualify the application to be reviewed by the admissions committee. However, a science GPA above a 3.0 is strongly encouraged to be a competitive UVU PA Program applicant.

\*as determined by CASPA

#### COURSEWORK PREREQUISITES

ALL required prerequisite coursework must be completed at time of application submission

**Exception:** Human Anatomy and Human Physiology prerequisites that fall outside of the seven year deadline are the only exception to prerequisite coursework that can be in progress prior to application or matriculation.

Coursework must be completed for a letter grade that is published on the official transcript and **verified by CASPA** by August 15, 2024 verification deadline, for the January 2025 start.

**There is a seven year deadline for Human Anatomy and Human Physiology.**

Human Anatomy and Human Physiology coursework will only be accepted if taken and completed between January 2017 through July 15, 2024, for the current admissions cycle. If classes are outside of this range, they are considered expired.

Applicants can apply and currently be working on retaking the Human Anatomy and Human Physiology requirement if these courses are disqualified due to the seven year deadline. Anatomy and Physiology courses that are expired must be repeated or in progress no later than the Fall 2024 semester and must be completed before December 31, 2024. There is no need for repeated coursework (Human Anatomy and Physiology) to be verified by CASPA, or to be completed before applying. However, if invited to interview with the program, coursework must be completed by the spring or summer of 2024, or a verification of enrollment for the Fall 2024 semester will be requested. When retaking a course, it is not required to retake the corresponding lab. Online coursework from a US regionally accredited institution is accepted. When retaking these classes, applicants must get a B (a B- will not be accepted) or better to be considered complete and counted towards admission. If applicants are retaking these courses after applying, please inform the director of admissions via email or in your CASPA application.

**Human Anatomy and Human Physiology are the only prerequisites courses that expire.**

#### Information Related to the Coronavirus Outbreak:

The UVU PA Program accepts online coursework from regionally accredited institutions. Transitions to online learning in response to the Coronavirus has had very little impact on applications. The UVU PA Program will accept "pass" or "credit" marked on transcripts to meet prerequisites for applicants whose institution's standard was a pass/credit grading system for the Spring/Summer 2020 semesters. The institution's grading standard must be a pass/credit for courses that are a C or higher. A letter grade is required for prerequisites, except for Spring and Summer 2020 semesters.

#### Prerequisite Grades

All coursework must have a letter grade of C or better. A letter grade of less than a C, such as a C-, will not be accepted for the prerequisite requirement. All prerequisite coursework must be completed at the time the application is submitted. Online courses are accepted, if taken from a regionally accredited institution. Courses for which credit was awarded by examination, such as AP/CLEP courses, are not accepted toward any of the prerequisite courses.

#### Advanced Placement

Advanced placement is defined as a waiver of required professional coursework in the UVU Physician Assistant Program, and it will not be granted under any circumstance. All students who enter the program must fulfill all program requirements. All courses within the curriculum are required. No transfer credit is accepted. No credit is granted for preadmission experiential learning, prior coursework, degrees, certifications, or advanced training.

#### Prerequisite coursework

- **HUMAN ANATOMY WITH LAB:** 4 semester hours (6 quarter hours) are required and must be completed within seven years of the current admissions deadline of July 15, 2024. The UVU PA Program will accept a 3 semester hour Human Anatomy class in lieu of the 4 semester hour requirement (such as that offered by BYU Provo), but only if a lab was taken as part of the class and the class is accepted for science majors.
- **HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY WITH LAB:** 4 semester hours (6 quarter hours) are required and must be completed within seven years of the current admissions deadline of July 15, 2024. **Must be human** no other physiology courses are accepted.
- A 2-semester combined Human Anatomy and Human Physiology course series is acceptable instead of a separate Human Anatomy and Human Physiology course provided the total credits received is a minimum of 8 semester hours (12 quarter hours) and is a combined full-year series. A mixed combination will not be accepted. Applicants must take Anatomy and Physiology I and II OR Human Anatomy and Human Physiology separately to meet the requirement.
- **CHEMISTRY WITH LAB:** 8 semester hours (12 quarter hours, this can vary from state to state) required. Lower-level, introduction to chemistry courses will not be accepted.
- **BIOLOGY WITH LAB:** 4 semester hours (6 quarter hours, this can vary from state to state) required. Lower-level, introduction to biology courses will not be accepted.
- **MICROBIOLOGY WITH LAB:** 4 semester hours (6 quarter hours, this can vary from state to state) required. Lower-level, introduction to microbiology courses will not be accepted.
- **STATISTICS:** 3 semester hours (4.5 quarter hours, this can vary from state to state) required. A class that is considered a broad introduction to statistics and not a true statistics class will not be accepted. Statistics classes from departments outside of math are eligible for review.

*Human Anatomy and Human Physiology courses taken from Exercise Science, Sports Science, or Kinesiology departments are not accepted.*

#### ENTRANCE EXAMS

The UVU PA Program does NOT require standardized exams such as the GRE, PA-CAT, and MCAT. The UVU PA Program uses a holistic admissions approach.

#### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Applicants that completed their baccalaureate degrees from colleges and institutions outside of the United States and Canada must complete ALL prerequisites at regionally accredited institutions in the United States.

We cannot accept international students into the program at this time who are not U.S. citizens. If you feel your situation may qualify your application for review, reach out to [graduateadmissions@uvu.edu](mailto:graduateadmissions@uvu.edu) for clarifying information.

**ALL prerequisites for international students outside of the United States or Canada must be COMPLETED at a US regionally accredited institution of higher learning in the US within the last 5 years at the time of application. No exceptions.**

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## APPLICATIONS

Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply as early as possible. We do not use rolling admissions, but the sooner applications are verified by CASPA, the sooner the UVU PA Admissions Committee can begin the review process on the application.

### CASPA APPLICATION

**Deadline to complete the CASPA application is July 15, 2024, by 11:59 pm EST**

- CASPA, the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants, is a web-based application service. You can go to the CASPA website here. The application cycle for the 2025 matriculating class will open the end of April 2024. Follow the directions given by CASPA and check your application carefully. All applications must be **verified** by CASPA by August 15, 2024, by 11:59 pm EST to be eligible for review by the UVU PA Admissions Committee. Plan to give ample time for the verification process, as it can take up to 6 weeks. Verification means the CASPA application materials have been processed. Do not send any application materials to the UVU PA Program.
- Applicants can fill out and e-submit/pay for the CASPA application any time before the deadline, even if supporting documents have not yet been received at CASPA. However, CASPA requires that applicants materials to be received before the application is considered complete and eligible for the verification process. Only applications that have been verified and processed by CASPA and have the GPAs calculated will be eligible for review by the UVU PA Admissions Committee. It is the responsibility of the applicant to submit and complete the application with ample time to meet the **verification deadline** of August 15, 2024, by 11:59 pm EST.

*Deadline extensions will not be granted. For help with CASPA application-related questions, contact CASPA customer service support at 617-612-2080 or [✉](#) by email*

### UVU GRADUATE STUDIES APPLICATION + FEE

Complete the UVU Graduate Studies Application and pay the \$50 fee.

Go to the [UVU Graduate Studies Application here](#) and fill out the application and pay the required \$50 fee. All applicants are required to pay the Graduate Studies Application fee in addition to any CASPA-related fees. The fee covers administrative costs related to the application review process. Applications **will not be reviewed** until all application requirements are met and the UVU Graduate Studies fee has been paid. The Graduate Studies Application and fee must be completed by the July 15, 2024, 11:59 pm MST deadline for applicants to be eligible for review by the UVU PA Admissions Committee for January 2025 matriculation.

### PREFERENCE STATUS

All qualified applications will be reviewed.

Applicants who lived the majority of K-12 in a Utah school district or have had Utah residency for 7+ years and/or have veteran status and/or are first-generation students are awarded additional points during the first pass review. Applicants who do not qualify for either but meet all other admission requirements will still be considered and are strongly encouraged to apply.

Applicants that reside out-of-state add an important perspective with their diversity and unique life experiences. These applicants' insights add a sense of belonging and opportunity to the program and the community. Therefore, there will be a minimum of five non-resident seats reserved for these students during the 2024-25 admissions cycle.

### NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the a basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age (40 and over), disability status, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other bases protected by applicable law in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other university benefits or services.

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### EXPERIENCE

All applicant experiences are subject to verification hours. The program may contact supervisors to confirm reported hours. Falsification of reported experiences could disqualify the applicant from the UVU PA Program admissions review process.

#### PATIENT CARE/HEALTH-RELATED EXPERIENCE

A minimum of 2,000 hours of patient care or health-related experience is required.

Applicants are required to complete 2,000 hours of patient care or health-related experience before submission of application to CASPA. Hours that will be counted toward patient care and health-related experience may include, but is not limited to, taking histories, physical exam, taking vitals, bathing patients, transporting patients, helping patients transfer from bed to bedpan or toilet, walking patients, drawing blood, performing diagnostic lab or imaging tests, laboratory bench work, filling prescribed patient medications, assisting with or administering prescribed therapy or treatments, patient education, and counseling.

**Job titles that WILL NOT COUNT towards direct patient care hours:**

- Shadowing
- Student Interning
- Medical Sales
- Patient Sitter/Comforter
- CPR Trainer
- Clinic Front Desk
- Housekeeping in Hospital
- Mortuary Services

Unpaid student training experience **will not count** for the patient care experience hours.

Applicants are encouraged to appropriately describe, within the CASPA application, the type of experience accumulated and support **why** the healthcare experience is relevant. The quantity and quality of reported healthcare hours will be considered and scored as part of the applicant screening process.

You will be asked to list job title, role, name of institution, name and title of supervisor, and to provide a detailed description of tasks, number of hours worked per week, and total number of weeks worked. Please break down jobs/clinical experiences that combine direct and related healthcare exposure, such that direct patient care and health-related experience hours are listed under the respective direct patient care and health-related experience CASPA sections.

CASPA applications request lists of responsibilities and total time spent in direct patient care and health-related experience. Shadowing experiences are to be listed in the shadowing experience section on the CASPA application.

#### LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Applicants are encouraged to document the variety of ways that leadership experience was demonstrated in the applicant's life via college athletics, leadership, or extracurricular roles in a university setting or within the community or other examples of personal leadership. The hours an applicant engages in these activities will be considered during the screening process.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Three professional letters of recommendation**

Letters of recommendation (CASPA Evaluation) submitted by professionals that speak to the strengths of the applicants will be reviewed by the UVU PA Admissions Committee. It is strongly recommended that applicants submit three letters of recommendation from professionals who have observed the applicant in a work, academic, and/or clinical environment. Letters from a healthcare source, supervisor, and/or academic source are preferred. Letters from personal friends and family will be discarded.

**VOLUNTEER SERVICE**

**Document experience and hours related to volunteering, community service or work experience**

Applicants are encouraged to document the variety of ways that volunteering, community service, and/or work experience has played a role in personal growth and wisdom via religious or service missions, military service, or other opportunities. Share how a pattern of consistent community service has helped to develop the characteristics that contribute to becoming a compassionate provider. The type of experience and the hours an applicant engages in these activities will be considered during the screening process.

#### SHADOWING

We do NOT require shadowing

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## ADMITTED STUDENTS

Written acceptance and payment of seat deposit is required.

Give written acceptance to the Program invitation and pay the non-refundable \$750 seat deposit by the acceptance deadline.

### Provide the necessary information and documentation

Candidates that are selected for admission to the program must provide proof of:

- Up-to-date immunizations and TB testing based on current Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations and Utah state guidelines
- Health clearance by a qualified medical provider
- Perform independently the essential functions of a physician assistant ( see technical standards section of the website)
- Complete a criminal background check **prior to matriculation**
- Successfully pass drug screening **prior to matriculation**
- Proof of current health insurance coverage

Candidates must provide acceptable results for the testing and documentation mentioned above. Adverse results will be considered on an individual basis by the Admissions Committee and could result in revocation of the admissions offer. Prior to the clinical year, some of these tests and documentations will be repeated. For additional information about the policies of the UVU PA Program, please see the Handbook section on the website.

## PAPERLESS PROGRAM

At UVU, we pride ourselves on being green.

Therefore, program operations, teaching materials, and assessments will be executed in electronic form whenever possible, including:

Electronic Forms	Laptop or iPad
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online textbooks, handbooks, and references</li> <li>• Lecture and other materials posted on Canvas or other web-based academic platform</li> <li>• Documents formatted for note-taking applications</li> <li>• Video capture of OSCEs for evaluation and feedback</li> <li>• Patient tracking software</li> <li>• Multiple-choice and other testing formats, including essays and uploaded assignments</li> <li>• Clinical year end of rotation exams, Physician Assistant Clinical Knowledge Rating and Assessment Tool (PACKRAT)</li> </ul>	<p>Students are required to have an iPad with an Apple Pencil or a touchscreen laptop or a Microsoft Windows Tablet with a pencil upon enrollment. Recommended applications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note taking: Notability, iAnnotatePDF, and Evernote</li> <li>• Collaborative work: Dropbox, Google Drive, and Google Docs</li> <li>• Study tools: Synopsis, Quizlet, or Anki</li> <li>• Presentations: PowerPoint, Keynote, Nearpod, Socrative, and other polling apps</li> <li>• Additional medical applications may be recommended by individual course directors</li> <li>• iPad 5+, iPad Air, iPad Mini2+, or iPad Pro with an OS of 12 or newer is recommended. Get the most up to date version for your electronic device</li> </ul> <p>As a courtesy to the instructor, peers, and guests, students should not use their electronic resources for personal activities (such as shopping, checking email, or social media) during lectures or other educational activities.</p>

### Medical Terminology

Students admitted into the UVU Physician Assistant Program must score at least 80% on the medical terminology test they must take prior to the first day of school. This test will be assigned to students after acceptance into the program. If a student scores below 80%, they will be required to review a medical terminology module and then complete a comprehensive medical terminology test and receive at least 80% prior to the first day of school. If a score of 80% or higher is not completed by the first day of school, the student will work with their faculty advisor to meet the requirement.

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