

Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (M.S.)

A.T. Still University

The world's first osteopathic medical school, founded in 1892, A.T. Still University, (ATSU) is a renowned health sciences university and a leading educator in whole-person healthcare. ATSU is comprised of the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, the School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona, the Arizona School of Health Sciences (ASHS), the Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health, and the online School of Health Management.

Arizona School of Health Sciences

The Arizona School of Health Sciences, located in Mesa, Arizona, offers doctoral and master of science degrees in a range of disciplines that advance healthcare by educating compassionate, competent professionals. ASHS' interdisciplinary and technology emphases, and philosophy of body, mind, and spirit treatment, creates an excellent professional educational environment.

Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (M.S.)

Physician Assistants (PAs) are healthcare professionals licensed to practice medicine with physician supervision. Services provided by physician assistants include taking medical histories and performing physical examinations, ordering and interpreting lab tests, prescribing medication, assisting in surgery and counseling patients. PAs are trained through an intense education program accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant Inc. PAs are educated in the medical model designed to complement physician training. Upon graduation, PAs take a national certification examination developed by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants.

The Curriculum

The Master of Science Physician Assistant Degree Program is an entry-level, 26-month program. The program requires full-time attendance and includes supervised clinical rotations. Courses are designed with an emphasis on a strong academic foundation and clinical practice. Faculty and staff work closely with students, developing the professional attitudes and clinical problem-solving skills necessary for optimum patient care. Graduation from the ASHS Physician Assistant Program requires successful completion of didactic and clinical coursework, and a master's level capstone project.

Application Information

ASHS participates in the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA). This service offers applicants a web-based service for applying to a number of participating PA programs with a single application. Educational consulting service letters are not accepted. Please visit www.caspaonline.org to apply for admission.

Requirements for Admission

- Candidates accepted for admission to the PA Program will have earned a baccalaureate degree or higher from a regionally accredited college or university.
- Applicants must have a minimum 2.75 cumulative grade point average overall (3.00 or higher recommended) and a minimum 2.75 cumulative science grade point average (3.00 or higher recommended) on a 4.00 scale.
- Applicants are expected to be computer literate and experienced in word processing. Accepted applicants are required to have a laptop computer prior to matriculation.
- Applicants are encouraged to obtain patient care experience, sufficient to recognize the physical & psychological demands of dealing with patients and to appreciate the challenges of being a healthcare professional.
- Applicants must successfully complete all prerequisite courses with a grade of C or higher.
- Applicants who are considered potential candidates must visit ASHS to participate in an applicant interview.

Prerequisite Courses

- Human Anatomy and Human Physiology: one-year lecture with lab *
- Microbiology * (one course)
- Organic Chemistry or Biochemistry (one course)
- Statistics (one course)

***recommended within five years of application date**

Requirements for Matriculation

Once admitted into the ASHS PA program, a matriculant must submit all official transcripts and documentation of:

- Required immunizations as determined by ATSU
- Proof of health insurance as required by ATSU
- Current CPR Certification
- Successful ATSU-approved background check

Class of 2011

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|-------------------------|-------|------------------------|--------|
| • Number of applicants: | 1,620 | • Average age: | 26 yrs |
| • Number interviewed: | 250 | • Average GPA: | 3.39 |
| • Class size: | 70 | • Average Science GPA: | 3.33 |

Tuition and Expenses

2009/2010 tuition and fees:

- Didactic component tuition and fees: \$30,145 + \$1,050 Education Supply Fee
- Clinical component tuition and fees: \$25,800 + \$1,050 Education Supply Fee

Additional expenses include a laptop computer (minimum specifications prescribed by ASHS), books, medical diagnostic equipment, room and board, transportation, health insurance and personal items. All tuition and fees are subject to change.

Financial Assistance

Financial support, including private and federal loans, is available. The Student Financial Assistance Office assists in developing assistance packages based on need. Information regarding financial assistance can be obtained at: financialaid@atsu.edu.

Accreditation

A.T. Still University of Health Sciences is accredited through The Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, 30 N. LaSalle St., Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602, phone 800-621-7440. Approved by: The Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education, 1400 West Washington Road, Room 260, Phoenix, AZ 85007. The ASHS PA Program is accredited by the ARC-PA, 12000 Findley Rd., Suite 240, Duluth, GA 30097.

**For additional information, contact ATSU Admissions
660.626.2237; 866.626.2828, ext. 2237
admissions@atsu.edu
www.atstu.edu**