

CENTRAL COAST PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

CLINICAL YEAR FAQs

How many students are assigned to a clinical site?

A.T. Still University-College for Healthy Communities (ATSU-CHC) accepts a cohort of 90 students each year. Typically, two to five students are assigned to each clinical site and/or region.

When will we know which students are coming to our site?

Sites will be assigned at least two months before each clinical rotation. ATSU-CHC's clinical team will introduce students to sites after all assignments are made. Hometown Scholars are assigned first, and then other students are assigned based on a variety of factors to the remaining available slots.

What are the clinical rotations like? What is expected?

Students complete five-week rotations in the following required disciplines:

- Internal medicine
- Family medicine
- Women's health
- Pediatrics
- Behavioral health
- Emergency medicine
- Surgery

After completing each rotation, the students take a multiple-choice, end-of-rotation examination. Preceptors will also fill out a final evaluation for each student to ensure all students meet the learning outcomes for each rotation.

What is the RDPAE?

The regional director of physician assistant education (RDPAE) serves as a point of contact for clinical sites and ensures the students have a great experience. RDPAEs must be either a physician or physician assistant and are typically allocated administrative time each week to identify preceptors, ensure evaluations are turned in on time, and meet with students to review cases and further expand their knowledge.

Can preceptors be rewarded for their work with students?

Absolutely! Preceptors receive access to A.T. Still Memorial Library, which includes multiple medical texts, journal subscriptions, and UptoDate access. Additionally, preceptors may request a certificate of hours precepted to redeem for Category II CME, and preceptors who are PAs are eligible for Category I CME through the American Academy of Physician Associates.

For any additional questions, please contact the clinical team at **CCPA-Clinical@atsu.edu**