

## Physician Assistant (PA)

A PA can practice medicine in a variety of settings, including inpatient or outpatient. They diagnose and treat patients in collaboration with physicians and can prescribe medications, order and interpret diagnostic tests, counsel patients, and much more!

What can I do in High School?	What can I do in College?	What about PA School?
<p>1. Take the <a href="#">ACT</a> and <a href="#">SAT</a>. Verify individual school requirements to see if standardized tests are required.</p> <p>2. Complete the <a href="#">FAFSA</a> to determine eligibility for federal financial aid.</p> <p>3. Complete College Applications: <a href="#">The Common Application</a></p> <p>4. Ask for <a href="#">letters of recommendation</a>.</p> <p>5. Check out the <a href="#">CFNC</a>, a free resource that helps students plan, apply, and pay for college in NC.</p> <p>6. Be aware of transcripts and transfer credit such as: Early College, AP, IB, CLEP, or Transfer Credit.</p> <p>7. Participate in extracurricular activities such as: sports, jobs, clubs, organizations, and volunteering.</p> <p>8. Pay attention to deadlines and start planning early!</p>	<p>PA schools require you to have at least a Bachelor's Degree. You can <a href="#">transfer</a> from a NC community college to a public NC university and still go to PA school.</p> <p>Picking a major does not affect your acceptance into PA school as long as you have the general course requirements.</p> <p>Generally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 course in Microbiology + labs</li> <li>1 year of General Chemistry + labs</li> <li>1 year of Organic Chemistry + labs</li> <li>1 year of Physics + labs</li> <li>1 year of Human Anatomy and Physiology + labs</li> <li>1 course in Statistics</li> <li>1 course in Sociology/Psychology</li> <li>1 year of English</li> </ul> <p><b>Be sure to look at individual school requirements.</b></p> <p>You will need to submit transcripts, GRE scores (some schools), letters of recommendation, a personal statement, and descriptions of work/activities in your primary application to PA schools.</p> <p>Other opportunities to distinguish your application include: Shadowing, volunteering, clinical experiences, research, and extracurriculars. Most PA programs require between 500 and 2000+ hours of direct patient care experience.</p> <p>If available, utilize your school's pre-health advising services.</p>	<p>Some PA schools require you to take the GRE exam at least one year before entering PA school.</p> <p>CASPA is the application service for PA schools.</p> <p>Applications open about one year before entering PA school. The application process includes applications and in person interviews.</p> <p>PA school is typically two-three years, but this varies by program. There is no residency requirement.</p> <p>There are 11 PA schools in North Carolina:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Campbell</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Duke</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">UNC</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Wingate</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Elon</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Pfeiffer</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Methodist</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Wake Forest</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">High Point</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">ECU</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Gardner Webb</a></li> </ul>

### More information?

[US Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

[Application Fee Assistance](#)

[Pre-PA Student Resources](#)

[My Next Move - Physician Assistant](#)

[What is a PA?](#)