

California State University, Northridge

Physician Assistant Program Prerequisites

Terri S. Richardson, M.D.

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California State University Northridge

Pre-Health Curriculum

Physician Assistants **typically** hold a Masters degree. However, it is important to understand that PA programs in California **can** offer a Certificate, an Associate Degree, a Bachelors Degree OR a Masters Degree upon completion of their Program. Please see www.aapa.org or www.paeaonline.org for more information. If you decide you would like to apply to a PA program that awards a Masters Degree, that program will very likely require that you have a Bachelors Degree by the time you enter their program.

Today, many CSUN students are electing to either get a Bachelors Degree in Health Science, Option III, OR Family and Consumer Sciences, option in Nutrition and Dietetics, ***with specific modifications***, due to the fact that Organic Chemistry and Physics are not required for these degrees, nor are they required for many of the PA programs. However, if you are a Biology major, and you truly enjoy the more rigorous coursework, then you should keep your major. Biology Degrees REQUIRE one year of Physics and Organic Chemistry. Students interested in a PA program are urged to sign up to see Dr. Terri Richardson in the Biology Department to discuss which major is best for them.

**Call 818 677-7305 for an appointment with
Dr. Terri Richardson, M.D.**

Pre-Physician Assistant Curriculum		
ALL PREREQUISITES MUST BE COMPLETED WITH A "C" OR HIGHER!		
CSUN Course #	Course Name	Units
Biol 106/L, Biol 107/L	Biological Principles I, II with Lab	8
Chem 101/L, Chem 102/L	General Chemistry I, II with Lab	10
Chem 235/L (or 333/L, 334/L)	Introduction to Organic Chemistry with Lab or Principles of Organic Chemistry I, II with Lab (<i>VERY few schools require Organic Chem</i>)	4-8
Chem 365/L	Introduction to Biochemistry with Lab (<i>Only A few schools require Biochem</i>)	4
Phys 100A/100AL	General Physics I with Lab (<i>VERY few schools require Physics</i>)	4
Math 102, 104, 105, or 150A	Math Prerequisites vary from: College Algebra To Calculus	3-5
Math 140 (or Statistics from Another Dept)	Introductory Statistics	3-4
Engl, AAS, PAS, CH S 155	Freshman Composition (some PA schools require 6 units of "Composition" classes) SOME SCHOOLS REQUIRE COMPOSITION CLASS BE TAKEN IN THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ONLY!	3-6
Engl 255	Introduction to Literature (<i>Loma Linda Requirement, Western and USC will accept.</i>)	3
Biol 211/212 or 310/L	Human Anatomy and Lab	3-4
Biol 281/282	Human Physiology with Lab	4
Biol 360	Genetics (<i>required by Western University</i>)	3
Biol 215/L or 315/L	Principles of Microbiology and Lab	4
Psy 150	Principles of Human Behavior	3-6
Soc 150	Introductory Sociology	3
Span 101/C, 102/C	Elementary Spanish I,II with Lab (<i>required by USC only</i>)	8
Various	Humanities	6-9

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Prerequisite Courses	Western	Touro-CA	Touro-NV	Loma Linda	Samuel Merritt	Stanford	USC
<u>Biology</u>		106/L,107/L	106/L,107/L		106/L,107/L (16u total)		106/L,107/L
<u>General Chemistry</u>	101/L,102/L	101/L,102/L	101/L,102/L	101/L,102/L	4 units	100	101/L,102/L
<u>Organic Chemistry</u>			333,334 or 235		4 units	(Cannot do	
<u>Biochemistry</u>			If 8u Org Chem above , then 464 If 4 u above, Then 365		(No Chem class structure Like this at	Micro at CSUN with only Chem 100!)	
<u>Physics</u>			100A/L		CSUN!		
<u>Human Physiology with Lab</u>	281/282	281/282		281/282	281/282	281/282	281/282
<u>Human Anatomy with Lab</u>	211/212 or 310/L	211/212 or 310/L		211/212 or 310/L	211/212 or 310/L	211/212 or 310/L	211/212 or 310/L
<u>Microbiology with Lab</u>	215/L or 315/L	215/L Or 315/L		215/L or 315/L	215/L or 315/L	215/L or 315/L	215/L or 315/L
<u>Calculus I</u>		4 units recommended (150A)					
<u>Math (other)</u>	104 or 105			104 or 105		104 or 105	
<u>Statistics</u>	Math 140 or Stats in other Depts Avail			Recommended (Math 140)	Math 140		Math 140
<u>English Composition</u>	Engl 155 Must Be From ENGL DEPT			Engl 155		Engl 155	Engl 155
<u>2nd English course (Lit/Comp)</u>	Engl 208, 255, 305, 306, or 364 (from Western Website)			Literature (Engl 255)			Engl 255 or 305 (from USC Website)
<u>Psychology, Sociology, or Cultural Anthropology</u>	Psy 150 AND Soc 150	Psy 150 AND either Soc 150 OR Anth 152		Psy 150 AND either Soc 150 OR Anth 152		Psy 150 AND Soc150 or Anth 152	Psy150 AND Soc150 OR Anth 152
<u>Misc</u>	9 u Humanities (Foreign Language Recom/accepted as humanities) Genetics (Bio 360)			Medical Terminology Recommended MUST be computer Literate! Or take class!		Many more requirements if no degree by acceptance time	1 year of Spanish 101/C,102/C