California State University, Northridge
CSUN Courses Required for Physician Assistant (PA) Programs: 2020 Update

There are 239 Physician Assistant Programs in the US, and 16 of them are in California. Courses listed below must be completed with a "C" or higher.

Need help to plan your courses?
CSUN's Health Professions Advisor: Dr Terri Richardson: Chaparral Hall, 5104
(818) 677-7305 terri.richardson@csun.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIRED COURSES</th>
<th>Western</th>
<th>USC</th>
<th>SCUHS</th>
<th>Drew</th>
<th>U of LaVerne</th>
<th>Ketchum</th>
<th>Chapman</th>
<th>Cal Baptist</th>
<th>Loma Linda</th>
<th>CSUMB</th>
<th>Dominican</th>
<th>Merritt</th>
<th>Stanford</th>
<th>Touro</th>
<th>UC Davis</th>
<th>UOP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOCATION</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>OC</td>
<td>OC</td>
<td>IE</td>
<td>IE</td>
<td>SF</td>
<td>SF</td>
<td>SF</td>
<td>SF</td>
<td>SF</td>
<td>SF</td>
<td>SF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Chemistry</td>
<td>101/L &amp; 102/L</td>
<td>101/L &amp; 102/L</td>
<td>101/L &amp; 102/L</td>
<td>101/L &amp; 102/L</td>
<td>101/L &amp; 102/L</td>
<td>101/L &amp; 102/L</td>
<td>101/L &amp; 102/L</td>
<td>101/L &amp; 102/L</td>
<td>101/L &amp; 102/L</td>
<td>101/L &amp; 102/L</td>
<td>One course 101/L &amp; 102/L</td>
<td>One course 101/L &amp; 102/L</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Chemistry</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td>235/L or 333/L</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Physiology with Lab*</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology with lab**</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Lab OK?</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No info</td>
<td>No info</td>
<td>No info</td>
<td>No info</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No info</td>
<td>No info</td>
<td>No info</td>
<td>No info</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics Biol</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precalculus</td>
<td>102 or 105</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
<td>102 or 106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics Math 140</td>
<td>Yes or HSCI 390</td>
<td>Yes or HSCI 390</td>
<td>Yes or HSCI 390</td>
<td>Yes or HSCI 390</td>
<td>Yes or HSCI 390</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Lab is not required for this course.
** Lab is only required for this course.

Note: The table above provides a comprehensive list of courses required for Physician Assistant Programs in California. For more detailed information, please contact CSUN's Health Professions Advisor.
## CSUN Courses Required for Physician Assistant (PA) Programs: 2020 Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIRED COURSES</th>
<th>Western</th>
<th>USC</th>
<th>SCUHS</th>
<th>Drew</th>
<th>University of LaVerne</th>
<th>Ketchum</th>
<th>Chapman</th>
<th>Cal Baptist</th>
<th>Loma Linda</th>
<th>CSUMB</th>
<th>Dominican</th>
<th>Merritt</th>
<th>Stanford</th>
<th>Touro</th>
<th>UC Davis</th>
<th>UOP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOCATION</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>OC</td>
<td>OC</td>
<td>IE</td>
<td>IE</td>
<td>SF BAY</td>
<td>SF BAY</td>
<td>SF BAY</td>
<td>SF BAY</td>
<td>SF BAY</td>
<td>SF BAY</td>
<td>SF BAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing 113B, 114B, 115</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional English</td>
<td>208, 255, 306 or 364</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
<td>215 or 255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intro Psychology</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intro Sociology</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish REC= Recommended</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>101 &amp; 102***</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>101 &amp; 102***</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Courses</td>
<td>9 units: Art, Music, Language, Philosophy</td>
<td>Fine Art, Art Expression, Crit Think, Speech</td>
<td>2 more Soc Sci/Humanities courses</td>
<td>Rec 3 UD Science courses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Terminology***</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>Req</td>
<td>Req</td>
<td>Req</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*: Anatomy and Physiology Courses: There are two choices:
Upper Division, Combined A&P: Biol 382/L and 383/L
Lower Division, Separate A&P Courses: Biol 213/212 (Anatomy & Lab) and Biol 281/282 (Physiology & Lab)

**: Microbiology Courses: There are two choices:
Upper Division, for Biology majors: Biol 315/L
Lower Division: Biol 215/L

***: Spanish Requirement: USC & CSUMB require EITHER one year of Spanish taken in college, AP credit in Spanish, OR passage of a university Spanish placement exam (you must test into Intermediate Spanish). USC suggests you take exam at CSUN. Contact (818)677-3452 (Language Lab) or go to JR316 for more info about this exam at CSUN. CSUMB has their own placement exam (see website).

****: Medical Terminology Requirement: CSUN does not offer Medical Terminology. Here are some local schools that offer medical terminology. Check with prospective PA schools to confirm the course you choose is acceptable:
- Moorpark, NS M19
- LA Pierce: VOC ED 377CE (non-credit course, ask schools if acceptable)
- LA Valley: BIOL 33
- LA Mission: BIOL 33 or HLTH OCC 063
- Glendale Community College: MOA 181 or MOA 182
- Pasadena City College: MA 115
- Ed2go: Online Medical Terminology; (ask schools if online course is acceptable) ~$250
- UNE ONLINE: MEDT 1000 (ask schools if online course is acceptable) ~$1000
- West Valley Occupational Center: HIT/1
- Des Moines University: Online Medical Terminology Course ~$100

---

- Anatomy and Physiology Courses: There are two choices:
- Upper Division, Combined A&P: Biol 382/L and 383/L
- Lower Division, Separate A&P Courses: Biol 213/212 (Anatomy & Lab) and Biol 281/282 (Physiology & Lab)
- Microbiology Courses: There are two choices:
- Upper Division, for Biology majors: Biol 315/L
- Lower Division: Biol 215/L
- Spanish Requirement: USC & CSUMB require EITHER one year of Spanish taken in college, AP credit in Spanish, OR passage of a university Spanish placement exam (you must test into Intermediate Spanish). USC suggests you take exam at CSUN. Contact (818)677-3452 (Language Lab) or go to JR316 for more info about this exam at CSUN. CSUMB has their own placement exam (see website).
- Medical Terminology Requirement: CSUN does not offer Medical Terminology. Here are some local schools that offer medical terminology. Check with prospective PA schools to confirm the course you choose is acceptable:
  - Moorpark, NS M19
  - LA Pierce: VOC ED 377CE (non-credit course, ask schools if acceptable)
  - LA Valley: BIOL 33
  - LA Mission: BIOL 33 or HLTH OCC 063
  - Glendale Community College: MOA 181 or MOA 182
  - Pasadena City College: MA 115
  - Ed2go: Online Medical Terminology; (ask schools if online course is acceptable) ~$250
  - UNE ONLINE: MEDT 1000 (ask schools if online course is acceptable) ~$1000
  - West Valley Occupational Center: HIT/1
  - Des Moines University: Online Medical Terminology Course ~$100
## Frequently Asked Questions

### Minimum GPA (in degree or overall?)
- **LA**: 3.0 at time of app
- **USC**: 3.0 overall & science
- **UCHS**: 3.0 overall & science
- **Drew**: Prefer 3.0
- **University of La Verne**: Prefer 3.0
- **Keswick**: Prefer 3.0
- **Chapman**: Min 3.2
- **Cal Baptist**: 3.2 overall & science
- **Loma Linda**: Min 3.0 overall & science
- **CSUMB**: Min 3.0 overall & science
- **Dominican**: 3.0 overall
- **Meredit**: 2.8 overall
- **Stanford**: No Minimum
- **Touro**: 3.0 overall & science
- **UC Davis**: 3.0 overall & science
- **OCP**: 3.0 overall & science

### Bachelor Degree Required by:
- **LA**: June 15 of matric year
- **USC**: June 30 of matric year
- **UCHS**: 8/31 of matric year
- **Drew**: Start of program
- **University of La Verne**: Time that you apply
- **Keswick**: End of Fall of app year
- **Chapman**: Start of program
- **Cal Baptist**: 12/31 of app year
- **Loma Linda**: 12/31 of app year
- **CSUMB**: No info on website
- **Dominican**: Time that you apply
- **Meredit**: Time that you apply
- **Stanford**: Time that you apply
- **Touro**: Spring of app year
- **UC Davis**: Time that you apply

### Courses must be less than ____ yrs old
- **LA**: Sci Courses 7 yrs
- **USC**: 10 yrs
- **UCHS**: 7 yrs
- **Drew**: 7 yrs
- **University of La Verne**: A&P&M only: 7 yrs
- **Keswick**: A&P only: 7 yrs
- **Chapman**: No expiration
- **Cal Baptist**: Science courses: 5-7 yrs
- **Loma Linda**: Science Courses: 10 yrs
- **CSUMB**: All courses: 7 yrs
- **Dominican**: A&P only: 10 yrs
- **Meredit**: All courses: 5 yrs
- **Stanford**: A&P only: 5 yrs
- **Touro**: No expiration

### Prereqs must be:
- **LA**: C or better
- **USC**: C or better
- **UCHS**: C or better
- **Drew**: C or better
- **University of La Verne**: C or better
- **Keswick**: C or better
- **Chapman**: C or better
- **Cal Baptist**: C or better
- **Loma Linda**: B- or better
- **CSUMB**: C- or better
- **Dominican**: C or better
- **Meredit**: C or better
- **Stanford**: C or better
- **Touro**: C or better
- **UC Davis**: C- or better

### AP Courses Accepted?
- **LA**: No
- **USC**: No
- **UCHS**: No info
- **Drew**: No info
- **University of La Verne**: Psy & Stats only
- **Keswick**: GE/Math only
- **Chapman**: GE/Math only
- **Cal Baptist**: Calc/Engl only
- **Loma Linda**: No
- **CSUMB**: No
- **Dominican**: No
- **Meredit**: No
- **Stanford**: Yes
- **Touro**: No
- **UC Davis**: No

### GRE Required?
- **LA**: No
- **USC**: Yes
- **UCHS**: No info
- **Drew**: No info
- **University of La Verne**: No info
- **Keswick**: No info
- **Chapman**: No info
- **Cal Baptist**: No info
- **Loma Linda**: No info
- **CSUMB**: No info
- **Dominican**: No info
- **Meredit**: No info
- **Stanford**: Yes
- **Touro**: No
- **UC Davis**: No

### Can prereqs be in progress during application?
- **LA**: No more than 1 science and 1 non science IP after 12/31
- **USC**: Science courses: end of Fall Non science: end of Spring (no more than 2 courses IP in Spring)
- **UCHS**: All done by 1/15 of matric year
- **Drew**: All done by 5/30 of matric year (conflict info on website)
- **University of La Verne**: No, done by time of app
- **Keswick**: Yes, 2 courses may be IP when applying but all must be done by Fall of app year
- **Chapman**: Science prereqs done by time of app. Non-science prereqs OK IP but done by time of matriculation
- **Cal Baptist**: Rare to get interview if prereqs are not done by app submission All prereqs done by 12/31 of app year
- **Loma Linda**: 2 courses IP: 1 science, 1 non-science. All done by end of app year
- **CSUMB**: No, done by time of app
- **Dominican**: Yes, 2 courses may be IP, but must be done by 9/1 of app year
- **Meredit**: No, done by time of app
- **Stanford**: No, done by time of app
- **Touro**: No, done by time of app
- **UC Davis**: No, done by time of app

### Clinical Experience Requirements
- **LA**: Preferred 2,000 paid hours
- **USC**: Preferred 2,000 paid hours
- **UCHS**: 20 hrs shadowing, must upload proof
- **Drew**: 1,000 hrs
- **University of La Verne**: 1,000 hrs
- **Keswick**: 1,000 hrs
- **Chapman**: 1,000 hrs paid or volunteer + 500 hrs comm service
- **Cal Baptist**: 2,000 hrs PAID
- **Loma Linda**: 2,000 hrs
- **CSUMB**: 1,000 hrs paid or volunteer + 500 hrs comm service
- **Dominican**: 500 hrs paid or volunteer + 50 hrs shadow PA
- **Meredit**: 1,000 hrs at time of app
- **Stanford**: 1,000 hrs paid or volunteer Direct Patient Care
- **Touro**: Recommend 500 hrs Direct Patient Care
- **UC Davis**: 1,000 hrs paid or volunteer Direct Patient Care
- **OCP**: 1,000 hrs paid or volunteer Direct Patient Care

### Application Deadline
- **LA**: 11/1
- **USC**: 11/1
- **UCHS**: 1/15
- **Drew**: 1/15
- **University of La Verne**: 10/1
- **Keswick**: 11/1
- **Chapman**: 9/1 START JAN
- **Cal Baptist**: 12/1
- **Loma Linda**: 10/1
- **CSUMB**: 8/1 (START JAN)
- **Dominican**: 10/1
- **Meredit**: 9/1
- **Stanford**: 8/1
- **Touro**: 11/1
- **UC Davis**: 7/15 (START JAN)