

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?

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REQUIRED COURSES	Western	USC	SCUHS	Drew	University of LaVerne	Ketchum	Chapman	Cal Baptist	Loma Linda	CSUMB	Dominican	Merritt	Stanford	Touro	UC Davis	UOP
LOCATION	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	OC	OC	IE	IE	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY
General Chemistry	101/L & 102/L	101/L & 102/L	101/L & 102/L	101/L & 102/L	101/L & 102/L	101/L & 102/L	101/L & 102/L	101/L & 102/L	101/L & 102/L	101/L & 102/L	101/L & 102/L	101/L & 102/L	One course 101/L	101/L & 102/L	One Course 101/L	101/L & 102/L
Organic Chemistry						235/L or 333/L										
General Biology 101/L OR 106/L & 107/L	Must take 106/L & 107/L for Genetics	Either	Either	Either	Either	Must take 106/L & 107/L for Genetics		Must take 106/L & 107/L for Genetics	Either	106/L & 107/L	106/L & 107/L	Either	106/L & 107/L	106/L & 107/L	Either	106/L & 107/L
Human Physiology with Lab* Biol 281/282	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Human Anatomy with Lab* Biol 211/212 OR Biol 213/212	Either	Either	213/212	213/212	213/212	Either	213/212	213/212	Either	213/212	213/212	213/212	213/212	213/212	Either	213/212
Microbiology with lab** Biol 215/L OR 315/L	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Online Lab OK?	No	No info	No info	No info	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No info	No info	No info	Yes	No
Genetics Biol	360					360	360	360					Rec			
Precalculus Math 102 & 105 OR Math 106	Yes, needed for Genetics		102 or 106	102 or 106		Yes, needed for Genetics	Yes, needed for Genetics	Yes, needed for Genetics	102 or 106		102 or 106					
Statistics Math 140	Yes or HSCI 390	Yes or HSCI 390	Yes or HSCI 390	Yes	Yes or HSCI 390	Yes	Yes	Rec		Yes or HSCI 390	Yes	Yes	Yes or HSCI 390	Yes		Yes

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LOCATION	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	OC	OC	IE	IE	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY
Writing 113B, 114B, 115	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes					Yes	Yes
Additional English	208, 255, 306 or 364			215 or 255	215 or 255			215 or 255	215 or 255							215 or 255
Intro Psychology	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150		150		150		150	150
Intro Sociology	150		150	150	150		150	150	150						150	
Spanish REC= Recommended	Rec	101 & 102***	Rec	Rec			Rec		Rec	101 & 102***	Rec					
Additional Courses	9 units: Art, Music, Language, Philosophy				Fine Art, Art Expression, Crit Think, Speech			2 more Soc Sci/ Humanities courses					Rec 3 UD Science courses			
Medical Terminology**** REC= recommend REQ= required		Rec	Rec	Req	Req		Req	Rec	Rec		Rec		Rec			

**\*: 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 got 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

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS	Western	USC	SCUHS	Drew	University of LaVerne	Ketchum	Chapman	Cal Baptist	Loma Linda	CSUIMB	Dominican	Merritt	Stanford	Touro	UC Davis	UOP
LOCATION	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	OC	OC	IE	IE	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY	SF BAY
Minimum GPA (in degree or overall?)	3.0 at time of app	3.0 overall 2.75 science	3.0 overall & science	Prefer 3.0	3.0 overall & science	Prefer 3.0	Min 3.2	3.2 overall 3.0 science	Min 3.0 overall & science	Min 3.0 overall & science	3.0 overall	2.8 overall	No Minimum	3.0	3.0 overall 2.7 science	3.0 overall & science
Bachelor Degree Required by:	June 15 of matric year	June 30 of matric year	8/31 of matric year	Start of program	Time that you apply	End of Fall of app year	Start of program	12/31 of app year	12/31 of app year	No info on website	Time that you apply	Time that you apply	7/15 of matric year	Time that you apply	Spring of app year	Time that you apply
Courses must be less than ____ yrs old	Sci Courses 7 yrs	10 yrs	7 yrs	7 yrs	A&P&M only: 7 yrs	A&P only: 7 yrs	No expiration	Science courses: 5-7 yrs	Science Courses : 10 yrs	All courses: 7 yrs	A&P only: 10 yrs	Prefer all courses: 5 yrs	All courses: 10 yrs	A&P only: 5 yrs	A&P only: 5 yrs	No expiration
Prereqs must be:	C or better	C or better			C or better		C or better	C or better	C or better		B- or better	C- or better	No min	C or better	C or better	C- or better
AP Courses Accepted?	No	No	GE/ Math only	No info	No info	Psy & Stats only	GE/Math only	GE/Math only	Calc/ Engl only	No	No	No info	No	Yes	No	GE/Math only
GRE Required?	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Rec	No	GRE, MCAT or PA-CAT	No	No	No
Can prereqs be in progress during application?	No more than 1 science and 1 non science IP after 12/31	Science courses: end of Fall Non science: end of Spring (no more than 2 courses IP in Spring)	All done by 1/15 of matric year	All done by 5/30 of matric year (conflicting info on website)	No, done by time of app	Yes, 2 courses may be IP when applying but all must be done by Fall of app year	Science prereqs done by time of app. Non-science prereqs OK IP but done by time of matriculation	Rare to get interview if prereqs are not done by app submission All prereqs done by 12/31 of app year	2 courses IP OK: 1 science, 1 non-science. All done by end of Spring	No, done by time of app	Yes, 2 courses may be IP, but must be done by 9/1 of app year	No, done by time of app	Recommend done by time of app	No, done by time of app	No, done by time of app	No, done by time of app
Clinical Experience Requirements	Preferred	Preferred	2,000 paid hours	Prefer 2,000 hours	20 hrs shadowing, must upload proof	1,000 hrs	1,000 hrs	1,000 hrs	2,000 hrs PAID	1,000 hrs paid or volunteer + 500 hrs comm service	500 hrs paid or volunteer + 50 hrs shadow PA	1,000 hrs + 50 hrs shadow PA	Recommend 500 hrs Direct Patient Care	1,000 hrs at time of app	1,000 hrs paid or volunteer Direct Patient Care	1,000 hrs paid or volunteer Direct Patient Care at time of app
Application Deadline	11/1	11/1	1/15	1/15	10/1	11/1	9/1 (START JAN)	12/1	10/1	8/1 (START JAN)	10/1	9/1	8/1	11/1	7/15 (START JAN)	8/1 (START JAN)