PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

CAREER INFORMATION

Physician assistants are health care professionals licensed to practice medicine with physician supervision. Physician assistants employed by the federal government are credentialed to practice. As part of their comprehensive responsibilities, physician assistants conduct physical exams, diagnose and treat illnesses, order and interpret tests, counsel on preventive health care, assist in surgery, and in most states can write prescriptions. Physician assistants are trained in intensive education programs accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). Physician assistants are found in all areas of medicine. Today, over 50 percent of all physician assistants practice what is known as “primary care medicine” – that is family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, and obstetrics and gynecology. About 19 percent are in surgery or the surgical subspecialties.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The information below lists the course work prerequisites for the physician assistant programs in California and their LBCC equivalents. The first course listed is the LBCC equivalent to the course of the transfer institution (listed in parentheses directly after the LBCC course). Where there are no courses listed in parentheses, the transfer institution does not either require that the LBCC course be an equivalent or no equivalent course exists. Further, the acronym “NE” in place of an LBCC course signifies that there is no equivalent course at LBCC which has been articulated to match the transfer course in parentheses.

As requirements do change, please see a counselor to develop an accurate educational plan to ensure your competitiveness for admission to your schools(s) of choice. To thoroughly understand admissions and general education requirements please check the catalog of the transfer university. CSU/UC admissions and general education requirements are outlined on a separate curriculum guide.

CHARLES DREW UNIVERSITY (www.cdrewu.edu)

- **B.S. Degree**
  Requirements: (Currently being updated – available beginning of June 2001)

STANFORD UNIVERSITY (www.stanford.edu)

- **Career Certificate**
  Requirements: Anatomy 1 (Human Anatomy with lab); Physiology 1 (Human Physiology with lab); Biology 2 (Microbiology with lab); Math 110 (Elementary Algebra or one year of high school algebra); Chemistry 2 (Introductory Chemistry or one year of high school general chemistry); English 1 (English Composition); Sociology 1 (Introduction to Sociology) OR Anthropology 2 (Introduction to Cultural Anthropology)

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE (www.rccd.cc.ca.us)

- **Career Certificate**
  Requirements: Anatomy 1 and Physiology 1 (Anatomy 2A and 2B); Biology 2 (Micro 1); Physics 2A (Physics 10 and 11); Chemistry 2 (Chem 2A); Psychology 1 (Psych 1); Sociology 1 (Soc 1) OR Anthropology 2 (Anthro 2); English 1 (Eng 1A); Math 110 or more advanced level (Math 52 or more advanced level)

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
UC DAVIS (www-med.ucdavis.edu)

- **B.S. Degree**
  Requirements: Anatomy 1 (Human Anatomy with lab); Physiology 1 (Human Physiology with lab); Biology 2 (Microbiology with lab); Chemistry 1A (General Chemistry – may be taken at the high school level); Sociology 1 (Sociology) OR Anthropology 2 (Cultural Anthropology); English 1 OR 3 (English Composition)

USC (www.usc.edu)

- **Master of Physician Assistant Practice (MPAP)**
  Requirements: Anatomy 1 (Human Anatomy with lab); Physiology 1 (Human Physiology with lab); Biology 1A (General Biology I), 1B (General Biology II) 2; Chemistry 1A (General Chemistry I), 1B (General Chemistry II); Math 130 (Intermediate Algebra or more advanced level); Statistics 1 (Statistics); English 1 (English Composition I), 3 (English Composition II); Social Sciences (minimum of six semester units); Humanities (minimum of six semester units); Foreign Language (one semester – any level); Psychology 1 (General Psychology)

WESTERN UNIVERSITY (www.westernu.edu)

- **Master of Science (MS) in Physician Assistant Studies**
  Requirements: Anatomy 1 (Human Anatomy with lab); Physiology 1 (Human Physiology with lab); Biology 2 (Microbiology with lab); Chemistry 1A (General Chemistry I with lab), 1B (General Chemistry II with lab); Math 45 (College Algebra); Statistics 1 (Introductory Statistics); English 1 (English Composition I), 3 (English Composition II); Psychology 1 (General/Introductory Psychology); Sociology 1 (General/Introductory Sociology); Humanities (nine semester units – i.e., art, music, ethics, philosophy, foreign languages, religion, etc.)

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** An associate degree or the equivalent (90 quarter units/60 semester units of college credit completed at an accredited college or university) is required prior to application to UC Davis. A bachelor degree in any field is required prior to matriculation into USC and Western University. Further, in addition to the prerequisite requirements for the schools listed above, clinical experience, community service and other selection criteria are generally required of PA schools. For information regarding the complete requirements (academic and non-academic) of California and out-of-state accredited PA programs, please consult the On-line Physician Assistant Directory at www.aapa.org.