

University of Southern Indiana
Pre-Physician Assistant

Entry level for a Physician Assistant is a Master's Degree. PA schools accept students with a Bachelor's degree in any major as long as a student has all prerequisite courses. Admission to PA programs is highly competitive. A minimum 3.0 GPA is typical with the average GPA being higher than 3.0. PA programs are graduate programs so students must take the GRE although the MCAT is acceptable for some programs. Course requirements in common across programs include: BIOL121/122, 375/376, CHEM261/262, 353/354, MATH241, PSY201 and 261 or 322, HP 115. Sometimes required coursework must be completed by the time of application although a completed Bachelor's is not required at that time. As little as a few shadowing experiences to as many as 2000 hours of direct patient care experience are required depending on the program; more hours with a PA are better. You must check specific programs for up to date requirements.

The following is a typical course of study for a biology major interested in admission to PA school:

<u>Fall Year 1</u>		<u>Spring Year 1</u>	
CHEM 261	4	CHEM 262	4
BIOL 141	4	BIOL 151 or 152	3
MATH 111*	4	MATH 112*	3
ENG 101	3	ENG 201	3
UNIV 101	1	KIN 192	1
	16		14
 <u>Fall Year 2</u>		 <u>Spring Year 2</u>	
CHEM 353	4	CHEM 354	4
BIOL 151 or 152	3	BIOL 375/376	5
CMST 101	3	HP 115	2
PSY 201	3	Core Elective	3
MATH 241	3		17
	16		
 <u>Fall Year 3</u>		 <u>Spring Year 3</u>	
BIOL 334	3	BIOL 122	4
PHYS 175	4	PHYS 176	4
BIOL 121	4	BIOL 215	3
PSY 261 or 322	3	Core Elective	6
	14		17
 <u>Fall Year 4</u>		 <u>Spring Year 4</u>	
BIOL 382	4	BIOL 481	3
BIOL 333	4	BIOL Electives	7
Core Electives	6	Core Elective	6
	14		16

This is a **suggested** sequence of courses. There is some flexibility in this plan. Courses taken in first year depend on math placement. One option is to complete MATH114 during Fall Year 1 and MATH115 during Spring Year 1 rather than MATH111 then 112. To graduation, you must fulfill 39 credit hours at 300/400 level.

Contact the Biology Office (812-465-1084) to be put in touch with a Pre-PA advisor.