

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process to PA school is rigorous; there are many components, and it often takes students much longer than anticipated to complete the application.

Admission committees base decisions upon prerequisite coursework (detailed on back), grade point average, healthcare experiences, personal references, scores on admission exams like the Graduate

Record Exam (GRE), and the applicants essay on why they want to become a physician assistant. This process is highly competitive.

There are 13 PA programs in the state of Ohio. Although each school has different application deadlines, admissions applications tend to be available in April with most application due in the fall. Most PA programs use the Central Application

Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA). CASPA allows applicants to complete one online application and designate multiple schools.

Once applications are submitted, interested schools will send invitations for interviews.

EXPERIENCE & INVOLVMENT

PA schools want to see well-rounded applicants. Students should participate in shadowing experiences as well as gaining direct patient care experience.

PA schools like to see applicants with shadowing experience, as it shows that the student has a solid grasp of what is involved in the PA profession. Direct patient care is often required or strongly recommended. Some schools have a required number of shadowing/

direct care hours so it is important to start early. Direct patient care could include any of the following: nurse, nurses aide, paramedic, Em

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