CASPA

Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistants

Karyn Kershaw & Shalvi Prasad
Advisors at Health Professions Advising
**When should I apply to CASPA?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Apply to CASPA…</th>
<th>Start PA Program…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2017</td>
<td>“Straight through”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2018</td>
<td>1 “gap year”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2019</td>
<td>2 “gap years”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Physician Assistant Programs in California

Below is a snapshot of information and admissions requirements for PA programs in California. Please note that requirements are subject to change. Check all program websites before applying.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Program</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Class Size</th>
<th>Degree Awarded</th>
<th>Health Care Experience Hours</th>
<th>GRE</th>
<th>CASPA Deadline</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Program Length</th>
<th>AP Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California Baptist University</td>
<td>Riverside</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>24 months</td>
<td>Acceptable for Math and English requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapman University</td>
<td>Irvine</td>
<td>2017: 25</td>
<td>Master of Medical Sciences in Physician Assistant Studies</td>
<td>1,000 hours required</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>24 months</td>
<td>Acceptable for exam scores of 4 or 5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles R. Drew University</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Master of Health Science</td>
<td>2,000 hours preferred</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>27 months</td>
<td>Not specified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loma Linda University</td>
<td>Loma Linda</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Master of Physician Assistant</td>
<td>2,000 hours required</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>24 months</td>
<td>Not specified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall B. Ketchum University</td>
<td>Fullerton</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Master of Medical Science</td>
<td>1,000 hours required</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>27 months</td>
<td>Not specified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Merritt University</td>
<td>Oakland</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Master Physician Assistant</td>
<td>1,000 hours recommended</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>27 months</td>
<td>Not specified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern California University of Health Professions</td>
<td>Whittier</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Master of Science: Physician Assistant</td>
<td>500 hours required</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>28 months</td>
<td>Not accepted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanford University</td>
<td>Palo Alto</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Master of Science in PA Studies</td>
<td>3,000 hours required</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>30 months</td>
<td>Not accepted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touro University, California</td>
<td>Vallejo</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Joint MSPAS-MPH: Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies &amp; Master of Public Health</td>
<td>500 hours required; 1,000 hours recommended</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>33 months</td>
<td>Specific subject credit or specific course credit acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of California, Davis</td>
<td>Sacramento</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Master of Health Services in Physician Assistant Studies</td>
<td>1,000 hours required</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>27 months</td>
<td>Not accepted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Southern California</td>
<td>Alhambra</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Master of Physician Assistant Practice</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>33 months</td>
<td>Acceptable for English requirement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of the Pacific</td>
<td>Sacramento</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Master of Physician Assistant Studies</td>
<td>1,000 hours required</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>27 months</td>
<td>Not acceptable for science requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western University of Health Sciences</td>
<td>Pomona</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>24 months</td>
<td>Not accepted.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Last updated 11/15/16.
The cost for a CASPA application is **$175 for the first program** you apply to. Any additional programs you choose to apply to will cost **$50 per designation**.

On average, students apply to 10-20 schools.

Most schools will also have additional essays, called **“supplemental essays”** that are specific to each school.

All schools will also have **interviews**.
Welcome to CASPA

The Central Application Service for Physician Assistants Cycle 16: April 27, 2016 - March 1, 2017

CASPA is a service of the Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA), the only organization representing PA educational programs nationwide, and has been offered to applicants since 2001. The online application is designed to simplify the PA school application process by allowing students to apply to several programs with only one application.

Click [here](#) for a list of the 2016 - 2017 participating programs.

This is the beginning of your journey toward a fulfilling and respected career as a health care provider. The PA profession is one of the fastest growing health care careers nationwide and was ranked by Forbes in 2014 as the number one master's degree for jobs.
My Application

This dashboard is your application home providing access to each part of the application you need to complete and a high level overview of your progress.

Latest Notifications
- CASPA application – Welcome! 08/01/2016

View My Notifications

Getting Started?
Speed up your application by entering your colleges attended first.

Personal Information
- 0/6 Sections Completed

Academic History
- 0/4 Sections Completed

Supporting Information
- 1/8

Program Materials
- 0/3
My Application

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Latest Notifications

CASPA application – Welcome!

08/01/2016

View My Notifications

Personal Information

0/6 Sections Completed

Biographic Information

Contact Information

Citizenship Information

Race & Ethnicity

Other Information

Family Information
My Application

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Academic History

Supporting Information

Program Materials
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Latest Notifications

CASPA application — Welcome! 08/01/2016

View My Notifications

Academic History

0/4 Sections Completed

High Schools Attended

Colleges Attended

Transcript Entry

Standardized Tests
What is this?

Save time completing your application by having us enter coursework on your behalf.

How long does it take?

Professional Transcript Entry will begin as soon as you submit your application and we receive all of your official transcripts.

After you submit your application and we receive all of your official transcripts, please allow up to ten business days for us to complete your order.

Why should I use it?

Entering coursework from multiple institutions can be a time-consuming and error-prone task.

Professional Transcript Entry frees you to focus on more strategic tasks, like writing your essay or gathering letters of recommendation.

Professional Transcript Entry also improves the accuracy of coursework entry, so you can avoid any processing delays.

And don't worry, you'll be able to approve all entries before they're finalized.

How much does it cost?

It's just $65 for up to 3 transcripts, $90 for 4-6 transcripts, or $140 for 7 or more transcripts.
Please note that during the verification process, CASPA staff will change the subject category for any courses which they determine were not categorized correctly.
• CASPA will calculate several GPAs for PA programs to see:
  1. **Year-Level GPAs**
  2. **Science GPA** (Biology, Inorganic Chemistry, Biochemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physics, and Other Science)
  3. **Non-Science GPA** (English, Math, Social/Behavioral Science, and Other Non-Science)
  4. **Course Subject Category GPAs** (Biochemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, Physics, Organic Chemistry, Biology, Behavioral Science, English, Math, Other Science, Other Non-Science)

• CASPA **does not** recognize individual school’s forgiveness, academic renewal, or grade replacement policies in regards to repeated courses. All grades which you earned for repeated courses will factor into your CASPA GPA.

• **Verification** can take up to four weeks.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Non-Science</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th></th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Credits</td>
<td>Quality Points</td>
<td>GPA</td>
<td>Credits</td>
<td>Quality Points</td>
<td>GPA</td>
<td>Credits</td>
<td>Quality Points</td>
<td>GPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>42.6</td>
<td>2.37</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>83.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>49.8</td>
<td>2.77</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>59.7</td>
<td>2.49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>60.9</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>50.7</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>111.6</td>
<td>3.38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>84.6</td>
<td>2.82</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>84.6</td>
<td>2.82</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>84.0</td>
<td>237.9</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>36.0</td>
<td>101.1</td>
<td>2.81</td>
<td>120.0</td>
<td>339.0</td>
<td>2.82</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post Baccalaureate</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>44.0</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>56.0</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cum. Undergrad</td>
<td>87.0</td>
<td>249.9</td>
<td>2.87</td>
<td>47.0</td>
<td>145.1</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>134.0</td>
<td>395.0</td>
<td>2.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>110.7</td>
<td>3.69</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>122.7</td>
<td>3.72</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>117.0</td>
<td>360.6</td>
<td>3.08</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td>157.1</td>
<td>3.14</td>
<td>167.0</td>
<td>517.7</td>
<td>3.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course</td>
<td>Graded Credits</td>
<td>QP</td>
<td>GPA</td>
<td>Credits &lt; 2.0</td>
<td>Credits P/CR/AP</td>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
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<td>---------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology/Zoology</td>
<td>84.0</td>
<td>270.0</td>
<td>3.21</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>84.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inorganic Chemistry</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Organic Chemistry</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>31.8</td>
<td>2.65</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
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<td>BCP Totals</td>
<td>114.0</td>
<td>348.6</td>
<td>3.06</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>114.0</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Science</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>40.8</td>
<td>2.72</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>43.8</td>
<td>3.65</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral Science</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>45.6</td>
<td>3.04</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Non-Science</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>26.9</td>
<td>3.36</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>167.0</td>
<td>517.7</td>
<td>3.10</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>167.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To see which courses qualify for each subject listed here, refer to https://portal.caspaonline.org/caspaHelpPages/frequently-asked-questions/academic-history/course-subjects/index.html
My Application

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Getting Started?
Speed up your application by entering your colleges attended first.

Personal Information

Academic History

Supporting Information

Program Materials

0/6 Sections Completed

0/4 Sections Completed

1/8

0/3

CASPA application – Welcome!

View My Notifications
My Application

This dashboard is your application home providing access to each part of the application you need to complete and a high level overview of your progress.

Latest Notifications

CASPA application – Welcome! 08/01/2016

View My Notifications

Supporting Information

1/8 Sections Completed

Evaluations

Experiences

Achievements

Certifications

Essay

Release Statement

Documents

Memberships
Create Evaluation Request

Evaluator's Information

First Name
Last Name
Email Address
Due Date
MM/DD/YYYY
Personal Message/Notes

Waiver of Evaluation
I waive my right of access to this evaluation.

Permission to Contact Reference
I hereby give permission to contact this reference via email to request the completion of the reference form and letter of reference. If my reference does not submit an online reference form in response to the email request, it is my sole responsibility to contact the reference directly to ensure all references required by my designated schools are received by the deadline.

Permission for Schools to Contact Reference
I understand that the schools to which I am applying may contact the reference either to verify the information provided.

0/500
Experiences

Add Your Experiences

You may update the information in this section at any time prior to submission. Once you have submitted, you will be able to add more Experiences, but you will not be able to update or delete completed Experiences. Please refer to the Checklist on the program materials section of the application to determine if this section is required for your program application.

Experience Type

What type of experience do you want to add?

Type

Organization

Name

Address  
Optional

Address 2  
Optional

City  
Optional

Country

Select Country

Zip Code  
Optional
Supervisor

First Name  Optional
Last Name  Optional
Title  Optional
Contact Phone  Optional  (201) 555-5555
Contact Email  Optional

Experience Dates

Start Date  MM/DD/YYYY
Current Experience  Yes  No
End Date  MM/DD/YYYY
Status

Experience Details

Title
Type of Recognition  Compensated
Received Academic Credit
Volunteer
Average Weekly Hours
Number of Weeks
Total Hours

Description/Key Responsibilities

Release Authorization (May be required)
Essay

You may update this information at any time prior to submission. Once you have submitted, the information on this page cannot be edited.

Personal Statement

Please explain why you are interested in being a Physician Assistant.

Save and Continue
My Application

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Academic History

Supporting Information

Program Materials

Latest Notifications
CASPA application – Welcome!

08/01/2016

View My Notifications
# My Application

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## Latest Notifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notification</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CASPA application – Welcome!</td>
<td>08/01/2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Program Materials

- **Loma Linda University**
  - Loma Linda University

- **Marshall B. Ketchum University**
  - Marshall B. Ketchum University

- **Master Physician Assistant**
  - Samuel Merritt University
Welcome to the Department of Physician Assistant Sciences!
We look forward to welcoming you to the Loma Linda University campus family!

Program Overview

- Degree: Master of Physician Assistant
- Program length: 24 months (full-time only)
- Class size: 36
- Start date: September

Requirements at a Glance

- Bachelor’s degree completed by December 31 of the application year.
- Overall GPA 3.0 AND science GPA 3.0 as calculated by CASPA.
- Prerequisite courses completed (see our website for course listing) with only 1 science and 1 non-science outstanding at time of application, with both to be completed by the end of Spring Quarter.
- 2,000 hours of paid hands-on patient care experience completed prior to enrollment (see our website for preferred experiences and how the program defines “hands-on experience”).
- Three letters of reference, including one from a practicing MD/DO/PA who has worked with you in a paid position.

Any Questions?

After reviewing our website, if you have questions not answered on any of our pages, please don't hesitate to contact us!

- Website: llu.edu/pa
- Email: pa@llu.edu
Review your program selections here, check on status of individual program tasks, and pay for your programs selections.

**Once your application is submitted, no changes or refunds can be made.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loma Linda University</td>
<td>$275</td>
<td>10/01/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall B. Ketchum University</td>
<td></td>
<td>11/01/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Merritt University</td>
<td></td>
<td>10/01/2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pay and Submit this Program

Pay for My Programs
### Application Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transcripts</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluations</td>
<td>Requested Accepted Completing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### My Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loma Linda University</td>
<td>In Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall B. Ketchum University</td>
<td>In Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Physician Assistant</td>
<td>In Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Merritt University</td>
<td>In Progress</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• **Application is “complete”** when CASPA receives the following materials:

1. **All official transcripts** are posted to your CASPA application, each with a date received in your “Check Status” menu.

2. At least **two of your references are listed as “completed”** with a date completed in your “Check Status” menu.

3. Your **payment is received** under “Check Status.”

4. You have received **e-mail confirmation** that you submitted the application.

5. Your Check Status menu reads as **“Materials Received > Verifying”** for the programs you have submitted to.

• **Verification** can take up to four weeks.
• CASPA will calculate several GPAs for PA programs to see:

1. Year-Level GPAs
2. **Science GPA** (Biology, Inorganic Chemistry, Biochemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physics, and Other Science)
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4. **Course Subject Category GPAs** (Biochemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, Physics, Organic Chemistry, Biology, Behavioral Science, English, Math, Other Science, Other Non-Science)
5. **Non-Graded Credit GPAs**

• CASPA **does not** recognize individual school’s forgiveness, academic renewal, or grade replacement policies in regards to repeated courses. All grades which you earned for repeated courses will factor into your CASPA GPA.
Application Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transcripts</th>
<th>Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
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<th>Evaluations</th>
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My Programs

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<tr>
<th>Loma Linda University</th>
<th>In Progress</th>
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<th>Marshall B. Ketchum University</th>
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<th>Master Physician Assistant</th>
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<th>Samuel Merritt University</th>
<th>In Progress</th>
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Apply to be a Pre-Health Conference Intern!

- develop your leadership skills & professionalism
- network with peers and health professionals
- be part of the largest pre-health conference in the country
- learn about your health career of interest

For more information, come to the Info Meeting

Thursday, Jan. 26th | 7:30-8:30PM | 1309 Surge III/The Grove

Apply at prehealthconference.ucdavis.edu/contactus.html

Deadline to apply is January 28th, 2017 at 11:59 p.m.
Health Professions Advising's
Current Events in Health Care Seminar
T 4-5 p.m. Hickey Gym 280
January 24th - March 14th

What's going on in the world of health care?
You've got the grades, the test scores, and the meaningful pre-health experiences, but how much do you actually know about the current state of health care? This weekly seminar will provide pre-health students a forum to keep up the changes in health care and health policy. Students will have the opportunity to discuss current issues in health care while also interacting with pre-health peers, HPA staff, and guest speakers.

Goals
Students will improve oral communication and reading comprehension skills by reading health care articles and publications, making presentations, and participating in discussions. Students should leave the seminar with a better understanding how the future of health care is changing, how health disparities factor into public health problems, and the skills and abilities, such as cultural competence, that will be required of future health care professionals. By the end of each seminar, students should be equipped to carry out an informed conversation about the topic covered that day.

Format
Each week will focus on a unique problem in the health care field. There will be a short assigned reading each week that students must read before the seminar meets. The first week’s discussion will be led by HPA staff. For the following weeks, students will have the opportunity to choose from a list of topics and lead the discussion for that day. Students will provide a short presentation summarizing the reading assignment that week and lead the discussion. News stories, podcasts, case studies, videos, and group activities will also be part of the discussion.

Topics covered:
- Opioid Abuse Epidemic
- Affordable Care Act
- Ethics & Economics in Healthcare
- Obesity
- Vaccination Controversies
- LGBTQIA Health Care
- Reproductive Health

To register for the seminar, please visit hpa.ucdavis.edu/events.

Questions? Email kakershaw@ucdavis.edu.
Want to make an appointment with an advisor to discuss PA requirements? Come to this presentation first.

**PA 101**
Part of the PAPrep series

**Wednesday, January 25th**
12:10 p.m.
194 Young Hall

UCDAVIS
HEALTH PROFESSIONS ADVISING
Questions?

Karyn Kershaw
kakershaw@ucdavis.edu
Advising available M & F 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Hickey 283

Shalvi Prasad
spprasad@ucdavis.edu
Advising available M & F 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Hickey 289

Schedule an appointment at hpa.ucdavis.edu