

University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Physician Assistant School Guide Map

Recommended Timeline of Courses to Complete

(Degree Requirements/Sequencing may impact ability to strictly follow guide map)*

First Year	
BIOL 1110/1110L: Principles of Biology I/Lab (4 credit hours)	CHEM 1110/1110L: General Chemistry I/Lab (4 Credit Hours)
BIOL 1120/1120L: Principles of Biology II/Lab (4 credit hours)	CHEM 1120/1120L: General Chemistry II/Lab (4 Credit Hours)
MATH 1130: College Algebra or MATH 1710: Precal I or Math 1720: Precal II or MATH 1730: Combined Precal or MATH 1830: Calculus for Mgmt., Life and Social Sciences, or MATH 1950: Calculus I (3-4 Credit Hours)	
MATH 2100: Introductory Statistics (3 credit hours)	PSY 1010: Introduction Psychology or SOC 1510: Introduction to Sociology or ANTH 1000: Mysteries of the Human Journey (3 credit hours)
Second Year	
CHEM 3010/3010L: Organic Chemistry I/Lab (4 Credit Hours) <i>Recommended</i>	CHEM 3020/3020L: Organic Chemistry II/Lab (4 Credit Hours) <i>Recommended</i>
BIOL 2080: Human Physiology (4 credit hours)	BIOL 2060: Functional Human Anatomy (4 credit hours)
BIOL 1130: Principles of Biology III (3 credit hours)**	
Third Year	
BIOL 3250: Genetics (3 credit hours) <i>Recommended</i>	BIOL 4280: Cellular Biology (4 credit hours) <i>Recommended</i>
BIOL 2100: Microbiology and Health or BIOL 4220: Principles of Microbiology (4 credit hours)	
Fourth Year	
PHYT 3020: Medical Terminology for Health Professionals or community college medical terminology course (2 credit hours)	
*Students coming in with: transfer credit, AP, Dual Enrollment, other credit, or who opt to take summer courses may have an amended timeline. Please reach out to the Pre-Health Professions Advisor to develop a custom timeline	
** BIOL 1130 not required for program but is a prerequisites for a recommended course, BIOL 3250	

Direct Patient Care Hours (DPCH) Requirements

DPCH	Shadowing and Scribing	Logging and Verifying Hours
500 hours prior health care or shadowing. All hours must be completed prior to submitting application.	Shadowing is encouraged but does not count toward DPCH requirement. Scribing is eligible for DPCH	Direct patient care hours must be logged and verified in the CASPA application. Be detailed in your experiences, no hours may not be accepted if they are not logged in CASPA.

GRE Facts You Need to Know

Cost	Scores	Timing	Reporting
Registration fee: \$205 Late Registration (1 week after registration closes): Additional \$50	Scores can be sent/reported for up to 5 years	Computer based test can be taken once every 21 days	Additional scores requested are sent w/in 5 business days of request
Rescheduling fee: \$20 Changing test center fee: \$50 Refund of \$75 4+ days before test. No Refund 4 days or less from test date	Scores can be sent to up to 4 institutions for free. Additional score reports for can be ordered at \$27 per recipient from ETS account	Test can be taken no more than 5 times in a calendar year. Cancelled scores count in annual limit	Choose which scores to share, institution can only see the scores sent
Fee assistance is offered MUST be college senior or unenrolled college grad; First come/first serve Fee is reduced to \$75 GRE Fee Reduction Request	For the computer-delivered GRE test, official scores will be sent to designated instructions 10-15 days after test date	The institution can not see how many times you have taken the test	MUST designate where to send the scores on test day, after viewing unofficial results

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Timeline – Freshman and Sophomore Year

Year 1 Classes	Year 1 Experience	Year 2 Classes	Year 2 Experience
Complete: course sequences: General Chemistry, General Biology, Algebra/Calculus, PSY 1010/SOC 1510/ANTH 1000 and Statistics	Join clubs/get involved. Begin working with PHPA to identify areas to develop. Begin locating PAs to shadow and venues for DPCH	Complete: Organic Chem sequence (Recommended) , BIOL 1130 (Required for BIOL 3250) , BIOL 2060, and BIOL 2080	Begin shadowing and accruing DPCH and leadership opportunities. Work with PHPA on personal statement. Participate in GRE prep. Identify recommenders

Timeline – Junior Year, Senior Year, and Acceptance

Year 3 Classes	Year 3 Experience	Year 4 Class	Year 4- Experience	Completion date
Complete: BIOL 3250 (Recommended), BIOL 4220 or 2100, and BIOL 4280 (Recommended)	Study for GRE and complete between 3rd & 4th yr. Secure letters of recommendation. Continuing working on DPCH and shadowing	Complete: Any remaining major requirements	Submit CASPA Application and all required materials. CASPA application opens Mid-April	All DPCH must be completed before app. submission. Applications must be verified before consideration. Apps are not eligible for verification w/o all materials submitted

Application Breakdown

Application-Step 1- Gather your Materials and Determine your Eligibility			
Groups Reviewing Additional Consideration	GRE	Letters of Recommendation	International Student Requirements
Applicants with Tennessee residency, UT alumni, military experience, applicants from groups currently underrepresented in the PA profession, non-traditional students, and those who represent the first in their family to pursue higher education, and/or have a willingness to provide care to the underserved receive additional consideration	Min. combined score of 300 to be competitive. Highest score accepted if there multiple attempts. School code is 0201	Require 3 letters of recommendation. Preference: a professor, an MD, and a PA but will accept 3 from other sources	International transcripts audited by WES, All pre-Prerequisite must be taken in the US. Must be US citizen or permanent resident
Application-Step 2 and 3- Fill out and Submit Applications			
Application	Cost	Degree Completion	Age of Courses
New CASPA Application required every year - Opens Mid-April. All applications must be submitted and ALL materials verified by Aug 31 by 11:59pm CST to be considered for admission	CASPA Application fee \$179 plus \$55 for each additional school	Applicants must have their undergraduate degree conferred no later than Aug 31 year prior to matriculation	Pre-Prerequisite older than 5 years accepted but student may be required to take additional courses. All Prerequisites MUST be completed at time of application
Application-Step 4 and 5- Interview and Decision			
Interview	Acceptance		Start of Term
Notifications begin being sent out in Early Sept. Interviews held in late Sept/Early Oct. Can be telephone or personal interview, and are extended by invitation only.	Decision letters sent out Oct 7th. Applicants may defer enrollment for 1 year with a guaranteed spot in program with acceptable reasons. Applicants must submit deferment request in writing to dept. chair by Oct. 15th		Mandatory orientation is scheduled for the first full week of January. The program has a spring term start.
** Some schools may have college service fees - check with Records/Registrar's Office of school for more information			