

PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PLANNING GUIDE (CORE 34)

Pre-Physician Assistant is a track designed to prepare students for admission into a Physician Assistant Master's program. Students complete these courses alongside the bachelor's degree of their choice. The University of Kansas **does not** have a PA program, but regional schools include Kansas State University, Wichita State University, and the University of Missouri -- Kansas City. The courses below are **commonly** required for admission, but each program is different -- **it's important to meet with a Pre-Health Academic Advisor early!**

More information can be found by visiting prehealth.ku.edu.

COMMON REQUIREMENTS

*Courses marked with an asterisk have pre-requisites not already listed below. Please see a Pre-Health Academic Advisor for guidance.

- Molecular & Cellular Biology
 - Options at KU: BIOL 150*
 - Core 34 NPS
- Organismal Biology
 - Options at KU: BIOL 152
 - Core 34 NPS
- Biology Lab for STEM
 - Options at KU: BIOL 154
 - Core 34 NPS
- Microbiology w/ Lab
 - Options at KU: BIOL 200 & BIOL 203 **or** BIOL 400 & BIOL 402
 - Core 34 NPS
 - Note: BIOL 200 & 203 are offered spring semester only. BIOL 400 & 402 do not fulfill Core 34 NPS requirements.
- Human Anatomy w/ Lab
 - Options at KU: BIOL 240 & 241
 - Core 34 NPS
- Human Physiology w/ Lab
 - Options at KU: BIOL 246 & 247
 - Core 34 NPS
- Genetics
 - Options at KU: BIOL 350
- Biochemistry
 - Options at KU: BIOL 600
- General Chemistry I
 - Options at KU: CHEM 130*
 - Core 34 NPS
- General Chemistry II
 - Options at KU: CHEM 135
 - Core 34 NPS
- Organic Chemistry I
 - Options at KU: CHEM 330 & 331
 - Core 34 NPS

- Statistics
 - Options at KU: MATH 365* or PSYC 210
 - Core 34 MTS
- Psychology
 - Options at KU: PSYC 104
 - Core 34 SBS
- Human Development
 - Options at KU: PSYC 250
 - Core 34 SBS
- Psychological Disorders
 - Options at KU: PSYC 350
- Sociology
 - Options at KU: SOC 104 or SOC 160
 - Core 34 SBS
- Medical Terminology
 - CLSX 332 or HEIM 230
 - Core 34 AH
 - Note: HEIM 230 does not fulfill the Core 34 AH requirement.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- KU does not have a PA program; students should research programs and begin preparing early!
 - Programs require PA shadowing experience and direct patient care. The average accepted applicant has over 2,000 hours of direct patient experience.
 - Many programs require applicants to have completed most if not all, pre-requisite courses by the time of application.
- If you plan to enter a PA program directly after senior year, you should begin the application process the summer between your junior and senior years.
- The above courses are common prerequisites, but some schools may also require pathophysiology, medical ethics, psychology of aging, pharmacology, health policy, and/or human nutrition.
 - Students should always double-check admission requirements and course equivalency. Some programs require specific versions of statistics or physiology that may not be listed on the previous page.
- To apply to most PA programs, complete the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA). The application is available starting in April; different programs have different deadlines.
 - Applications include supplemental forms, personal statements, recommendation letters, and healthcare experience.
- The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) or PA-CAT is not required for admission to most programs, but some schools do require it. Make sure to check each program and speak with a Pre-Health Academic Advisor to be sure!
- Sample sequencing:
 - 1st Fall: CHEM 130, BIOL 150, PSYC 104
 - 1st Spring: CHEM 135, BIOL 152, BIOL 154, SOC 104
 - 2nd Fall: CHEM 330, CHEM 331, BIOL 240
 - 2nd Spring: BIOL 241, BIOL 350, MATH 365
 - 3rd Fall: BIOL 246, BIOL 247, HEIM 230
 - 3rd Spring: BIOL 600, BIOL 200, BIOL 203