The University of Kentucky, Division of Physician Assistant Studies (PAS) offers a Plan B, non-thesis, physician assistant master's degree program that is accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). The Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (M.S.P.A.S.) program is designed for students who wish to become PAs and hold a baccalaureate or will have earned a baccalaureate degree by the time they enter the program. The M.S.P.A.S. program is offered at two distinct locations in either Lexington or Morehead, KY.

The mission of the UK M.S.P.A.S. program is to improve the health and well-being of the people in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Accordingly, we seek applicants who have a strong interest in practicing medicine in Kentucky, especially its most underserved areas. We employ a holistic approach to choose those students who will best fulfill our mission. Graduates of the program are eligible to take the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination. After successful completion of the NCCPA Exam, graduates are eligible for state certification/licensure to practice as certified physician assistants.

**Admission Requirements**
Admission to the M.S.P.A.S. program occurs annually, with a new class beginning each January. Qualified applicants for the Lexington or Morehead campuses must simultaneously apply to the Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) and the UK Graduate School. Students must satisfy admissions requirements for both the Graduate School and the Physician Assistant Studies Program.

**Bachelor's Degree**
Completion of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university is required. The UKPAS program does not require a specific degree and the program does not favor one degree over another. All applicants must meet the minimum academic standards for the Graduate School. The Bachelor's Degree must be completed prior to entry into the program. In addition, applicants may have only two outstanding prerequisite requirements at the time of application submission. The program only allows up to one retake per prerequisite course. Applicants must complete all prerequisite courses by the time of scheduled interviews.

**Prerequisite Courses***
A "C" grade or better must be earned in the following prerequisite courses:

- General Chemistry 1 with laboratory
- General Chemistry 2 with laboratory
- Organic Chemistry with laboratory
- Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Microbiology with laboratory
- General Biology with laboratory
- Human Physiology
- Human Anatomy
- Sociology or Anthropology
- Medical Terminology
- Statistics

  1 semester
  1 semester
  1 semester
  1 semester
  1 semester
  1 semester
  1 semester
  1 semester
  1 semester
  1 semester
For more detailed information on prerequisites and course equivalencies, please visit the program website.

http://www.mc.uky.edu/PA/admissions.html

Graduate Record Exam (GRE)
All GRE scores must come from exams taken within the last 5 years. A minimum score is not set by the program or UK's Graduate School. The UKPAS Program accepts ONLY the GRE for our program. We do not accept any substitutes (e.g. the MCAT).

TOEFL Requirements (if applicable)
International applicants or domestic students who attended a high school in which English was not the primary language are required to submit TOEFL iBT scores in addition to the GRE. A minimum combined TOEFL iBT score of 120 is required with a minimum score of 26 in each category: Reading, Listening, Speaking, & Writing.

Patient Care Experience
The UKPAS Program requires patient contact, however a minimum amount of hours is not set. Contact hours may be completed utilizing the following (but not limited to) medical disciplines: CNA, EMT, CMA, Medical Tech., Professional Hospice Volunteer, etc. Medical Scribe is not considered a hands-on clinical patient care experience.

Shadowing
A minimum 50 hours of shadowing a clinical Physician Assistant is required. The UKPAS program prefers applicants shadow PAs in a variety of medical specialities as well as a foundation in a Primary Care/Family Medicine setting.

Letters of Recommendation
Three (3) letters of recommendation are required from people acquainted with the applicant for at least one year and familiar with his/her professional goals. They must be submitted with the CASPA application packet. Letters should come from the following sources:
- Letter 1 - PA or Physician
- Letter 2 - Academic Professor or Advisor
- Letter 3 - Medical (i.e. PA, Physician, supervisor) or Academic

Admissions Essay
The admission essay must be of graduate quality and reflect the applicant's commitment to the mission of the UKPAS Program as well as their interest in being a PA. It should contain approximately 625 words.

Basic Life Support Certification
Applicants must be certified in Basic Life Support for Health Providers through the American Heart Association. Red Cross certifications will not be accepted. The BLS card is expected to be presented at the time of interview.

Technical Standards, Background Checks & Drug Screening
All students matriculating into the UKPA Program are required to meet certain technical standards of the program and College of Health Sciences. Additionally, applicants must pass a background check and drug screen.

Due to the competitive nature and large number of students applying to the program, not all applicants who meet minimum requirements will be invited for an interview.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS—JULY 15 of the application year.

For more information and dates of General Information Sessions please visit our website at www.mc.uky.edu/pa/. If you have questions after visiting our website and attending an information session you may contact:

Julia Berry, Student Affairs Officer
Office of Admissions and Student Affairs College of Health Sciences
900 S. Limestone, Room 205 Charles T. Whettingham Building Lexington, KY 40356-0200
859.257.5001
julia.berry@uky.edu

M.S.P.A.S. Program Curriculum Requirements
All students enrolled in the program will take the following courses

Spring
ANA 611 Human Gross Anatomy (5)
PAS 651 Introduction to PA Profession (2)
HSM 601 Overview of the Health Care Delivery System (3)
PGY 412G Human Physiology (4)

4-Week Intersession
PAS 610 Research Methods and Epidemiology (3)

8-Week Intersession
PAS 672 Pharmacology I (3)
PAS 657 Clinical Laboratory Procedures (3)
PAS 850 Clinical Methods (3)
PAS 645 Master's Project I (1)

Fall
PAS 654 Clinical Lecture Series (4)
PAS 672 Pharmacology II (3)
PAS 655 Psychosocial Factors in Primary Care (3)
PAS 656 Patient Evaluation and Management (4)
PAS 646 Master's Project II (2)

4-Week Intersession
PAS 658 Clinical Lecture Series II (4)
PAS 673 Pharmacology II (3)
PAS 655 Psychosocial Factors in Primary Care (3)
PAS 656 Patient Evaluation and Management (4)
PAS 646 Master's Project II (2)

8-Week Intersession, Begin Clinical Year Program Clerkship Requirements
All students will complete the following clerkship requirements:
PAS 660 Family Medicine Clerkship (6)
PAS 661 Pediatrics Clerkship (6)
PAS 662 Obstetrics and Gynecology Clerkship (3)

CNU 503 Applied Nutrition (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAS 663</td>
<td>Surgery Clerkship</td>
<td>(6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 664</td>
<td>Geriatrics Clerkship</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 665</td>
<td>Elective Clerkship</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 665</td>
<td>Selective Clerkship</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 669</td>
<td>Internal Medicine Clerkship</td>
<td>(6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 670</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine Clerkship</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 671</td>
<td>Psychiatry Clerkship</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 680</td>
<td>Seminar in PA Studies II</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that any course offered in the PA program curriculum must be taken while in the program. The program does not offer advanced placement. No courses will be allowed to transfer into the program (PGY 412G, HSM 601, etc.)

After completing the course work and clerkship requirements with a minimum 3.0 GPA, students who receive passing scores on written and practical final examination will be awarded a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (M.S.P.A.S.) degree. Graduates of the program are eligible to take the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination. After successful completion of the exam, they are also eligible for state certification/licensure to practice as certified physician assistants.

M.S.P.A.S. for Graduates of Programs in Physician Assistant Studies

PAs applying to the M.S.P.A.S. program and who already hold a baccalaureate degree in Physician Assistant Studies from an accredited Physician Assistant program, must have maintained a 3.0 GPA in their prior PA program coursework and achieved a combined score of 900 on the verbal and quantitative portions of the GRE taken within the last five years of the application to the program. To satisfy the M.S.P.A.S. curriculum, these students are required to complete a 24 credit hour core of M.S.P.A.S. courses and a minimum of 9 credit hours in an academic concentration of their choosing for a total of 33 credit hours.

M.S.P.A.S. Program Core Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STA 570</td>
<td>Basic Statistical Analysis</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 610</td>
<td>Research Methods and Epidemiology</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSM 601</td>
<td>Overview of the Health Care Delivery System</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 673</td>
<td>Pharmacology II</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 640</td>
<td>Survey of Geriatric Medicine</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 680</td>
<td>Seminar in PA Studies II</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 646</td>
<td>Master's Project II</td>
<td>(2-6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS 690</td>
<td>Physician Assistant Clerkship</td>
<td>(3-6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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A minimum of nine credit hours of elective courses will be completed with a concentration in gerontology, health care administration, or clinical nutrition.

Elective Courses in Areas of Concentration

**Gerontology Concentration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRN 643</td>
<td>Biomedical Aspects of Aging</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO/GRN 612</td>
<td>Biology of Aging</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSC 770</td>
<td>Psychosocial Issues of Aging and Health</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSC 772</td>
<td>Women, Health and Aging</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR 510</td>
<td>Older Women and Their Health</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSC 779</td>
<td>Behavioral Factors in Death and Dying</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSM 510</td>
<td>Organization of Long Term Care Sector</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFS 680</td>
<td>Nutrition and Aging</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
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</table>