

PA Program Goals

Kansas State University PA program will:

1. Recruit and select a class of highly qualified applicants who successfully complete the program.
2. Provide students the knowledge, skills, and competencies required for entry-level clinical practice.
3. Prepare students to provide medical care to a diverse patient population.
4. Encourage civic responsibility with professional and community involvement.
5. Strive for and encourage graduates to obtain their first job in the state of Kansas.
6. Prepare graduates to meet or exceed the national first time PANCE pass rate.

1. Recruit and select a class of highly qualified applicants who successfully complete the program.

1.A. Benchmark: 100% of matriculants will meet the minimum qualifications for enrollment.

- a. **Rationale:** All students should meet the minimum requirements established for the Kansas State PA program admissions.
- b. **Strength:** One hundred percent (100%) of student applicants who are admitted to the Kansas State PA program will meet all admission requirements over a period of three consecutive years.
- c. **Area of improvement:** Less than 100% of student applicants who are admitted to the Kansas State PA program meet all admission requirements over a period of three consecutive years.

1.B. Benchmark: The cohort graduation rate will be within 2% of the national average (PAEA annual report).

- a. **Rationale:** The KSU PA program recognizes that our cohorts should graduate near the national average.
- b. **Strength:** Greater than 2% above the national average of graduation rates as indicated by the PAEA annual report.
- c. **Area of improvement:** More than 2% below the national average of graduation rates as indicated by the PAEA annual report.

1.C. Benchmark: The cohort attrition rate will be within 2% of the national average (PAEA annual report).

- a. **Rationale:** The KSU PA program recognizes that our attrition rate should be near the national average.
- b. **Strength:** Greater than 2% below the national average of attrition rates as indicated by the PAEA annual report over a period of three years.
- c. **Area of improvement:** More than 2% above the national average of attrition rates as indicated by the PAEA annual report.

2. Provide students the knowledge, skills, and competencies required for entry-level clinical practice.

2.A. Benchmark: *First-time taker annual PANCE pass rate \geq national average first-time taker PANCE pass rate*

- a. **Rationale:** The program recognizes graduate success on the PANCE is one marker used to demonstrate students have been provided a rigorous academic experience.
- b. **Strength:** The annual first-time taker PANCE pass rates for the program are $\geq 1\%$ higher than the national average first-time taker PANCE pass rates for 3 consecutive years.
- c. **Area of improvement:** Greater than 1% below the benchmark for a period of 3 consecutive years.

2.B. Benchmark: Among students who complete the didactic curriculum, the average didactic cumulative GPA per cohort will be ≥ 3.5 .

- a. **Rationale:** The program requires a minimum per semester and cumulative GPA of ≥ 3.0 but recognizes that an average cohort GPA exceeding minimum standards demonstrates academic excellence among its students.
- b. **Strength:** Greater than 80% of the didactic cohort at or above a cumulative 3.5 GPA average across the didactic curriculum for 3 consecutive years.
- c. **Area of improvement:** The average didactic cumulative GPA below the benchmark of 3.5 GPA for a period of 3 consecutive years.

2.C. Benchmark: *Average PAEA EOC Exam scores for each cohort \geq the national average*

- a. **Rationale:** The program recognizes student success on the PAEA EOC is one marker used to demonstrate students have been provided a rigorous academic experience.
- b. **Strength:** The PAEA EOC scores average higher than the national scores for 3 consecutive years.
- c. **Area of improvement:** The PAEA EOC scores average lower than the national scores for 3 consecutive years.

3. Prepare students to provide medical care to a diverse patient population.

3.A. Benchmark: *Greater than 90% of students complete a minimum of one rotation in a medically underserved area.*

- a. **Rationale:** Serving patients in medically underserved areas will provide students with exposure to diverse populations and vulnerable individuals, and promotes compassion for others.
- b. **Strength:** Greater than 95% of students complete a minimum of one rotation in a medically underserved area for 3 consecutive years.
- c. **Area of improvement:** Less than 85% of students complete a minimum of one rotation for a period of 3 consecutive years.

3.B. Benchmark: One hundred percent (100%) of didactic students participate in one clinical experience at a local low-income medical clinic.

- a. **Rationale:** Exposure to the homeless or non-insured populations allows our students to serve their local community.
- b. **Strength:** One hundred percent (100%) of students volunteer at a local clinic of low-income patients for a period of 3 years.
- c. **Area of improvement:** Less than 90% of students volunteer at a local clinic of low-income patients for a period of 3 years.

4. Encourage civic responsibility with professional and community involvement.

4.A. Benchmark: *Each student will complete and log ≥ 30 hours of community service, professional service, and/or experiential learning opportunities prior to graduation.*

- a. **Rationale:** Service experiences help students learn empathy and provides opportunities to work with diverse populations; 30 hours is sufficient for experiential learning while not being an excessive burden on students.
- b. **Strength:** An average of ≥ 50 hours per student logged across a cohort for 3 consecutive years.
- c. **Area of improvement:** An average of less than 25 hours per student logged across a cohort for 3 consecutive years.

4.B. Benchmark: 100% of students will be members of the KSU PA Student Chapter and participate in at least one event a semester.

- a. **Rationale:** Participation and membership in the student chapter will reinforce the need to serve others.
- b. **Strength:** An average of 100% of students participate in the KSU PA student chapter for three consecutive years.
- c. **Area of improvement:** An average of less than 90% of students participate in the KSU PA student chapter for three consecutive years.

5. Strive for and encourage graduates to obtain their first job in the state of Kansas.

5.A. Benchmark: Greater than 30% of the graduates of KSU PA will obtain their first job in the state of Kansas.

- a. **Rationale:** It is important to have students who meet the needs of the state of Kansas as most of the state is medically underserved. As the first Land-Grant University in the United States, the connection of Kansas State University and the State of Kansas is foundational to who we are. The University mission states, “develop a highly skilled and educated citizenry necessary to advancing the wellbeing of Kansas.”
- b. **Strength:** Greater than 50% of the graduates of KSU PA will obtain their first job in the state of Kansas based on a three-year average.
- c. **Area of improvement:** Less than 20% of graduates obtain their first job in the state of Kansas based on a three-year average.

5.B. Benchmark: *≥90% of students complete a minimum of one rotation in a medically underserved area in Kansas.*

- a. **Rationale:** Serving patients in medically underserved areas will provide students with exposure to diverse populations and vulnerable individuals and promotes compassion for others. We selected 90% since we want as many students as possible to have this experience, however, given the limitations of preceptor availability and scheduling constraints, it may not be feasible to reach 100% participation.
- b. **Strength:** Greater than 95% of students complete a minimum of one rotation in a Kansas medically underserved area for 3 consecutive years.
- c. **Area of improvement:** Less than 85% of students complete a minimum of one rotation in a Kansas medically underserved area for 3 consecutive years.

5.C. Benchmark: Greater than 30% of applicants accepted to the program either currently live in Kansas or have in the past.

- a. **Rationale:** PA Students who live in Kansas or have lived in Kansas are more likely to remain in Kansas.
- b. **Strength:** Greater than 50% of students have lived in Kansas as a three-year average.
- c. **Area of improvement:** Less than 20% of students have lived in Kansas over a three-year average.

6. Prepare graduates to meet or exceed the national first time PANCE pass rate.

6.A. Benchmark: First-time, first attempt annual PANCE pass rate \geq national average PANCE first-time, first attempt pass rate

- a. **Rationale:** The program recognizes graduate success on the PANCE is one marker used to demonstrate students have been provided a rigorous academic experience.
- b. **Strength:** For 3 consecutive years the annual first-time, first attempt taker PANCE pass rates for the program are $\geq 2\%$ higher than the national average first-time, first attempt taker PANCE pass rates.
- a. **Area of improvement:** For 3 consecutive years the annual first-time, first attempt taker PANCE pass rates for the program are $\leq 2\%$ lower than the national average first-time, first attempt taker PANCE pass rates.

6.B. Benchmark: 100% of students will pass the PANCE in the first or second attempt.

- a. **Rationale:** The program recognizes graduate success on the PANCE is one marker used to demonstrate students have been provided a rigorous academic experience.
- b. **Strength:** For 3 consecutive years the annual PANCE pass rates for the program is 100%.
- c. **Area of improvement:** Less than 100% of students pass the PANCE in their first two attempts over three years.