

# **AMY FITZGERALD, DMSc, M.S., PA-C**

2227 Alta Dr, Manhattan, KS 66502

[afitz@legendbmd.com](mailto:afitz@legendbmd.com) | (785) 906-0082

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## **PROFILE SUMMARY**

Dedicated and experienced Physician Assistant educator with a Doctor of Medical Science (DMSc) in Physician Assistant Education and over 30 years of clinical practice experience. Proven leadership in academic coordination, curriculum development, and program accreditation at Kansas State University's PA program. Skilled in addressing accreditation challenges, fostering faculty collaboration, and improving student outcomes. Committed to leading the Kansas State University PA program out of ARC-PA probation through strategic planning, innovative curriculum design, and strong stakeholder engagement.

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## **EDUCATION**

### **Doctor of Medical Science (DMSc), Physician Assistant Education**

University of Lynchburg, Lynchburg, VA

May 2022

### **Bachelor of Science in Allied Health, Physician Assistant Studies**

Wichita State University, Wichita, KS

July 1992

### **Master of Science in Engineering**

Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

July 1985

### **Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering**

Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

December 1983

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## **LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION**

- Physician Assistant, State of Kansas, Active, 1992–Present (Expires 12/2025)
- NCCPA Certified, Active, 1993–Present (Expires 12/2025)
- Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS), American College of Surgeons (Expires 7/2027)
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), American Heart Association (Expires 4/2026)
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), American Heart Association (Expires 4/2026)
- Basic Life Support (BLS), American Heart Association (Expires 4/2026)
- ACLS, PALS, BLS Training Faculty, American Heart Association (Expires 4/2026)
- DEA License, US Department of Justice (Expires 9/30/2028)

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## ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

### Kansas State University, Physician Assistant Studies, Manhattan, KS

#### Program Director, Physician Assistant Program

August 2025–Present

- Provide strategic leadership and oversight during a critical transition period, focusing on addressing ARC-PA probation challenges.
- Oversee curriculum revisions, faculty development, and student outcome improvements, aligning with ARC-PA Standards.
- Foster stakeholder engagement with clinical partners to secure quality rotation sites, particularly in underserved areas.
- Advocate for program resources, including budget and administrative support, to address probation-related needs.

#### Interim Associate Program Director, Physician Assistant Program

August 2024–August 2025

- Provide interim leadership following a change in program leadership.
- Collaborate with university leadership and faculty to develop and implement corrective action plans for accreditation compliance.
- Lead accreditation efforts, including self-study updates, data analysis, and preparation for focused site visits.

#### Academic Coordinator, Physician Assistant Program

2023–August 2024

- Oversee all academic faculty, program management, and curriculum development for the PA program.
- Lead accreditation efforts, including self-studies, data collection, and compliance with ARC-PA Standards.
- Manage day-to-day operations of the didactic program, ensuring alignment with accreditation requirements.
- Collaborate with faculty to revise curriculum, incorporating competency-based education and simulation training.
- Implement assessment strategies to improve student outcomes, including PANCE preparation and clinical rotation readiness.
- Foster a supportive environment for faculty and staff, addressing morale and retention challenges during probation.

#### Principal Faculty, Physician Assistant Program

2020–2025

- Instructed courses in Clinical Procedures and Clinical Medicine, emphasizing evidence-based practice and clinical skills.
- Participated in program accreditation processes, including curriculum review and self-study preparation.
- Contributed to curriculum development, ensuring alignment with ARC-PA Standards and program goals.
- Mentored students, providing academic and professional guidance to enhance retention and success.

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## CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

**Lindsborg Community Hospital (Salina Regional Affiliate), Lindsborg, KS****Physician Assistant, Emergency Department**

2015–Present

- Assess, diagnose, and treat patients in a rural critical access hospital without on-site physician supervision.
- Manage emergency cases, including trauma, cardiac, and pediatric emergencies, in a high acuity setting.
- Collaborate with clinical partners to ensure continuity of care and strengthen community healthcare access.

**Salina Regional Health Center, Salina, KS****Physician Assistant, Emergency Department**

2015–2019

- Provided care in a Level 3 trauma center, managing a diverse range of emergency cases.
- Developed expertise in advanced life support techniques and emergency interventions.

**Mercy Regional Health Center, Manhattan, KS****Physician Assistant, Emergency Department**

2009–2015

- Assessed, diagnosed, and treated patients in a Level 3 trauma center, specializing in trauma and emergency care.

**Memorial Health Systems, Abilene, KS****Physician Assistant, Emergency Department**

2006–2009

- Provided comprehensive emergency department coverage in a rural setting, ensuring quality patient care.

**Lindsborg Community Hospital & Rural Health Clinic, Lindsborg, KS****Physician Assistant, Emergency, Inpatient, and Clinic Settings**

1994–2006

- Served as an active medical staff member, providing care across clinic, emergency, inpatient, and surgical settings.
- Built strong relationships with community stakeholders to enhance rural healthcare delivery.

**Medical Services Partnership, Salina, KS****Physician Assistant, OB/GYN Private Practice**

1992–1994

- Specialized in women's health, evaluating, and treating patients, and assisting in procedures and surgeries.

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**PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE****Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, PA Advisory Board****Board Member (Governor-Appointed)**

2024–2026

- Advise on physician assistant regulations and policies, contributing to state-level healthcare governance.
- Collaborate with board members to address workforce needs and regulatory challenges.

- Analyze complaints regarding practicing physician Assistants that are officially filed with the Kansas Board of Healing Arts.

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## SKILLS AND EXPERTISE

- **Academic Leadership:** Program management, faculty coordination, curriculum development, and accreditation compliance.
- **Accreditation Expertise:** In-depth knowledge of ARC-PA Standards, self-study processes, and corrective action planning.
- **Curriculum Design:** Competency-based education, simulation training, and interprofessional education integration.
- **Clinical Expertise:** Emergency medicine, rural healthcare, and women's health.
- **Faculty Development:** Mentorship, training, and fostering collaboration to improve morale and retention.
- **Student Outcomes:** PANCE preparation, clinical rotation placement, and assessment strategies.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Building partnerships with clinical sites, community organizations, and university leadership.
- **Certifications:** BLS, ACLS, PALS, ATLS provider. American Heart Association Instructor.

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## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA), Member
- Kansas Academy of Physician Assistants (KAPA), Member
- Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA), Member
- National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA), Certified Member
- Physician Assistants for Global Health (PAGH), Member

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## REFERENCES

Available upon request.

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