

# PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

## COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

### PRE-HEALTH AT K-STATE

At K-State, we do not have “pre-health” majors. Students interested in a health career will select one of the 250 majors offered at K-State and then declare their pre-health designation. As a pre-health student, you are paired with both an academic advisor, who makes sure you are completing classes to earn your degree, and a dedicated health professions advisor, who makes sure you are meeting the requirements of your professional school as well as helping you through the application process.

One of the great things about K-State not having a “pre-health” major is that students are able to select a major that is of both interest to them but will also provide them a great educational base to build on once they enter their professional school. While physician assistant schools have no preferred major required for admission, there are majors whose coursework aligns best to fulfill the prerequisites required for admission to physician assistant school.

**Common majors: nutrition and health, kinesiology, athletic training and rehabilitation sciences, integrative physiology**



Personalized health  
career advising



Hands-on career  
preparation



Dedicated student  
organizations



Above average  
placement

### PRE-HEALTH ADVISING

Pre-Health students have at least two advisors, an academic advisor; sometimes called a major advisor, and a pre-professional advisor; sometimes called a health professions advisor.

Major advisors help students understand what they must do to complete the requirements of their major (degree). Health professions advisors help students understand what they must do to become competitive applicants to health professional schools and programs.

### WHERE DO OUR STUDENTS GO?

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY  
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI  
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO  
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI- KANSAS CITY  
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA  
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

### START YOUR APPLICATION PROCESS NOW

Pre-Health students begin their application to professional school the first day they step onto their college campus. Becoming a competitive applicant to any health professional school is a process that builds over time. Here are some ways to get a head start while in high school:

1. Take the highest-level courses available to you, particularly in math and science.
2. Study to learn, not to memorize; work to develop critical thinking skills and effective study habits.
3. Learn about your desired health care career through shadowing, serving as a CNA or researching the profession thoroughly online.
4. Volunteer and serve your community to show your interest in helping others.
5. Broaden your knowledge base to develop an appreciation for different ways of thinking and living through reading or interacting with those who have a different background, socioeconomic status or lifestyle.



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## PREPARING FOR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SCHOOL

- Students must earn a bachelor's degree prior to admission to physician assistant (PA) school.
- There is no preferred major.
- In addition to earning a bachelor's degree, students must complete the courses required by the PA schools to which they plan to apply.
- Some schools require completion of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).
- Requirements at individual PA schools vary.
- Students who complete physician assistant school will receive a Master of Science in physician assistant studies degree.

### PREREQUISITE COURSES

COURSE		HOURS
ENGL 100	Expository Writing I	3
ENGL 200	Expository Writing II	3
COMM 106	Public Speaking	3
BIOL 198	Principles of Biology	4
BIOL 441	Human Body I	4
BIOL 442	Human Body II	4
<b>OR</b>		
KIN 360	Anatomy & Physiology	8
BIOL 450	Modern Genetics	4
BIOL 455	General Microbiology	4
CHM 210	Chemistry I	4
CHM 230	Chemistry II	4
CHM 350	General Organic Chemistry	3
CHM 351	General Organic Chemistry Lab	2
BIOCH 521	Biochemistry	3
PSYCH 110	General Psychology	3

#### BIOLOGY

-Some schools, including K-State, require an additional biology course. Course examples include: KIN 335, FNDH 400, FNDH 620, BIOL 101, BIOL 330, and BIOL 541.

-Many other courses may meet requirements. Visit with your health professions advisor for details.

-Some schools require CHM 531 - Organic Chemistry I, CHM 550 - Organic Chemistry II, and CHM 521 - Organic Chemistry Lab.

-Some schools require BIOCH 522 - Biochemistry Lab.

### RECOMMENDED COURSES

COURSE		HOURS
CLSCS 105	Medical Terminology: Latin & Greek for Scientists	3
FNDH 720	Adm. Health Care Org.	3
PHILO 365	Medical Ethics	3
PSYCH 505	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSYCH 520	Lifespan Personality Development	3

### AVAILABLE SPECIAL INTEREST COURSES

Intro to Medical Anthropology	Death and Dying in History
Public Health Biology	Social History of Medicine
Practicum- Cadaver Team	Psychobiology
Intercultural Communication	Human Neuropsychology
Economics of Healthcare	Social Welfare as a Social Institution
Manual Communication	Wealth, Power & Privilege
Human Nutrition	Dynamics of Working with Older Adults
Intro to Gerontology	
Drama Therapy for Special Populations	

## K-STATE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

K-State's brand-new physician assistant program follows the traditional medical model of training, providing in-depth analysis of disease processes, diagnoses and treatment and prepares students to serve as nationally certified and licensed health care providers who work on health care teams with physicians and other providers. The 27-month program consists of three semesters of classroom training, followed by four semesters of clinical rotations. Coursework will be held in new state-of-the-art facilities located in Mary and Carl Ice Hall on the Manhattan campus. By 2023, the program will accept 44 students each year.