

# Barry University

College of Health and Wellness

## Physician Assistant Program

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[www.barry.edu/pa](http://www.barry.edu/pa)

Dear Prospective Student,

Thank you for your interest in Barry University Physician Assistant Program. This packet contains pertinent information regarding the Program's admission requirements, curriculum, and cost of attendance.

If you have any additional questions after reading the material, please do not hesitate to contact our office. We look forward to hearing from you!

Best Regards,

Office of Admissions

Barry University Physician Assistant Program

11300 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Miami Shores, FL 33161 305-899-3130

[paadmissions@barry.edu](mailto:paadmissions@barry.edu)



## Program Summary

Barry University Physician Assistant Program is accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA). The program is 28 months in length, full-time, year-round, with breaks between terms. There is no part-time, online, or distance learning options available for this program. Students can expect to be in class Monday – Friday anywhere from 8 AM – 6 PM and later on days where labs are scheduled (approximately until 9 PM). For that reason, students are strongly discouraged from working while they are enrolled in the program. The curriculum is very demanding and time-consuming. It would prove difficult to hold external employment simultaneously and do well in the program, particularly during your clinical rotation year, when students' locations and hours will vary greatly.

The program matriculates every August with approximately 100 seats available each year: 76 in Miami Shores and 24 in St. Petersburg. The curriculum and program format are the same in both locations with the use of interactive video conferencing. University services are available and equivalent on both campuses. Upon successful completion, students will be awarded a Master's degree in Clinical Medical Sciences, which is required to take the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE).

## Required Prerequisites and Credentials

- A baccalaureate degree (any discipline) from a regionally accredited or internationally recognized college or university
- An overall GPA and science GPA equal to or higher than 3.0
- General/Inorganic Chemistry – 6 credits (2 courses)
- Organic Chemistry or Biochemistry – 3 credits (1 course)
- Human Anatomy & Physiology – 8 credits (2 courses with labs). Kinesiology, Environmental Engineering, and Exercise Science will not be accepted. Either Human Anatomy & Physiology I & II with labs will be accepted **OR** Human Anatomy with lab and Human Physiology with lab will be accepted (a combination will not be considered)
- Microbiology – 4 credits (1 course with lab)
- Additional Biological Science – 3 credits (1 course). Acceptable courses are: General Biology, Zoology, Human Genetics, Histology, or Cell/Molecular Biology
- Behavioral Sciences – 6 credits (2 courses) in any of the following: Psychology, Sociology, or Human Growth & Development. Unfortunately, Anthropology and Criminology courses are not accepted.
- Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) Scores (must be electronically submitted either before or at the time of application submission)
- Personal Statement
- A minimum of three Letters of Recommendation (Must be submitted no later than 30 business days after receipt of notification from the Admissions office)

Note: All prerequisite courses require students to take a minimum number of classes regardless of the number of credits earned for each. However, the aggregate number of credits for each prerequisite cannot be less than 3 credits.

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All degree levels (undergraduate and advanced) and course attempts (including repeated, failed, or withdrawn results) are considered. There are no deviations or waivers permitted for the prerequisite requirements, regardless of educational background or professional experience. **Prerequisite credits that are more than ten (10) years old from the year of matriculation will not be accepted.** Incomplete prerequisite coursework may be completed as a non-degree-seeking student at Barry University or any other accredited institution, including community colleges and online courses. Applicants are required to have all prerequisite coursework completed prior to application submission. **Any submitted applications with pending/unverified prerequisite coursework (including labs) will not be considered.**

### Healthcare Experience

Prior healthcare experience is strongly recommended, however, there is no set number of hours required. The committee highly recommends approximately 1000 hours of healthcare experience prior to applying. The program values direct patient care experience and encourages applicants to fulfill this in a hospital or clinical setting. Examples of direct patient contact include recording patient history, drawing blood, taking vital signs, or providing personal hygiene care. Applicants who are already health professionals, such as nurses, paramedics, phlebotomist, or respiratory therapists, this would constitute as healthcare experience. Medical mission work is also considered. Unfortunately, administrative duties within a healthcare setting (i.e., receptionist/records clerk) are not sufficient. Shadowing a PA is strongly recommended in addition to your healthcare experience and is looked favorably upon by the admissions committee.

### International Applicants

International students who have completed all or part of their college coursework outside of the United States or Canada must have attended a college or university in the United States for a minimum of one year prior to application and submit their official TOEFL scores and a Foreign Credential Evaluation Report (with GPA calculation) of all transcripts to CASPA. The foreign transcript evaluation agency must be a member of NACES. For a list of current NACES members, please visit [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org).

### Transfer/Advanced Standing

Due to considerable variation in physician assistant programs throughout the United States, students will not be considered or accepted for transfer into the program. There are no exemptions or special considerations made for international medical graduates or advanced degree holders (i.e., PhD). The entire curriculum, including rotations, must be completed. There is a no certificate or "PANCE review only" option available.

### Application Process

Applicants must submit their application electronically on the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) website: <https://caspa.liaisoncas.com>. Applicants must submit official transcripts from all institutions planned and attended, along with letters of recommendation to CASPA at the time of application submission. The CASPA application is the only application required for admission; there is no supplemental application. The application portal opens in mid-April, and **only verified CASPA applications, including all supplemental documentation** (i.e., GRE scores, letters of recommendation, etc.) received by December 1<sup>st</sup> will be considered. If an applicant has planned/in progress coursework, not including prerequisite courses, at the time of application submission, they may submit their final transcript directly to Barry University PA Program Office of Admissions by the deadline if offered a seat in the program. Please note that applications with planned/in progress prerequisites will not be reviewed by the Admissions Committee. Next, applicants must arrange to have official GRE scores sent to Barry using the institution code 5053 and

departmental code 0634. Applicants with GRE scores that are more than five (5) years old from the year of matriculation must re-take the exam and submit current scores. Official GRE scores must be submitted no later than 30 business days after receipt of notification from the Admissions office. Due to the volume of applications processed, we politely ask that applicants refrain from submitting application materials directly to the admissions office until after they have received email confirmation that their CASPA application has been received. Prospective students are strongly recommended to take the PA-CAT and CASPER exams.

### Admissions Process

Admission to the program is based on rolling admissions, meaning that applications are processed throughout the admissions cycle until the class is filled. Admission is very competitive in nature, with an average of 2,500 applications received annually for a limited number of seats. Candidates are considered based on their overall GPA, science GPA, GRE scores, health care experience, commitment to service, letters of recommendation, personal statement, writing ability, and interview. Greater consideration will be given to applicants maintaining higher course loads.

Interviews are granted at the discretion of the Admissions Committee, which consists of the program faculty. The Admissions Committee conducts interviews from September – March. Once candidates are provisionally accepted into the program, they must satisfy all the provisions of their acceptance, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Submit an enrollment deposit of \$1000
- Complete a Criminal Background Check
- Complete a drug screening
- Complete all planned/in progress courses BEFORE June 1<sup>st</sup> each year
- Complete a Medical Terminology course
- Submit official transcripts from all institutions attended to the Program office. Note: We do not receive the documents sent to CASPA for verification of your application. Barry University's Registrar's Office requires official copies.

The Admissions Committee upholds and enforces all requirements and deadlines. There are no waivers or deviations accepted to the Admissions requirements.

Please be advised that every communication with the admissions team will contribute to the Admission Committee's assessment of the applicant's possession of the Technical Standards for the profession (located in the Policy and Procedures section of the PA webpage).

# Barry University

## Graduate Physician Assistant Program Curriculum

The following curriculum is provided for informational purposes and is subject to change. Course descriptions are provided in the Graduate Catalog via the following link: <https://www.barry.edu/en/registrar/catalogs/>

### FIRST YEAR (Didactic)

Fall	Semester Hours
PHA 530A The Physician Assistant Role in Modern Health Care	1
PHA 585 Physiology	4
PHA 580 Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases	3
PHA 590P Gross Anatomy with Lab	6
PHA 605C Physical Diagnosis I	3
PHA 621A Clinical Pharmacology	1
Spring	
PHA 510 Human Genetics	1
PHA 535 Human Behavior and Psychiatry	3
PHA 602 Medical Pathophysiology I	7
PHA 605D Physical Diagnosis II	3
PHA 621B Clinical Pharmacology II	2
PHA 649P General Radiology	3
PHA 701 Women's Health/Pediatrics/Geriatrics	3

**Summer**

PHA 573	Research in Community Health	4
PHA 603	Medical Pathophysiology II	4
PHA 640P	Surgical Principles	2
PHA 705B	Emergency Medicine	2
PHA 605E	Physical Diagnosis III	2
PHA 621C	Clinical Pharmacology III	2
PHA 552	Medical Spanish	3

**SECOND YEAR (Clinical)**

There will be eight six-week rotations. Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Internal Medicine/Geriatrics, Prenatal Care and Women's Health, Pediatrics, Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, Surgery, and an Elective rotation. Following each rotation there will be End of Rotation Exercises.

**Fall, Spring & Summer\***

PHA 727	Clinical Orientation (PA)	1
PHA 740A	PA Rotation 1	6
PHA 741A	PA Rotation 2	6
PHA 742A	PA Rotation 3	6
PHA 743A	PA Rotation 4	6
PHA 744A	PA Rotation 5	6
PHA 745A	PA Rotation 6	6
PHA 746A	PA Rotation 7	6
PHA 747A	PA Rotation 8	6

### **THIRD YEAR (Advanced Didactic)**

#### **Fall**

PHA 553P	Biomedical Ethics/Health Care Delivery	2
PHA 530B	Transition to PA Clinical Practice	1
PHA 806P	Library Research Paper	7
PHA 638	Thanatology	1
PHA 690	Clinical Therapeutics	2
PHA 695	Primary Care Review Course	3

# Barry University

## PA Program Fees

Tuition and fees apply to all students regardless of campus. Specific fees and costs of attendance for the PA Program include:

Fees by Campus	Miami Shores	St. Petersburg
Tuition (increased annually)	\$ 39,000 per year*	\$ 39,000 per year*
Didactic Year Fees	\$1500	\$1500
Clinical Year Fees	\$1500	\$1500
Advanced Didactic Year Fees	\$500	\$500
Health Insurance Plan	\$899-1911 (age based)	\$899-1911 (age based)
Graduation Fee	\$200.00	\$200.00
Student Services Fee ****	\$125 summer semester \$325 fall & spring semester	\$125 summer semester \$325 fall & spring semester
Laptop computer	\$1,350	\$1,350
Medical Instruments	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00
Books / Supplies	\$4,425.00	\$4,425.00
Criminal Background Checks and Drug Screens	\$660.00	\$660.00
Student Accident Plan (mandatory per semester)	\$25.00	\$25.00
Smart Phone in clinical year	\$500.00**	\$500.00**
Clinical travel	\$2500-3500	\$2500-3500
***Transportation	\$7,730.00	\$7,730.00
***Living	\$5,295.00	\$5,295.00
***Room/Board	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00

*\*A limited number of tuition discounts are available. Additional late fee, late registration, tuition deferred payment plan and other fees may apply. Tuition, fees, and costs are subject to change. Tuition for in-state and out-of state residents is the same. Medical supply costs are dependent on personal selection of equipment. The Barry University Financial Aid office assists all students at all campus locations in obtaining financial aid. As part of an agreement between St. Petersburg College (SPC) and Barry University through the SPC University Partnership Center, the Program provides a 20% tuition discount to up to 4 students per year who are both accepted into the St. Petersburg student cohort and who graduated from SPC. The PA Program is 28 months; the tuition cost for the final semester of the program is 1/3 of the cost of tuition for the year.*

*\*\*Students must purchase their own phone plan at additional cost.*

*\*\*\*Rate set by University. Rate is subject to change*