Practice making a difference

Chatham University’s Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program is an accelerated, 85-credit program designed to produce highly skilled and competent health care providers. It is a full-time cohort program that is completed in six semesters over 24 months. During the first year of the program you complete two didactic semesters before continuing on to clinical rotations which comprise your second year. At the end of your second year, you will return to campus to finish coursework.

Over the past five years, Chatham University students have achieved a first-time pass rate average of 95% on the PANCE (Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam).

chatham.edu/mpas
The Master of Physician Assistant Studies program is part of Chatham’s School of Health Sciences.

The School of Health Sciences has developed a strong reputation for its sought-after healthcare professionals. From high first-time licensure rates to advanced clinical aptitude, our graduates enter their careers ready to meet the needs of patients and contribute to improving the quality of care their organizations deliver.

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The program uses a hybrid model of problem-based learning (PBL), lecture, and online activity that challenges you to be self-directed and prepares you for the evidence-based, problem-oriented field of clinical medicine.
- By working with actual patient cases, you’ll have opportunities to learn new material and confront issues as they develop, to work in teams, and to receive feedback on your knowledge base and professionalism before you enter the “real world” of primary patient care.
- Faculty members in the MPAS program are accomplished teachers, scholars, practitioners, and active leaders in the field. PBL class sizes are small, ensuring each student receives personalized attention and feedback.
- Inter-professional activities encourage the development of team skills and an appreciation of team-based, patient-centered care.
- Service to a variety of communities is encouraged, and many students take on active involvement in service-oriented programs. Chatham fosters an academic community in which all participants exhibit a commitment to excellence in clinical practice and service to the profession and larger community.
- A unique self-selection process gives you input on where you complete nine clinical rotation experiences. Students must complete required rotations in internal medicine, family practice, OB/GYN, pediatrics, emergency medicine, psychiatric medicine, and general surgery as well as two elective rotations.
- Clinical sites may be located in the Pittsburgh area as well as across the country. Rotation sites include long-term care settings, in-patient facilities, and out-patient facilities.

### SAMPLE COURSES

**PAS602 Clinical Application of Basic Sciences I**
An in-depth study of topics in gross human anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology, supporting the instruction in the Essentials for the Physician Assistant courses. Instruction will involve basic sciences with an emphasis on the clinical application of the material, utilizing a systems approach.

**PAS614 Medical Ethics**
Contemporary professional medical ethics issues are discussed and debated. Instruction is provided through classroom discussions, guest lectures, and small group problem-based learning.

**PAS633 Physical Diagnosis I**
Practical laboratory course covering application of interviewing, history taking and physical examination skills, as well as elicitation and documentation of patient data. Students demonstrate competence through practical evaluations and written documentation. Students perform system-based and problem-focused physical examinations for both primary care and specialty complaints that support the coinciding information that students will cover in PAS 600 Essentials for the Physician Assistant I.

[chatham.edu/mpas/curriculum.cfm](http://chatham.edu/mpas/curriculum.cfm)
OUTCOMES

Recent MPAS graduates have gone on to work at hospitals, medical centers, military bases, and specialized clinics throughout the country including:

- **Hospitals and Medical Centers**: Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH; Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Baltimore, MD; Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA
- **Government and Military**: North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services, Morganton, NC; United States Air Force, Colorado Springs, CO
- **Community Medical Centers**: Healing Hands Ministries, Dallas, TX; Peak Vista Community Health Centers, Colorado Springs, CO; OIC Family Medical Center, Raleigh, NC; South Texas Rural Health Services, Cotulla, TX
- **Plastic Surgery**: Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh; Aesthetic Plastic Surgery of Pittsburgh; Golla Center for Plastic Surgery, Pittsburgh, PA
- **Surgery**: Surgical at NorthShore University Health System, Chicago, IL; Minimally Invasive Thoracic Surgery at UPMC, Pittsburgh, PA; Renal/Pancreas Transplant at UPMC, Pittsburgh, PA
- **Orthopedics**: UPP Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Pittsburgh, PA; Orthopedics at UPMC Shadyside, Pittsburgh, PA; Lancaster Neuroscience & Spine Associates, Lancaster, PA
- **Obstetrics**: Maximos OB/GYN, Houston, TX
- **Dermatology**: BHS Dermatology, Youngstown, OH; Bryn Mawr Medical Specialists Association, Philadelphia, PA
- **Urology**: Urology of Indiana LLC, Indianapolis, IN: Triangle Urological Associates, Pittsburgh, PA

“You can never teach all of medicine to any one student. If I can teach a student to think, to learn, and to be a compassionate caregiver, then I have made a difference.”

— SUSAN HAWKINS, MSED, PA-C, associate professor, PBL coordinator

chatham.edu/mpas

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800-837-1290 or 412-365-1825
gradadmission@chatham.edu
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Please visit chatham.edu/mpas/requirements.cfm for complete information about requirements, including:
• required GPA
• prerequisite courses
• shadowing
• letters of recommendation
• special instructions for international students

APPLICATION DEADLINES

The application will be considered on time if it is e-submitted to CASPA by the October 1 deadline.

Learn more at chatham.edu/mpas