

Transfer Advising Sheet for Master in Medical Science in Physician Assistant (PA)

Florida Community College at Jacksonville

Associate of Science Degree

Nova Southeastern University

**Bachelor of Science in Applied Professional Studies in Health Professions Studies and Master of Medical Science
in Physician Assistant**

POS: 32NOV for Nova Southeastern University

ITM: 612NOV for Nova Physician Assistant

If you are an [Associate of Science student](#) at FCCJ and interested in transferring to the NSU Physician Assistant program, please use this transfer advising sheet and complete the prerequisite requirements listed below (in addition to following your AS program of study degree requirements).

Nova Southeastern University retains sole responsibility for establishing the academic and other criteria that students must meet in order to fulfill its own entrance and graduation requirements and in evaluating student applications for admission. Incoming NSU students must meet all entry requirements for the Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant program. Acceptance into the physician assistant program does not guarantee successful completion of course requirements, leading to a degree of Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant. [See NSU PA admissions criteria below.](#)

After discussing this program with your advisor, please ask your FCCJ advisor to add the Program of Study code (32NOV) and the unique 3 + 2 Intended Transfer Major (612NOV) to your student record.

If you do not plan to transfer to this specific transfer institution for the PA program, please follow your AS Program of Study, as specified in the FCCJ College Catalog.

General Timeline

In Years One through Three of the Physician Assistant 3 + 2.25 Dual Admission Program, Florida Community College Jacksonville students will take and complete all Florida Community College Jacksonville associate degree requirements and all prerequisite courses (total of 90 semester credit hours). Following the curriculum below prepares students for entry into NSU's Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant, while working toward a baccalaureate degree. In the fall semester of Year Three, Florida Community College Jacksonville students will apply to NSU for admission into the Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant.

[Following the curriculum requirements listed below does not guarantee admission to the NSU program. The Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant program is a competitive admissions program. Please see important GPA requirements below \(page 3, Prerequisite and Elective Notes\). Students will be asked to meet with a specific advisor at FCCJ to sign the Student Acceptance Agreement for the Dual Admission program, acknowledging an understanding the requirements.](#)

If accepted by NSU, then in Year Four, that is the senior year of undergraduate education, Florida Community College Jacksonville students will complete the requirements of a NSU baccalaureate degree (not to exceed 75 credit hours), specifically the BS degree in Applied Professional Studies in Health Professions Studies (APS-HPS). (The bachelor's should be completed after completion of the first year of the PA program, but no later than the end of the second year of the PA program.) Concurrently, in Year Four, students will begin their Physician Assistant studies at NSU, and the PA courses will be accepted by NSU towards the NSU baccalaureate degree. NSU will grant to the students an undergraduate degree upon their successful completion of all Florida Community College Jacksonville and NSU requirements.

In Years Five and Six, students will continue their course work in NSU's Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant program, including clinical rotations. Students will be eligible to receive a Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant upon successful completion of all NSU requirements.

Students should adhere to their AS program of study requirements, and follow the list below to supplement your course selection to meet prerequisite requirements for the NSU PA program.

The following PA prerequisite courses are required to be taken at FCCJ if not previously completed during the Associate of Science Degree)

| Course Number | Course Title | Requirement Met General Ed/Prerequisite | Gordon Writing/Math | Semester Hours |
|--------------------|---|---|------------------------|-------------------|
| ENC 1101 | English Composition I | GE | G (W) | 3 |
| LIT 2000 | Introduction to Literature: Writing about Fiction | GE | G (W) | 3 |
| MAC 1105 | College Algebra | GE | G (M) | 3 |
| XXXX | Humanities from AA General Education Requirements | GE | G (W) | 3 |
| XXX | Select three courses from Social/Behavioral Sciences of the AS General Education Requirements | GE | | 9 |
| BSC 2010C | Principles of Biology I | GE | | 4 |
| MCB 2010C | Microbiology | GE/PR | | 4 |
| CHM 1025C | Introduction to General Chemistry | GE/PR | | 4 |
| CHM 2045C | General Chemistry and Qualitative Analysis I | GE/PR | | 4 |
| CHM 2046C | General Chemistry and Qualitative Analysis II | GE/PR | | 4 |
| BSC 2085C | Human Anatomy and Physiology I | GE/PR | | 4 |
| BSC 2086C | Human Anatomy and Physiology II | GE/PR | | 4 |
| CHM 2210C | Organic Chemistry I | PR | | 4 |
| Total Hours | | | | 53 |

Additional Courses (if needed to satisfy NSU Requirements of transferring a minimum of 90 semester hours)

| Course Number | Course Title | Requirement Met General Ed/Prerequisite | Gordon Writing/Math | Semester Hours |
|---------------|--|---|------------------------|-------------------|
| CHM 2211C | Organic Chemistry II | PR | | 4 |
| HSC 1531 | Medical Terminology (for Health Professions) | PR | | 3 |
| CGS 1060 | Introduction to Information Technology | PR | | 3 |
| BSC 2011C | Principles of Biology II | GE/PR | | 4 |
| STA 2023 | Elementary Statistics | GE | | 3 |
| XXXX | Select courses from recommended list** | | | XX |

** Recommended List of Courses to select from for additional electives hours, if needed

| Course Number | Course Title | Requirement Met General Ed/Prerequisite | Gordon Writing/Math | Semester Hours |
|---------------|------------------------------|---|------------------------|-------------------|
| ENC 1102 | Writing about Non-Fiction | GE | G (W) | 3 |
| ENC 2210 | Technical Report Writing | | | 3 |
| SYG 2000 | Introductory Sociology | GE | | 3 |
| PSY 1012 | General Psychology | GE | | 3 |
| DEP 2004 | Human Growth and Development | GE | | 3 |
| DEP 2002 | Child Psychology | | | 3 |
| DEP 2302 | Adolescent Psychology | | | 3 |

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|----|-------|---|
| DEP 2402 | Adult Psychology and Aging | | | 3 |
| HUN 1201 | Human Nutrition | | | 3 |
| MAC 1140 | Precalculus Algebra | GE | G (M) | 4 |
| MAC 1114 | College Trigonometry | GE | G (M) | 3 |
| MAC 2311 | Calculus with Analytic Geometry I | GE | G (W) | 4 |
| PHY 2053C | General Physics I | GE | | 4 |
| PHY 2054C | General Physics II | GE | | 4 |

General Education Notes:

- Please review the Florida Community College Catalog for General Education Requirements (GER).
- Students must meet the NSU General Education Requirements.
- CLAST (College Level Academic Skills Test): The CLAST is a graduation requirement for the associate in arts degree in the community college system of Florida. Passing all four subsets of the CLAST exam, or satisfying a CLAST exemption, is a requirement for meeting the associate of arts degree graduation requirement.
- The state Foreign Language Requirement does not apply to students transferring to Nova Southeastern University.
- All General Education courses require a grade of “C” or above.

Prerequisite and Elective Notes:

- All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or better, however students must have earned a 3.0 overall minimum GPA for the 90 semester credits hours and a 3.0 minimum GPA for the natural and behavioral sciences courses.
- Students applying to NSU through the Physician Assistant 3 + 2.25 Dual Admission Program must have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) and a natural and behavioral science GPA of 3.0, upon completion of the 90 credit hours (AA + 30 credit hours) toward the Bachelor of Science. Applicants must demonstrate, to NSU’s satisfaction, the ability to complete their baccalaureate degree by the end of their first year at NSU. All college courses attempted are included in NSU’s calculation of student GPA. If a student has a 2.8 or higher, but less than a 3.0 GPA, they can still apply to the NSU program, however the applicant may not be considered part of the FCCJ applicant cohort.
- A major prerequisite course may satisfy both FCCJ General Education Requirements and NSU entrance requirements. Please review the General Education Requirements and talk with an advisor.

Other Notes:

- Students must complete the Information Literacy Assessment requirement prior to graduation from FCCJ.
- The Physician Assistant program does not permit grade forgiveness in calculating GPA, based on Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistant (CASPA) guidelines. Therefore the FCCJ GPA will be re-calculated in the admission process. All attempted courses will be included in calculating an overall and Natural and behavioral sciences GPA. The NSU Admission Committee will try to take into consideration a student’s course attempts/repeats, and grade improvement over time. Students must have earned a 3.0 overall minimum GPA for the 90 semester credits hours and a 3.0 minimum GPA for the natural and behavioral sciences courses. All college courses attempted are included in NSU’s calculation of student GPA. If a student has a 2.8 or higher, but less than a 3.0 GPA, they can still apply to the NSU program, however the applicant may not be considered part of the FCCJ applicant cohort.
- NSU will accept 90 hours for transfer into the BS Applied Professional Studies in Health Professions Studies degree.
- No later than the first semester after completing the associate’s degree, students must take the Graduate Record Test (GRE) and receive acceptable scores in the Verbal and Quantitative sections as determined by NSU. It is the student’s responsibility to have the official test scores forwarded to the Office of Admissions in Health Professions Division at NSU.
- FCCJ students accepted to the Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant Program will complete the Bachelor’s degree in 2 years at NSU while working on the Master’s degree program requirements. Students who are not accepted to the Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant program should contact their FCCJ advisor or counselor immediately to determine if the student should continue taking the ‘third year’ courses at FCCJ at this point in time and to explore other transfer opportunities to earn a bachelor’s degree, such as completing the BS degree in Applied Professional Studies in Health Professions Studies (APS-HPS).
- Students who complete their FCCJ course work under the terms of the catalog in effect during the term of their registration must graduate within five years or they will automatically be reassigned to the FCCJ catalog in effect during their fifth year.
- Upon completion of the first three years, students must maintain continuous enrollment and transfer directly to NSU within two semesters of the last term of enrollment at Florida Community College at Jacksonville. Continuous enrollment is defined as enrollment not interrupted by non-attendance for more than three consecutive terms. If students have not maintained continuous enrollment, they can still apply to the NSU program, but may not be considered part of the FCCJ applicant cohort. If the FCCJ student has stopped out from enrollment for more than three consecutive terms during the 90 credit hours required for admission to the NSU PA program, then the student is not eligible to compete for the FCCJ cohort seats. These students can complete in the general pool of NSU Jacksonville PA applicants.

- If you do not plan to transfer to this specific transfer institution, please follow the Program of Study, as specified in the College Catalog.

NSU PA Admissions Criteria

- Students must complete the 90 semester hours of credit at FCCJ before beginning the dual admission bachelor's/master's program, including the prerequisite courses listed in the FCCJ Transfer Advising Sheet for this articulation. Official transcripts must be submitted to NSU.
- Students applying for admission into the Master of Medical Sciences Physician Assistant program of study must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) and a science GPA of 3.0 or above, upon completion of the required 90 credit hours as described in Appendix A (on the Transfer Advising sheet posted on the Transfer Services webpage http://www.fccj.edu/transferservices/spec_grad_prgm.html). (All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better, however students must have earned a 3.0 overall minimum GPA for the 90 semester credits hours and a 3.0 minimum GPA for the natural and behavioral sciences courses). All college courses attempted are included in NSU's calculation of student GPA. If a student has a 2.8 or higher, but less than a 3.0 GPA, they can still apply to the NSU program, however the applicant may not be considered part of the FCCJ applicant cohort. If a student's GPA falls below this requirement during his/her course of study at Florida Community College at Jacksonville, FCCJ will issue a letter of warning to the student and notify NSU's College of Allied Health of the warning. The student will have until the end of the second semester of year two to meet the minimum requirement of the necessary GPA. If the student is not in compliance with the required GPA by the end of year two, the student will be notified in writing that he/she will no longer be considered for any of the twenty-five (25) available 'FCCJ cohort' seats in the Master of Medical Sciences Physician Assistant Program at the College of Allied Health. If a student has a 2.8 or higher, but less than a 3.0 GPA, they can still apply to the NSU program, however the applicant may not be considered part of the FCCJ applicant cohort.
- Submit NSU PA application.
- Submit official GRE general test scores to the EPS dept, attention Physician Assistant Admissions, no later than the first semester after completing the associate degree. NSU's school code is 5522.
- Three letters of evaluation or recommendation. One letter must be sent from an individual, other than a relative or friend, such as an academic advisor, professor, coworker, or supervisor. The other two letters of recommendation/evaluation must be from health care professionals (neither of which can be a relative or friend), one of which must be from a physician or a PA.
- Submit to background check conducted by NSU Health Professions Division.
- Participate in a personal face-to-face interview, if requested by application committee.
- Screening committee will review all transcripts and all course attempts. NSU does not have grade forgiveness. All attempted courses will be included in calculating an overall and Natural and behavioral sciences GPA. The NSU Admission Committee will try to take into consideration a student's course attempts/repeats, and grade improvement over time. **Students must have earned a 3.0 overall minimum GPA for the 90 semester credits hours and a 3.0 minimum GPA for the natural and behavioral sciences courses.**
- Students must also have their own laptop upon entering the program and show evidence of computer skills through coursework or self-study prior to end of first term.

Is Admission for FCCJ students guaranteed?

- Nova Southeastern University retains sole responsibility for establishing the academic and other criteria that students must meet in order to fulfill its own entrance and graduation requirements and in evaluating student applications for admission. Incoming NSU students must meet all entry requirements for the Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant program. Acceptance into the physician assistant program does not guarantee successful completion of course requirements, leading to a degree of Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant.
- Following the curriculum requirements listed in the articulation/transfer advising sheet does not guarantee admission to the NSU program. The Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant program is a competitive admissions program. Students will be asked to meet with a specific advisor at FCCJ to sign the Student Acceptance Agreement for the Dual Admission program, acknowledging an understanding the requirements. Contact information about the FCCJ advisor for the program will be announced soon.

What is the profile of the successful applicant to the NSU PA Program? (according to the NSU PA website)

- combination of life, educational and work experience that shows a commitment to patient care, an understanding of the PA profession and the ability to perform in a demanding academic and professional setting.
- Although not required, health care experience is highly recommended. This experience can be either paid or volunteer and should include exposure to mid level practitioners.
- Our applicants at the established NSU PA programs have an average of 30+ months of health care experience. Additionally many former applicants gained valuable information from the material they had access to as Associate Members of the American Academy of Physician Assistants.

- Past educational performance, while not indicative of current abilities, can predict performance in the program. Every attempt should be made to enhance overall and science course GPA prior to application. The first year is extremely demanding and the applicant will benefit by taking courses that simulate this type of education.

What is the Application process?

- For the first year (start date of June 2009), the local NSU PA program will NOT be using the national CASPA application system for Physician Assistant students. This year (for June 2009 start date) students must apply using the following instructions:
 - o Visit www.nova.edu
 - o Under “Colleges and Schools” look for “Graduate Programs.” Below that click on “Allied Health and Nursing.”
 - o Under “Future Students” (near the bottom of the page), click on “Apply Online.”
 - o Create “new log on” to apply. Information for submitting application is located within the online application. If a student has questions about the application process, they can call the local Jacksonville NSU PA program at 245-8990.

There are multiple steps to the application and admission process. There will be an agreement that students must sign with FCCJ to get in the 'pipeline' for this program. Students should begin applying by October for admission to the June 2009 cohort. The application deadline is April 1, 2009. Application includes taking the GRE and Writing Assessment, an interview, and more.

Please check with a Florida Community College advisor or counselor for more information.

- FCCJ: **Point of Contact for FCCJ cohort: Lynne Crosby– (904) 632-5066**
 Open Campus, Learner Support Center: (904) 646-2300
 Downtown Campus, Counseling and Advising Office: (904) 633-8212
 Kent Campus, Counseling and Advising Office: (904) 381-3611
 North Campus, Counseling and Advising Office: (904) 766-6700
 South Campus, Counseling and Advising Office: (904) 646-2424
 Deerwood Center, Counseling and Advising Office: (904) 997-2600
 Nassau Center, Counseling and Advising Office: (904) 548-4400
 Cecil Center, Counseling and Advising Office: (904) 381-3611
 NSU: Jacksonville Education Center PA Office- Nicole Jolivet: 904-245-8976

For a list of the courses that Florida Community College graduates will complete at the transfer institution, please visit the website of the transfer institution for more information about the program.