

# Transfer Advising Sheet for Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant

Florida State College at Jacksonville

## Associate of Science Degree

Articulated Program with Nova Southeastern University

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

### Special Graduate Program Agreement 3 + 2.25 (Bachelors/Masters) Coursework

POS: 32NOV for Nova Southeastern University  
ITM: 612NOV for Nova Physician Assistant

This document is only for Florida State College at Jacksonville students enrolled in or graduated from the Associate of Science Degree at Florida State College at Jacksonville. This document can be used by Florida State College at Jacksonville students, whether or not they are eligible for the Florida State College at Jacksonville applicant cohort for the PA program, as long as the student meets the minimum NSU admissions criteria.

This transfer institution has agreed to accept the specified associate's degree from Florida State College at Jacksonville. The Florida State College at Jacksonville graduate can transfer 90 semester hours to Nova Southeastern University, and will then simultaneously complete bachelor and masters coursework at Nova Southeastern University. By following specified coursework and any current Florida State College at Jacksonville and Nova Southeastern University requirements, and Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistant (CASPA) Admission Requirements, the successful student can earn an associate degree at Florida State College at Jacksonville and a Bachelor of Science in Applied Professional Studies in Health Professions Studies and Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant at Nova Southeastern University.

Nova Southeastern University will admit students to professional level status towards a physician assistant Master in Medical Science degree who complete the articulated pre-requisite requirements at **Florida State College at Jacksonville**, and all other admissions criteria. 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 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. **There is no guarantee of admission to the NSU PA program.**

After discussing this program with designated pre-PA advisor listed below, he or she will determine what coursework you need, your eligibility for the **Florida State College at Jacksonville** dual admission applicant cohort, and when the Program of Study code (32NOV) and the unique 3 + 2 Intended Transfer Major (612NOV) should be added 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 Florida State College at Jacksonville College Catalog.

**Please check with one of the following designated Florida State College at Jacksonville pre-PA advisors or counselors for more information about the 3 + 2 prior to enrolling in any courses beyond the associate degree.**

#### 3 + 2 Points of Contact

Florida State College at Jacksonville:  
Downtown Campus, Alan Neuenfeldt: (904) 633-8212

Kent Campus, Kathleen Von Balson: (904) 381-3642  
North Campus, Barbara Jackson: (904) 766-6777 or Cheryl Black: 766-6761  
South Campus, Walter Jones: (904) 646-2302  
Deerwood Center, Megan Shields: (904) 997-2500  
Open Campus, Learner Support Center, Lin White: (904) 632-3240 (for out-of-town distance learners)

**This advisor will assist you in determining the coursework you need, your eligibility for the cohort, and when to add the 3 + 2 POS to your program of study records.**

### **General Timeline**

In Years One through Three of the Physician Assistant 3 + 2.25 Dual Admission Program, Florida State College at Jacksonville students will take and complete all Florida State College at Jacksonville AS 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 program, while working toward a baccalaureate degree. 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 State College at Jacksonville students will apply to NSU for admission into the Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant.

Following the curriculum requirements in this agreement 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 (Prerequisite and Elective Notes). Students will be asked to meet with a specific pre-PA advisor at Florida State College at Jacksonville to sign the Student Acceptance Agreement for the Dual Admission program, acknowledging an understanding of the requirements. There is no guarantee of admission to the NSU PA program.

If accepted by NSU, then in Year Four, that is the senior year of undergraduate education, Florida State College at 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 State College at 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.

### **Prerequisite and Elective Notes:**

- For students in the Florida State College at Jacksonville Applicant Cohort:
  - 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 science 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 (AS + 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.
- For Florida State College at Jacksonville students who are not in the FCCJ Applicant Cohort:
  - If a student has a 2.8 or higher, but less than a 3.0 GPA, the student can still apply to the NSU program, however the applicant may not be considered part of the FCCJ applicant cohort.
  - All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.
- A major prerequisite course may satisfy both Florida State College at Jacksonville General Education Requirements and NSU entrance requirements.  
Please review the General Education Requirements and talk with an advisor.
- Courses that are repeated to improve GPA will still be counted in the GPA calculation for the Florida State College at Jacksonville applicant cohort and for the NSU application process. All courses attempted and repeated will be included in the GPA calculations.

### **Florida State College at Jacksonville Applicant Cohort Eligibility:**

- Florida State College at Jacksonville AA and AS students must do all of the following:
  - Earn associates degree from Florida State College at Jacksonville
  - complete the additional prerequisites at Florida State College at Jacksonville,
  - have the 3.0 minimum GPA for the 90 semester credit hours,
  - have the 3.0 minimum GPA for the natural science courses,
  - have completed at least 90 semester hours (there are guidelines for when and where courses are completed)
  - have remained continuously enrolled (*enrollment not interrupted by non-attendance for more than three consecutive terms.*)
  - Obtain approval from designated pre-PA advisor regarding enrollment in upper division coursework required for NSU PA admission.
  - Other cohort guidelines will be explained in the Dual Admission Student Acceptance Agreement form.
- If a Florida State College at Jacksonville student is not eligible for the Florida State College at Jacksonville applicant cohort, the Florida State College at Jacksonville student may still complete the above coursework at Florida State College at Jacksonville and apply as part of the general applicant pool to NSU's Jacksonville PA program.

### **Upper Division Requirements:**

Students are required to complete 30 upper division semester hours beyond the Florida State College at Jacksonville Associate Degree. There are "upper division enrollment" guidelines for cohort members.

### **Other Notes:**

- The Physician Assistant program does not permit grade forgiveness in calculating GPA, based on Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistant (CASPA) guidelines. Therefore the Florida State College at Jacksonville GPA will be re-calculated in the admission process. All attempted courses will be included in calculating an overall and a science GPA.
- 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. Florida State College at Jacksonville cohort students have additional guidelines regarding the GRE.
- Students interested in the Physician Assistant program of study will be required to complete a CASPA and supplemental application to NSU's Office of Admissions in the Health Professions Division no later than the first semester after completing the associate's degree.
- 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 Florida State College at Jacksonville designated pre-PA 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 Florida State College at Jacksonville 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 Florida State College at Jacksonville catalog in effect during their fifth year.
- If students have not maintained continuous enrollment, they can still apply to the NSU program, but may not be considered part of the Florida State College at Jacksonville applicant cohort. **If the Florida State College at Jacksonville 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 Florida State College at Jacksonville cohort seats. These students can complete in the general pool of NSU Jacksonville PA applicants.**
- **Florida State College at Jacksonville cohort status does not guarantee admission to the NSU PA program.**
- If you do not plan to transfer to this specific transfer institution, please follow the Program of Study, as specified in the College Catalog.

### **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 pre-PA advisor at Florida State College at Jacksonville to sign the Student

Acceptance Agreement for the Dual Admission program, acknowledging an understanding the requirements. **Florida State College at Jacksonville cohort status does not guarantee admission to the NSU PA program.**

**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.

There are multiple steps to the application and admission process. There will be an intake form that students must complete with the designated pre-PA advisor Florida State College at Jacksonville to get in the 'pipeline' for this program. If eligible for the dual admission applicant cohort, there is a student agreement form that must also be signed.

**PA Points of Contact**

**Please check with one of the following Florida Community College advisors or counselors for more information about the 3 + 2 prior to enrolling in any courses beyond the associate degree.**

Florida State College at Jacksonville:

Downtown Campus, Alan Neuenfeldt: (904) 633-8212

Kent Campus, Kathleen Von Balson: (904) 381-3642

North Campus, Barbara Jackson: (904) 766-6777 or Cheryl Black: 766-6761

South Campus, Walter Jones: (904) 646-2302

Deerwood Center, Megan Shields: (904) 997-2500

Open Campus, Learner Support Center, Lin White: (904) 632-3240 (for out-of-town distance learners)

NSU: Jacksonville Education Center PA Office- Nicole Jolivet: 904-245-8976

**Special Note:** This document has been prepared and presented as an informational guide only. The program and transfer requirements provided herein are subject to change, amendment or deletion by Florida State College at Jacksonville or by the transfer institution as deemed appropriate.