About This Program . . .
The Physician Assistant program is a post-baccalaureate program, leading to a Master of Physician Assistant Studies degree (MPAS).

A Physician Assistant (PA) is a healthcare professional who is licensed to practice medicine under the supervision of a Doctor of medicine (MD) or Doctor of osteopathic medicine (DO) and can exercise delegated autonomy in decision-making. Physician Assistants can make clinical decisions and provide a variety of diagnostic, therapeutic, preventive, and health maintenance services to patients.

The CMU PA program offers a student-centered curriculum that has a unique emphasis on training compassionate and competent PAs to be ambassadors of wellness in their careers and communities. Our program places emphasis on wellness promotion and disease prevention for the individual patient and the community. The program is a rigorous 27-month, full-time on campus program consisting of 112 credits. The CMU PA Program curriculum is designed to educate clinicians with the knowledge and skills to be agents of excellence and innovation in the delivery of quality healthcare to the communities of Western Colorado and beyond.

To become a certified PA following completion of a Master's program, you must pass the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE).

Advising Process and DegreeWorks
This document is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn this degree. It is ultimately the student’s responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for her/his intended degree.

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar’s Office to evaluate progress towards a certificate and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor, program director, or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar’s Office.

Graduation Process
Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester before completing their degree requirements:

- Review their DegreeWorks audit
- Submit the “Intent to Graduate” form to the Registrar’s Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.
- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for the degree.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found at http://www.coloradomesa.edu/registrar/graduation.html.

If your petition for graduation is denied, it will be your responsibility to apply for graduation in a subsequent semester. Your “Intent to Graduate” does not automatically move to a later graduation date.
INSTITUTIONAL GRADUATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The following institutional requirements apply to all CMU graduate-level degrees. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- Graduate certificates consist of a minimum of 5 credit hours. Master’s degrees consist of a minimum of 30 credit hours. Doctoral degrees consist of a minimum of 60 credit hours.
- All credits in a graduate program must be minimally at the 500-level.
- At least fifty percent of the credit hours must be taken at CMU.
- Students must achieve a 3.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.
- Students may not apply coursework with a grade lower than a “B” toward graduation requirements.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and certificate requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See “Requirements for Graduate Degrees and Certificates” in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- 112 semester hours for the MPAS in Physician Assistant.
- PA program acceptance. Please see the catalog and program website for specific admissions requirements.
- All courses and course sequencing are required and must be completed at CMU.
- Students must successfully pass all didactic, clinical course work and summative exam.
MASTER OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES (112 semester hours)

- BIOL 500 - Advanced Human Anatomy (3)
- BIOL 500L - Advanced Human Anatomy Lab (1)
- PHAS 501 - Biomedical Science (4)
- PHAS 502 - Clinical Pharmacology (3)
- PHAS 503 - Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (2)
- PHAS 510 - Foundation to Clinical Medicine (2)
- PHAS 511 - Clinical Medicine I (13)
- PHAS 512 - Clinical Medicine II (13)
- PHAS 513 - Clinical Medicine III (13)
- PHAS 520 - History and Physical Exam (2)
- PHAS 520L - History and Physical Exam (1)
- PHAS 521 - Patient Assessment, Diagnostics and Clinical Skills Lab I (2)
- PHAS 522 - Patient Assessment, Diagnostics and Clinical Skills Lab II (2)
- PHAS 523 - Patient Assessment, Diagnostics and Clinical Skills Lab III (2)
- PHAS 530 - Introduction to Research and Evidence-Based Medicine (2)
- PHAS 531 - Clinical Reasoning I (2)
- PHAS 532 - Clinical Reasoning II (2)
- PHAS 533 - Clinical Reasoning III (2)
- PHAS 541 - PA Professionalism (2)
- PHAS 542 - PA Professionalism II (2)
- PHAS 543 - PA Professionalism Capstone (1)
- PHAS 570 - Clinical Year Seminar (1)
- PHAS 571 - Family Medicine Rotation (4)
- PHAS 572 - Behavioral Medicine and Mental Health Rotation (2)
- PHAS 573 - Internal Medicine Rotation (4)
- PHAS 574 - Women’s Health Rotation (2)
- PHAS 575 - Pediatric Medicine Rotation (2)
- PHAS 576 - Surgery Rotation (4)
- PHAS 577 - Emergency Medicine Rotation (4)
- PHAS 578 - Inpatient Medicine Rotation (4)
- PHAS 579 - Elective Rotation (4)
- PHAS 580 - Elective Rotation (4)
- PHAS 581 - Summative Seminar (1)
REQUIRED COURSE SEQUENCING

Year One, Spring Semester: 20 credits
- PHAS 541 - PA Professionalism (2)
- BIOL 500 - Advanced Human Anatomy (3)
- BIOL 500L - Advanced Human Anatomy Lab (1)
- PHAS 501 - Biomedical Science (4)
- PHAS 502 - Clinical Pharmacology (3)
- PHAS 510 - Foundation to Clinical Medicine (2)
- PHAS 520 - History and Physical Exam (2)
- PHAS 520L - History and Physical Exam (1)
- PHAS 530 - Introduction to Research and Evidence-Based Medicine (2)

Year One, Summer Semester: 17 credits
- PHAS 511 - Clinical Medicine I (13)
- PHAS 531 - Clinical Reasoning I (2)
- PHAS 521 - Patient Assessment, Diagnostics and Clinical Skills Lab I (2)

Year One, Fall Semester: 19 credits
- PHAS 512 - Clinical Medicine II (13)
- PHAS 532 - Clinical Reasoning II (2)
- PHAS 522 - Patient Assessment, Diagnostics and Clinical Skills Lab II (2)
- PHAS 503 - Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (2)

Year Two, Spring Semester: 18 credits
- PHAS 513 - Clinical Medicine III (13)
- PHAS 533 - Clinical Reasoning III (2)
- PHAS 523 - Patient Assessment, Diagnostics and Clinical Skills Lab III (2)
- PHAS 570 - Clinical Year Seminar (1)

Year Two, Summer Semester: 12 credits
- PHAS 571 - Family Medicine Rotation (4)
- PHAS 572 - Behavioral Medicine and Mental Health Rotation (2)
- PHAS 573 - Internal Medicine Rotation (4)
- PHAS 542 - PA Professionalism II (2)

Year Two, Fall Semester: 13 credits
- PHAS 574 - Women’s Health Rotation (2)
- PHAS 575 - Pediatric Medicine Rotation (2)
- PHAS 576 - Surgery Rotation (4)
- PHAS 577 - Emergency Medicine Rotation (4)
- PHAS 543 - PA Professionalism Capstone (1)

Year Three, Spring Semester: 13 credits
- PHAS 578 - Inpatient Medicine Rotation (4)
- PHAS 579 - Elective Rotation (4)
- PHAS 580 - Elective Rotation (4)
- PHAS 581 - Summative Seminar (1)
- PHAS 595 - Independent Study (If needed) (1-3)

Note: Above rotation schedule is a version of a possible schedule. Individual student’s rotation schedules during the clinical year will vary.