What is a Physician Assistant (PA)?

- Physician Assistants (PAs) are health care professionals who work under the supervision of a physician.
- PA scope of practice is determined by their physician colleagues and the rules and regulations of the province in which they are practicing.
- PAs provide a broad range of health care services in primary and specialty care, including patient assessments, clinical investigations, diagnoses and treatment plans, therapeutic interventions, and counselling on preventive care.

Program Overview

The goal of the PA program is to graduate physician assistants who are ready to enter the healthcare workforce as adaptable, knowledgeable and competent health practitioners dedicated to life-long learning.

Curriculum

- 24 months
- Problem-based, small-group and self-directed learning
- Focus on the Physician Assistant role in health care
- Promotion of inter-professional education and training

Year 1: Students are on campus participating in problem based learning tutorials, medical simulations, large group sessions, professional competency curriculum, communications and clinical skills.

Year 2: Students are across Ontario completing core and elective clinical clerkship rotations.

Admission Procedures

Minimum Requirements:

- 2 years of undergraduate university
- 3.0 GPA (OMSAS 4.0 scale)
- No specific course requirements
- Calculate a cumulative GPA for all undergraduate university study

STEP 1:

Apply by February 1, 2019

- Submit OUAC Form 105D at ouac.on.ca
- Send all transcript to Registrar’s Office (Gilmour Hall, Room 108)
- Transcript must include fall grades

STEP 2:

Supplementary Application

- Access sent by e-mail in mid-February
- Pay Supplementary Application Assessment fee of $85 by cheque or money order

STEP 3:

Mini Multiple Interview (MMI)

- Held by mid-May
- 70-80 individuals invited
- Invitations e-mailed by early April
Financial Information

Careful consideration should be given to the financial requirements of this program.
- Tuition: 2018-19 fees are approximately $14,580 for a 12-month academic term, including supplementary fees of $1000 per year.
  - It is anticipated that these fees will moderately increase for 2019-20.
- Vehicle and transportation costs: Students must have their own transportation for clinical placements and rotations.
- Travel and living expenses: Students are placed in a variety of clinical sites across Ontario and often need to relocate. Travel and living expenses are the responsibility of the student.
- Additional costs: Books, diagnostic equipment and other learning resources estimated at $2,500.

Conditions of Enrollment

Upon acceptance, successful applicants will be required to annually provide:
- Record of completion of required immunizations
- Proof of Basic Life Support Provider certification
- Police Records Check including vulnerable sector

Professional Certification

- After graduation, PAs are eligible to challenge the national certification examination through the Canadian Physician Assistants Certification Council of Canada (PACCC).
- Upon successful completion of this examination, the PA is designated as a Canadian Certified Physician Assistant (CCPA).

Further Information

Links:
- Health Force Ontario: healthforceontario.ca
- Canadian Association of Physician Assistants: capa-acam.ca
- Physician Assistant Education Association: paeonline.org

Fast Facts

- Last accredited by the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) in June 2016.
- Current accreditation status maintained by the PA Certification Council of Canada.
- 24 PA students were accepted for the Class of 2020.
- Offers for September are sent by e-mail in early June.