PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES (MS)

Contact Info
University of Colorado PA Program
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OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
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CHA/PA Program Overview
The three-year, innovative curriculum of the University of Colorado PA program is designed to integrate clinical and basic sciences to prepare graduates with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to practice medicine as part of the health care team. Graduates practice in all areas of medicine and serve patients of all ages.

Welcome from the Director
Welcome to the University of Colorado Child Health Associate/Physician Assistant (CHA/PA) Program. I invite you to explore our website to learn more about our program and students. You will see that we are unique among Physician Assistant programs in terms of our curriculum and courses. We are proud to be a part of this dynamic educational program that is consistently among the top-ranked programs according to US News and World Report.

Over the past 50 years, over 1,200 CHA/PA graduates have entered the workforce. CHA/PA alumni can be found throughout Colorado and across the United States, practicing in a wide variety of primary and specialty care settings.

The program is also recognized for its unique educational value and comprehensive physician assistant training. Costs for our three-year program for both in-state and out-of-state students are lower or comparable to most two-year training experiences. In 2018, we launched the Colorado Curriculum. Based on current research in learning theory, this curriculum is designed to support learner mastery of the complex concepts of patient care. In addition to our extensive adult curriculum and integrated clinical training across all three years, we offer additional training in pediatric medicine and behavioral health as well as track options in rural and global health.

We are proud of our program and fortunate to be at the heart of a vibrant and growing health sciences center. The Anschutz Medical Campus has state-of-the-art hospitals, research centers, and nationally recognized health professional schools. Our campus was also built with a vision of interprofessional education; through our longitudinal interprofessional training curriculum, we are working together to prepare all our learners for team-based practice models of the future.

Thanks for your interest and I hope to see you on campus.

Jonathan Bowser
CHA/PA Program Director
Associate Dean of Physician Assistant Studies
Associate Professor, Section Head of Pediatrics

Newsletter
Would you like to receive our newsletter? It is sent quarterly to all those interested in CHA/PA. E-mail PA-info@ucdenver.edu to sign up.

Welcome, Prospective Students!
The Physician Assistant program at the CU School of Medicine is a graduate-level program awarding a Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) upon completion. The 36-month, full-time curriculum provides comprehensive physician assistant education in primary care across the lifespan, with expanded training in pediatrics and care of the medically underserved.

One class of 44 students is enrolled in the summer semester each year through a competitive admissions process. Please read on for details on how to apply, prerequisites, and much more!

Admissions Procedures
How do I apply? (https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/physician-assistant-program/prospective-students/how-to-apply/) Information on deadlines, the CASPA application, the supplemental application, and CASPer.

Admissions process (https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/physician-assistant-program/prospective-students/admissions-process/) - An overview of requirements, application processing, and interviews.

Admissions Timeline (https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/physician-assistant-program/prospective-students/admissions-timeline/) - Table outlining the admission’s timeline from application to orientation.

Prerequisites and Program Requirements
Information on prerequisites (https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/physician-assistant-program/prospective-students/prerequisites/), including minimum GPAs, courses required before applying, courses required before matriculation, and coursework taken outside the U.S. You can find a Prerequisite Worksheet on this page to help you determine what prerequisite coursework you still have outstanding, as well as a list of advisors at local institutions.


Questions?
Information Sessions (https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/physician-assistant-program/prospective-students/information-sessions/) - Attend an information session to get an overview of the CHA/PA program and prerequisites. Following the presentation, current students will answer your questions and give you a tour of the campus!

Frequently Asked Questions (https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/physician-assistant-program/prospective-students/faq/) - Review for commonly asked questions about the program, applications, and courses.

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our students have performed above the national average in score and fully accredited PA Program. Graduates are well prepared to perform that all students must complete to receive the MPAS degree from our and medically underserved populations. There are specific requirements training in pediatrics and the need for service to disadvantaged, at risk the program, the CHA/PA Program curriculum provides comprehensive Professional Master's Degree (MPAS). In accordance with the mission of for its curriculum in primary care medicine. The Program confers a training of students. The faculty within the departments of Pediatrics, Colorado, and Denver Health and Hospitals in addition to community Affiliations with the University of Colorado Hospital, Children's Hospital quality of the learning experiences provided at the CHA/PA Program. As a part of the University of Colorado School of Medicine, the faculty As Interprofessional Education and Tracks

Educational content is enhanced through the applications of family-centered care, behavioral and psychosocial perspectives as well as social and community initiatives for health and wellness. The program has integrated content in public health, oral health, professionalism, and interprofessional education (https://www.cuanschutz.edu/centers/ IPE/). Students with a personal area of interest may also have the opportunity to participate in specialized tracks to enhance learning in Rural, Global Health, and Pediatric Critical and Acute Care.

Clinical Experience and Affiliates

The curriculum includes a fully integrated clinical curriculum across all three years with clinical rotations in the hospital and community settings. During clinical experiences, students participate in history-taking, physical examination and assessment, development of a differential diagnosis and clinical decision-making and planning of treatments and interventions. Students work closely with preceptors and other members of the health care team and are evaluated on skills and competencies required for patient care.

As a part of the University of Colorado School of Medicine, the faculty of the entire school of medicine and affiliates contribute greatly to the quality of the learning experiences provided at the CHA/PA Program. Affiliations with the University of Colorado Hospital, Children's Hospital Colorado, and Denver Health and Hospitals in addition to community centers and clinics provide a network of clinical rotations to enhance the training of students. The faculty within the departments of Pediatrics, Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Surgery, and others regularly participate in both classroom and clinical training of the CHA/PA Program students.

Degree

The University of Colorado PA Program has gained national recognition for its curriculum in primary care medicine. The Program confers a Professional Master's Degree (MPAS). In accordance with the mission of the program, the CHA/PA Program curriculum provides comprehensive physician assistant education in primary medical care with additional training in pediatrics and the need for service to disadvantaged, at risk and medically underserved populations. There are specific requirements that all students must complete to receive the MPAS degree from our fully accredited PA Program. Graduates are well prepared to perform in primary care practice with patients across the lifespan. Historically our students have performed above the national average in score and passing rate on the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) examinations.

Graduation and awarding of the Masters of Physician Assistant Studies is based upon the following requirements:

- Successful completion of all coursework and rotations of the University of Colorado PA Program
- Exhibiting professionalism throughout the course of study
- Successful completion of the Comprehensive Clinical Knowledge and Clinical Skills Examinations

Lists of courses required to complete each degree listed here.

MPAS 5000 - Summer Immersion (10 Credits)
This first year course is designed to introduce learners to the Anschutz Medical Campus, fundamentals of learning strategies, PA professional roles, wellness and resilience and the clinical presentation curriculum.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Summer.

MPAS 5001 - Hematology, Infection, Inflammation and Malignancy I (4 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a first-year integrated learning environment covering both the basic sciences and clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with hematologic, infection, inflammation and malignancy conditions.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 5002 - Gastrointestinal, Genitourinary and Renal I (5 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a first-year integrated learning environment covering both the basic sciences and clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with gastrointestinal, genitourinary and renal conditions.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 5003 - Cardiovascular and Pulmonary I (5 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a first-year integrated learning environment covering both the basic sciences and clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with cardiovascular and pulmonary conditions.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 5004 - Dermatology and HEENT I (4 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a first-year integrated learning environment covering both the basic sciences and clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with dermatologic, head, ears, eyes, nose, and throat conditions.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Spring.
MPAS 5005 - Musculoskeletal and Neurology I (4 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a first-year integrated learning environment covering both the basic sciences and clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with musculoskeletal and neurologic conditions.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 5006 - Endocrinology and Reproduction I (4 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a first-year integrated learning environment covering both the basic sciences and clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with endocrine and reproductive conditions.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 5007 - Psychiatry I (3 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a first-year integrated learning environment covering both the basic sciences and clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with psychiatric conditions.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 5020 - Clinical Skills I (3 Credits)
Learners will be engaged in a first-year longitudinal learning experience to facilitate the development of various clinical skills through discussion and simulation.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 5021 - Clinical Skills II (3 Credits)
Learners will be engaged in a first-year longitudinal learning experience to facilitate the development of various clinical skills through discussion and simulation. This is a continuation of MPAS 5020.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 5030 - Foundations in Prevention, Advocacy and Prof Practice (2 Credits)
Learners will be engaged in a first-year longitudinal learning experience dedicated to role development of a practitioner who cares for patients across the lifespan including professionalism, advocacy, preventative medicine and patient wellness.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 5031 - Foundations in Prevention, Advocacy and Prof Practice (2 Credits)
Learners will be engaged in a first-year longitudinal learning experience dedicated to role development of a practitioner who cares for patients across the lifespan including professionalism, advocacy, preventative medicine and patient wellness.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 5050 - Clinical Experiences I (4 Credits)
Learners will be engaged in a preparatory course that provides a fundamental orientation to the clinical environment.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 5051 - Community Clinic I (2 Credits)
Clinical experience designed to give the student an introduction to ambulatory medicine and an understanding of pediatric and family practice medicine.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 5052 - Community Clinic II (2 Credits)
Clinical experience designed to give the student an introduction to ambulatory medicine and an understanding of pediatric and family practice medicine.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 5053 - Community Clinic III (2 Credits)
Clinical experience designed to give the student an introduction to ambulatory medicine and an understanding of pediatric and family practice medicine.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 5911 - Pediatric Critical and Acute Care -1st year (2 Credits)
Clinical experience designed to give the student an introduction to pediatric critical and acute care and pediatric inpatient medicine. Restricted to CHA/PA students. Students must complete application process and be accepted before enrollment. Pre-requisite: Students must complete application process and be accepted before enrollment.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 5944 - Care of Hospitalized Adults - 1st Year (2 Credits)
Clinical experience designed to give the student an introduction to hospitalized adult inpatient medicine.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 5951 - CHA/PA Independent Study I - 1st year (1 Credit)
Approval is required by the Associate Director of Curriculum. This course is offered to those students that are pursuing an independent course of study for 16 hours during the semester they are enrolled. Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 5952 - CHA/PA Independent Study II - 1st Year (2 Credits)
Approval is required by the Associate Director of Curriculum. This course is offered to those students that are pursuing an independent course of study for 32 hours during the semester they are enrolled. Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 5953 - CHA/PA Independent Study III - 1st Year (3 Credits)
Approval is required by the Associate Director of Curriculum. This course is offered to those students that are pursuing an independent course of study for 48 hours during the semester they are enrolled. Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.
MPAS 5983 - Global Health Track Elective I - 1st Year (1 Credit)
Registration is restricted to those students enrolled in authorized Track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA Students enrolled in Track; Must receive approval from Associate Director of Curriculum.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 5984 - Global Health Track Elective II - 1st Year (1 Credit)
Registration is restricted to those students enrolled in authorized Track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA Students enrolled in Track; Must receive approval from Associate Director of Curriculum.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 5985 - Rural Health Track Elective I - 1st Year (1 Credit)
Registration is restricted to those students enrolled in authorized Track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA Students enrolled in Track; Must receive approval from Associate Director of Curriculum.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 5986 - Rural Health Track Elective II - 1st Year (1 Credit)
Registration is restricted to those students enrolled in authorized Track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA Students enrolled in Track; Must receive approval from Associate Director of Curriculum.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 6001 - Hematology, Infection, Inflammation and Malignancy II (4 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a second-year integrated learning environment applying advanced principles of clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with hematologic, infection, inflammation and malignancy conditions. Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 6002 - Gastrointestinal, Genitourinary, and Renal II (5 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a second-year integrated learning environment applying advanced principles of clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with gastrointestinal, genitourinary and renal conditions. Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 6003 - Cardiovascular and Pulmonary II (5 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a second-year integrated learning environment applying advanced principles of clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with cardiovascular and pulmonary conditions. Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 6004 - Dermatology and HEENT II (4 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a second-year integrated learning environment applying advanced principles of clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with dermatologic, head, ears, eyes, nose and throat conditions. Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 6005 - Musculoskeletal and Neurology II (4 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a second-year integrated learning environment applying advanced principles of clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with musculoskeletal and neurologic conditions. Requisite: Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 6006 - Endocrinology and Reproduction II (4 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a second-year integrated learning environment applying advanced principles of clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with endocrine and reproductive conditions. Requisite: Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 6007 - Psychiatry II (3 Credits)
Learners will be immersed in a second-year integrated learning environment applying advanced principles of clinical medicine necessary for a primary care provider to care for patients presenting with psychiatric and behavioral health conditions. Requisite: Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 6020 - Clinical Skills III (3 Credits)
Learners will be engaged in a second-year longitudinal learning experience to facilitate the development of various clinical skills through discussion and simulation. Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail with IP
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 6021 - Clinical Skills IV (3 Credits)
Learners will be engaged in a second-year longitudinal learning experience to facilitate the development of various clinical skills through discussion and simulation. This is a continuation of MPAS 6020. Requisite: Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Spring.
MPAS 6030 - Foundations in Prevention, Advocacy and Prof Practice (2 Credits)
Learners will be engaged in a second-year longitudinal learning experience dedicated to role development of a practitioner who cares for patients across the lifespan including professionalism, advocacy, preventative medicine and patient wellness.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 6031 - Foundations in Prevention, Advocacy and Prof Practice (2 Credits)
Learners will be engaged in a second-year longitudinal learning experience dedicated to role development of a practitioner who cares for patients across the lifespan including professionalism, advocacy, preventative medicine and patient wellness.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Summer.

MPAS 6051 - Community Clinic I (2 Credits)
Students will learn clinical skills in a variety of settings. Skills will include history taking, physical diagnosis, assessment and patient management under the supervision of community clinical preceptors. Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6052 - Community Clinic II (2 Credits)
Students will learn clinical skills in a variety of settings. Skills will include history taking, physical diagnosis, assessment and patient management under the supervision of community clinical preceptors. Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6053 - Community Clinic III (2 Credits)
Students will learn clinical skills in a variety of settings. Skills will include history taking, physical diagnosis, assessment and patient management under the supervision of community clinical preceptors. Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6054 - Community Clinic IV (2 Credits)
Students will learn clinical skills in a variety of settings. Skills will include history taking, physical diagnosis, assessment and patient management under the supervision of community clinical preceptors. Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6612 - Pediatric Critical and Acute Care -2nd year (2 Credits)
Students will develop assessment and patient management skills in care of pediatric patients in critical and acute care and inpatient settings. Restricted to CHA/PA students. Students must complete application process and be accepted before enrollment.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.

MPAS 6640 - Emergency Medicine Preceptorship (2 Credits)
Students will develop assessment and patient management skills in care of patients in emergency medicine settings. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6641 - Care of Hospitalized Adults -2nd Year (2 Credits)
Clinical experience designed to give the student an introduction to hospitalized adult inpatient medicine.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6651 - CHA/PA Independent Study I - 2nd Year (1 Credit)
This course is offered to those students that are pursuing an independent course of study for 16 hours during the semester they are enrolled.
Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA students; Must receive approval from Associate Director of Curriculum.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6652 - CHA/PA Independent Study II - 2nd Year (2 Credits)
Approval is required by the Associate Director of Curriculum. This course is offered to those students that are pursuing an independent course of study for 32 hours during the semester they are enrolled. Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6653 - CHA/PA Independent Study III - 2nd Year (3 Credits)
Approval is required by the Associate Director of Curriculum. This course is offered to those students that are pursuing an independent course of study for 48 hours during the semester they are enrolled. Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6670 - Women's Health Preceptorship (2 Credits)
Students will develop assessment and patient management skills in women's health under the supervision of community clinical preceptors.
Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6671 - Guatemala Clinical Immersion Experience I (2 Credits)
Two-week Spanish language immersion experience followed by a two-week primary care experience in the country of Guatemala. Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6672 - Guatemala Immersion I for Global Health Track (2 Credits)
Two-week Spanish language immersion experience followed by a two-week clinic experience in the country of Guatemala. for fulfillment of Global Health Track requirements. Registration restricted to CHA/PA students only.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Summer.
MPAS 6673 - Global Health Track Elective I - 2nd Year (1 Credit)
Registration is restricted to those students enrolled in authorized Track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA Students enrolled in Track; Must receive approval from Associate Director of Curriculum.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 6675 - Rural Health Track Elective I - 2nd Year (1 Credit)
Prerequisites: Restricted to CHA/PA Students in authorized track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 6677 - Urban Underserved Health Track Elective I - 2nd year (1 Credit)
Registration is restricted to those students enrolled in authorized Track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA Students enrolled in Track; Must receive approval from Associate Director of Curriculum.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Spring.

MPAS 6679 - Rural Track Elective Experience II – 4 Weeks (3 Credits)
2 week experiential learning opportunity associated with interprofessional rural track. Restricted to CHA/PA Students in authorized track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Summer.

MPAS 6680 - Track Elective Experience I – 2 Weeks (2 Credits)
2 week experiential learning opportunity associated with interprofessional track area of interest. Restricted to CHA/PA Students in authorized track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Summer.

MPAS 6681 - Track Elective Experience II – 4 Weeks (3 Credits)
An elective clinical experience for 2nd year Physician Assistant students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail with IP
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6682 - Rural Track Elective Experience (0 Credits)
2 week experiential learning opportunity associated with interprofessional rural track. Restricted to CHA/PA Students in authorized track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Summer.
MPAS 6930 - Primary Care I (4 Credits)
The course involves active participation in an ambulatory primary care practice with exposure to patients and caregivers across the lifespan, including pediatric, adolescent, women of child-bearing age, adult and geriatric patients. The student will have exposure to patients requiring acute, chronic, emergent and preventative care.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6936 - Pediatric Elective II - Four Week Rotation (Sec I, II, III, IV) (4 Credits)
This clinical experience involves active participation in a specialty area of pediatric medicine for 4 weeks. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6938 - Adolescent Medicine (4 Credits)
This course involves active participation in the care of patients in a clinical setting specializing in adolescent medicine, with an emphasis on the medical, psychosocial, developmental, educational and sexual issues that are unique to adolescents. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6940 - Primary Care II (4 Credits)
The course involves active participation in an ambulatory primary care practice with exposure to patients and caregivers across the lifespan, including pediatric, adolescent, women of child-bearing age, adult and geriatric patients. The student will have exposure to patients requiring acute, chronic, emergent and preventative care.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6942 - Inpatient Adult Medicine (4 Credits)
This course involves active participation as a member of the house-staff inpatient team in a teaching hospital. Attendance at morning rounds, making case presentations and participating in the night and weekend call schedule are required. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA Students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6944 - Care of Hospitalized Adults (4 Credits)
Clinical experience designed to give the student an introduction to hospitalized adult inpatient medicine.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6947 - Primary Care III (4 Credits)
The course involves active participation in an ambulatory primary care practice with exposure to patients and caregivers across the lifespan, including pediatric, adolescent, women of child-bearing age, adult and geriatric patients. The student will have exposure to patients requiring acute, chronic, emergent and preventative care.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6948 - Emergency Medicine (4 Credits)
The course involves active participation in an emergency department or urgent care practice. Attendance at meetings, conferences, and participating in the night and weekend call schedule are required.
Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6952 - Rural Track Family Medicine (Sec I, II, III) (4 Credits)
This block is comprised of three sections which must be completed in sequence in a single family medicine practice located in rural Colorado. The sequence involves participation in the care of patients in a family medicine setting, including health maintenance, diagnosis and treatment, patient education and follow-up for patients of all ages. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Repeatable. Max Credits: 4.
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6970 - Adult Elective II - 4-week Rotation (Sec I, II, III, IV) (4 Credits)
This clinical experience involves active participation in a specialty area of adult medicine for 4 weeks. Restrictions: Course restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Repeatable. Max Credits: 4.
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6971 - Guatemala Clinical Immersion Experience II (4 Credits)
Four week clinic experience in the country of Guatemala. Requisite: Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6972 - Guatemala Immersion II for Global Health Track (4 Credits)
Four-week rotation in the country of Guatemala in fulfillment of Global Health Track Requirement
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6974 - Primary Care IV (4 Credits)
The course involves active participation in an ambulatory primary care practice with exposure to patients and caregivers across the lifespan, including pediatric, adolescent, women of child-bearing age, adult and geriatric patients. The student will have exposure to patients requiring acute, chronic, emergent and preventative care.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.
MPAS 6975 - Behavioral & Mental Health (4 Credits)
Course involves participation in the care of patients in a behavioral or mental health setting. Prerequisite: Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.

MPAS 6979 - CU Connections I (1 Credit)
This course involves clinical preparation modules, courses, workshops and practice activities.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6977 - MPAS 6979 - CU Connections II (1 Credit)
This course is a continuation of MPAS 6978.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6980 - Third Year Clinical Seminar (2 Credits)
Third year clinical affords students the opportunity to present a patient encounter using multimedia technology and evidence-based research. This forum will encourage discussion of a vast array of medical conditions. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6983 - Global Health Track Elective I - 3rd Year (4 Credits)
Registration is restricted to those students enrolled in authorized Track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA Students enrolled in Track; Must receive approval from Associate Director of Curriculum.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6985 - Global Health & Disasters (2 Credits)
This course prepares its participants for international experiences and future global health work. This is an interactive training course which incorporates readings, lectures, small group problem based learning exercises, technical skill sessions and a disaster simulation exercise. Requisites: Registration is restricted to those students enrolled in authorized Track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall.

MPAS 6987 - Urban Underserved Health Track Elective - 3rd Year (4 Credits)
Registration is restricted to those students enrolled in authorized Track. Permission must be given from the CHA/PA Program Associate Director of Curriculum and Course Directors from the SOM Faculty. Restrictions: Restricted to CHA/PA Students enrolled in Track; Must receive approval from Associate Director of Curriculum.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6991 - CHA/PA Independent Study I - 3rd year (1 Credit)
Approval is required by the Associate Director of Curriculum. This course is offered to those students that are pursuing an independent course of study for 16 hours during the semester they are enrolled. Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6992 - CHA/PA Independent Study II - 3rd Year (2 Credits)
Approval is required by the Associate Director of Curriculum. This course is offered to those students that are pursuing an independent course of study for 32 hours during the semester they are enrolled. Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

MPAS 6993 - CHA/PA Independent Study III - 3rd Year (3 Credits)
Approval is required by the Associate Director of Curriculum. This course is offered to those students that are pursuing an independent course of study for 48 hours during the semester they are enrolled. Restricted to CHA/PA students.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail Only
A- MPAS Majors Only
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

Course list will go here

Student Resources


CHA/PA Faculty and Staff
Core Faculty
Jonathan M. Bowser, MS, PA-C  
Program Director  
Associate Dean  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Section Head  
Profile (https://som.ucdenver.edu/Profiles/Faculty/Profile/3392/)

Tai Lockspeiser, MD, MHPE  
Medical Director  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
Profile (https://som.ucdenver.edu/Profiles/Faculty/Profile/14386/)

Jacqueline Sivahop, Ed.D., PA-C  
Associate Program Director — Program Quality  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
Profile (https://som.ucdenver.edu/Profiles/Faculty/Profile/12181/)

Amy Akerman, MPAS, PA-C  
Faculty  
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics  
Profile (https://som.ucdenver.edu/Profiles/Faculty/Profile/25039/)

Kelsey Dougherty, MMSc, PA-C  
Faculty  
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics  
Profile (https://som.ucdenver.edu/Profiles/Faculty/Profile/23262/)

Tanya Fernandez, MS, PA-C  
Faculty  
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics  
Profile (https://som.ucdenver.edu/Profiles/Faculty/Profile/25049/)

Rebecca Maldonado, MSHPE, PA-C  
Faculty  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
Profile (https://som.ucdenver.edu/Profiles/Faculty/Profile/17060/)

Joyce Nieman, MHS, PA-C  
Clinical Site Educator  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
Profile (https://som.ucdenver.edu/Profiles/Faculty/Profile/5497/)

Denise Ogden, MA, PA-C  
Faculty  
Clinical Instructor of Pediatrics  
Profile (https://som.ucdenver.edu/Profiles/Faculty/Profile/6399/)

Kate Woodard, PA-C  
Faculty  
Clinical Instructor of Pediatrics  
Profile (https://som.ucdenver.edu/Profiles/Faculty/Profile/25806/)

Adjunct Faculty

Rachel Byrne, MS, PA-C  
Claudia Luna-Asturias, LCSW  
Amanda Miller, PA-C

Contact Info

University of Colorado PA Program  
Mail Stop F543  
13001 E. 17th Place, Room E7019  
Aurora, Colorado 80045

Phone: (303) 724-7963  
Fax: (303) 724-1350  
PA-info@ucdenver.edu

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Newsletter

Would you like to receive our newsletter? It is sent quarterly to all those interested in CHA/PA. E-mail PA-info@ucdenver.edu to sign up.

LICENSE is a mnemonic for highlighting the vision and goals of the Colorado Curriculum.

Longitudinal

The Colorado Curriculum is a 3-year, spiral design curriculum that progresses from foundational concepts to more complex topics and skills in a developmentally appropriate manner.

Integrated

The Colorado Curriculum integrates basic science, clinical medicine, and professional practice in didactic and active learning sessions for each clinical presentation.

Clinical Presentations

The Colorado Curriculum is anchored in over 70 clinical presentations arranged in 7 body system blocks, and drives learning through a case based approach.
Entry Ready

The Colorado Curriculum prepares students to meet all professional competencies to practice in primary care medicine, including interprofessional team practice, meeting the needs of the profession and the communities it serves.

Needs-Based

The Colorado Curriculum uses continuous quality improvement measures and assessments to monitor and respond to all stakeholder needs, including learners, faculty, patients, preceptors, and the community.

Student/Learner Centered

The Colorado Curriculum places learners/students at its center, encouraging reflective practice and wellness as they grow to be lifelong learners.

Experiential

The Colorado Curriculum grounds all learning in the context of the clinical encounter, using 4 threads to integrate and apply content to specific cases, patient populations and clinical settings.

CHA/PA Core Competencies

COMPETENCIES REQUIRED OF CHA/PA PROGRAM STUDENTS UPON GRADUATION

GRADUATE CORE COMPETENCIES Upon graduation CHA/PA students are expected to demonstrate competencies in specific areas. Performance should be commensurate with that of a new practitioner. The CHA/PA program provides educational experiences to support student development of requisite knowledge, skills and attitudes. I. PATIENT CARE CHA/PA graduates must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate and effective for health promotion, disease prevention and the treatment of health problems. Graduates are expected to: A. Communicate effectively and demonstrate caring and respectful behaviors when interacting with patients and their families B. Elicit a detailed and accurate history from their patients C. Make informed decisions about diagnostic and therapeutic interventions based on patient information and preferences, up-to-date scientific evidence, and clinical judgment D. Perform competently all diagnostic and therapeutic procedures considered essential for the area of practice, including an appropriate physical exam E. Develop and implement patient management plans and health care services, including plans for health promotion, disease prevention, and medical and surgical conditions F. Provide education and counseling to patients and families regarding health care management G. Use information technology to support patient care decisions and patient education H. Work under the supervision of a physician and with other health care professionals from other disciplines to provide patient-focused care II. MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE CHA/PA graduates must demonstrate knowledge about established and evolving biomedical and clinical information (including epidemiological and socialbehavioral sciences) and demonstrate the application of that knowledge to patient care. Graduates are expected to: A. Demonstrate an investigatory and analytical approach to clinical problem-solving B. Know and apply basic science and clinical knowledge appropriate to their clinical practice III. PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT CHA/PA graduates must be able to evaluate their practice in the context of current scientific evidence. Graduates must be able to access, critically evaluate and apply this evidence to improve patient care. A. Analyze current practice and identify areas for practice improvement B. Identify, locate and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients' health C. Obtain and use information to benefit their own patient population D. Apply knowledge of study designs and statistical methods to the appraisal of studies and other information on diagnostic and therapeutic effectiveness E. Use information technology to manage information, access on-line information; and support their own continued learning IV. INTERPERSONAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS CHA/PA graduates must be able to demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, their patients families, and professional colleagues from a variety of disciplines. Graduates are expected to: A. Create and sustain a therapeutic and ethically sound relationship with patients B. Use effective listening skills and elicit and provide information using effective nonverbal, explanatory questioning and writing skills C. Work effectively with others as a team member or leader of a health care team or other professional group, under the supervision of a physician D. Use effective communication skills to refer patients to other health care providers or systems V. PROFESSIONALISM CHA/PA graduates must demonstrate commitment to professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to diverse patient populations. Graduates are expected to: A. Demonstrate respect, compassion, and integrity; responsiveness to the needs of patients and society that supersedes self-interest; accountability to patients, society and the profession; and commitment to excellence and on-going professional development B. Demonstrate a commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of clinical care, confidentiality of patient information, informed consent and business practices C. Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to patients’ culture, age, gender and disabilities VI. SYSTEM-BASED PRACTICE CHA/PA graduates must demonstrate awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide care that is of optimal value. Graduates are expected to: A. Understand how their patient care and professional practices affect other health care professionals in the health care organization, the larger society and how these elements of the system affect their own practice B. Know how medical practice and delivery systems differ from one another, including methods of controlling health care costs and allocating resources C. Practice cost-effective health care and resource allocation that does not compromise quality of care D. Advocate for quality patient care and assist patients in dealing with system complexities E. Know how to partner with health care managers and providers to assess, coordinate and improve health care and know how these activities can affect system performance.