Physician Assistant Schools – Canada

CANADIAN SCHOOLS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McMaster University</th>
<th>University of Toronto Northern School of Medicine the Michener Institute</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physician Assistant Education Program</td>
<td>The Consortium of PA Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Health Sciences</td>
<td>Physician Assistant Professional Degree Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/physicianassistant/index.html">www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/physicianassistant/index.html</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.facmed.utoronto.ca/programs/healthscience/PAEducation.htm">www.facmed.utoronto.ca/programs/healthscience/PAEducation.htm</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

University of Manitoba
Physician Assistant Education Program
Faculty of Medicine
http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/medicine/education/paep/

What is a Physician Assistant?
A Physician Assistant is a health care professional who provides a broad range of medical services while working under the supervision of a physician. Physician Assistants help to increase access to health care in a timely manner and reduce the workload of physicians to ensure excellence in health care.

How are Physician Assistants trained?
Physician Assistant programs consist of a unique combination between academics and clinical placements in a problem-based learning format. In this format, clinical problems require students to understand the underlying biological, physical and behavioral principles and integrate this knowledge with appropriate collection of data and appraisal of evidence in order to find a solution. In this way, students are able create lifelong working and learning habits that allow them to work within a team, and learn from their peers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Courses</th>
<th>Clinical Placements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physiology</td>
<td>Family Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathophysiology</td>
<td>Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professionalism</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>Psychiatry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pediatric</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FAQ - Physician Assistant

Below is some general information to help you with your applications and questions about Physician Assistants. If you have specific questions, please contact the schools directly.

How is a Physician Assistant (PA) different from a Physician?
- A PA is licensed to practice medicine under the supervision of a Physician
- The scope of a PA’s practice corresponds to the supervising Physician’s practice

What are the roles and responsibilities for a PA?
- PA’s conduct physical exams, diagnose and treat illnesses, order and interpret tests, counsel on preventative health care, and assist in surgery

What are the requirements for PA schools?
- PA students generally go through a minimum of two years of school
- Around a 3.0 GPA (8 on the McMaster scale)

What is the difference between PA and Nurse Practitioner?
- PAs always work in a supervised role whereas a Nurse Practitioner is a registered nurse with post-baccalaureate education and clinical experience and able to work independently. Nurse Practitioners have the legal authority to independently perform a number of authorized acts in their setting, such as prescribing medications.

Where can I work as a PA?
- Clinical Settings
- Doctor’s Office
- Research Labs
- Hospitals

Relevant Websites
- Canadian Association of Physician Assistants: www.caopa.net
- Canadian Medical Association – Physician Assistants: www.cma.ca

McMaster University
- Applicants must have completed a minimum of 10 full-courses or 20 half-courses with an overall Cumulative Average of 3.0 on the OMSAS scale (8 on the McMaster scale)
  http://fhs.mcmaster.ca/physicianassistant/prospective_students.html

U of T
- Applicants must have completed a minimum of 10 full-courses or 20 half-courses with an overall Cumulative Average of 2.7 on the OMSAS scale (7 on the McMaster scale)
- Applicants must also hold a minimum of 910 hours of healthcare experience
  http://www.paconsortium.ca/admission-requirements

University of Manitoba
- Applicants must have completed a 4 year Bachelor’s degree preferably with a GPA of 3.0 (8 on the McMaster scale) in the last 2 full years of study
  http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/health_sciences/medicine/education/paep/pros_students/3829.html