

# THIEL COLLEGE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Thiel College will offer two pathways to admission into the MS-PAS program.

## Pathway 1

**Candidates for admission via the Accelerated 5-year BA/MS program must meet the following requirements:**

- ❖ Minimum high school G.P.A. of at least 3.2
- ❖ Composite math and verbal SAT score of at least 1100; or a composite ACT score of at least 23
- ❖ Minimum of seven units of math and science
- ❖ Evidence of extracurricular activities and leadership during high school. Include on an additional list and/or resume.
- ❖ It is recommended that students begin shadowing/observing a physician assistant while in high school to become more familiar with the profession; 30-40 hours of shadowing is recommended.

\*\*Students who enter Thiel in Pathway 1 and meet all academic and program requirements during the pre-professional phase will be guaranteed admittance into the accredited phase.

## Pathway 2

**Candidates for admission via the post-Baccalaureate pathway must apply via CASPA and meet the following requirements:**

- ❖ Baccalaureate Degree (must be earned prior to matriculation from a regionally accredited university or college in the U.S. and an official transcript submitted prior to matriculation.)
- ❖ GPA
  - Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA or higher, AND
  - Minimum 3.0 prerequisite science GPA or higher.
- ❖ PA-CAT is very strongly recommended for candidates with GPA 3.0-3.3
  - For more information about the PA-CAT: <https://www.pa-cat.com/>
- ❖ GRE is not required.
- ❖ Completion of a minimum of 40 hours shadowing health care professionals (MD, DO, PA-C, CRNP)

- At least sixteen (16) hours of that shadowing must be with two different Physician Assistants in two different specialties.
- Shadowing must be completed and documented to the program via CASPA in order for the application to be considered ready for review.
- The program is not able to find or suggest sites for applicants to complete the shadowing requirement.
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- ❖ **Prerequisite Courses**
  - General Chemistry I and II, with Lab (3-4 credits each)
  - Organic Chemistry I with Lab (3-4 credits)
  - General Biology I and II, with Lab (3-4 credits each)
  - Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II, with lab (3-4 credits each)
  - Microbiology: One semester, with lab (3-4 credits)
  - Psychology: One semester (3 credits)
  - Statistics: One semester (3 credits)
  - English Composition: One semester (3 credits)
  - Medical Terminology: One semester (2+ credits)
- ❖ **Other courses recommended, but not required:**
  - Immunology
  - Genetics
  - Pharmacology
  - Biochemistry
  - Additional Biology or Psychology courses
- ❖ Please note:
- ❖ Each prerequisite course must be successfully completed with a grade of “C” or higher from a regionally U.S. accredited college or university.
- ❖ All prerequisite science coursework should be completed at the time of application.
- ❖ All prerequisites must be completed prior to enrollment in the program.
- ❖ Audited coursework is not accepted for prerequisite courses, nor are grades of PASS/FAIL.
- ❖ AP credit that was accepted by your undergraduate institution can satisfy a number of our prerequisites including general biology, general chemistry, psychology, statistics, and English composition courses. You can also use CLEP credit to satisfy course prerequisites.
- ❖ Prerequisite courses must be completed within ten years of anticipated time of entrance to the program.

## **All candidates (Pathway 1 and Pathway 2)**

**Candidates applying for either pathway must meet the following requirements:**

- ❖ Three letters of reference must be submitted. One letter of reference must be from a PA or other health care professional with whom you have worked or shadowed and should speak to your understanding of the role of a Physician Assistant.
- ❖ Submission of a personal statement, telling us about yourself, why you would like to become a physician assistant and why you want to attend Thiel College.
- ❖ There is no requirement for a set number of hours of Patient Care and/or Community Service in addition to shadowing, as Thiel College recognizes that not every applicant has the same opportunities, access or means to obtain such hours. Rather, we request that you provide a brief narrative describing your patient care, community service, and volunteerism, and explain how it has prepared you for a career as a Physician Assistant.
- ❖ Technical Standards are physical, behavioral and cognitive abilities that must be met in order for a PA to complete the educational curriculum, and competently perform all duties required as a PA upon graduation. Please see Technical Standards for Physician Assistants that each student must be able to meet in order to be admitted to the PA program and function effectively in the PA profession with hands-on patient care experience.