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| <p>THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER WASHINGTON DC</p> | <p>School of Medicine and Health Sciences and School of Public Health and Health Services</p> <p>Physician Assistant – Master of Science in Health Sciences and Master of Public Health PA-MSHS/MPH Joint Program Course of Study 2011-2014</p> |
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MSHS(PA)/MPH Program

PA/MPH Program Mission Statement

As the US health care system continues to evolve, market forces and changing personnel requirements create new and expanding roles for health care professionals. The joint Physician Assistant – Master of Science in Health Sciences (MSHS)/Master of Public Health (MPH) Program at The George Washington University strives to fill the need for a new type of health care professional; one who has both the depth of medical knowledge and the range of leadership and policy skills to meet the challenges of future practice. Based in both the School of Public Health and Health Services (SPHHS) Department of Prevention and Community Health, and the School of Medicine and Health Sciences (MSHS) the PA/MPH Program presents a graduate curriculum that blends two important traditional paradigms of health care – the biomedical and the preventive. Health care professionals in the future US health system must be prepared as competent and caring clinicians, as well as bring a broad view of population health and prevention to their work. Graduates of the GWU PA/MPH Program will be leaders in clinical practice in primary care and preventive medicine as well have preparation to assume high level positions in education, research, and policy.

It is important to note that the School of Public Health and Health Services at GW, which offers the MPH programs, is one of only 42 schools accredited by the Council of Education for Public Health. To identify accredited schools of public health please see this website <http://www.ceph.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3344>. An important consideration for your career will be passing the public health certification examination and only graduates of accredited schools will be permitted to sit for this examination.

Goals

The PA-MSHS /MPH offered jointly by the School of Medicine and Health Sciences and the School of Public Health and Health Services and sponsored by The George Washington University Medical Center, provides the opportunity for students to obtain the competencies necessary to succeed in the rapidly evolving American and global health systems. The major goals of the GWU PA/PH Program are to:

- Recruit diverse and intellectually curious students and develop in them a strong clinical medical and prevention knowledge base necessary to deliver the highest quality patient-centered healthcare in a variety of clinical settings worldwide.
- Educate future health care professionals who are competent clinicians who can bring a population health orientation to their practice setting.
- Develop practitioners for the future who integrate concepts of prevention, community-oriented primary care, and population health.
- Graduate collaborative clinicians who will serve the healthcare needs of a worldwide community with intelligence, compassion and integrity.
- Foster analytic thinking skills such that graduates will be able to perform a wide range of clinical tasks working with physicians, as well as assessing community health problems and addressing population health needs.
- Nurture a sensitivity and respect for the cultural and personal beliefs of all patients and an understanding of how social, economic, and other system forces can impact health and healthcare and how these impact patient morbidity and mortality.
- Encourage graduates to be responsive to the needs of patients and society and advocate for quality patient care regardless of patient population.
- Graduate practitioners who will have the information technology and research skills necessary to access and interpret the medical literature and support their ongoing professional development.
- Expect graduates to practice collaboratively, professionally, legally, ethically, and with integrity.

The PA/MPH program draws from a faculty in both the School of Medicine and Health Sciences and the School of Public Health and Health Services to provide instruction in a wide range of subjects in medicine, public health, and professional leadership.

The purpose of the MSHS(PA)/MPH Program is to provide future clinicians with a wide range of skills in leadership, policy development, and community and preventive medicine. Students in the Program prepare as clinicians fulfilling all of the requirements for national certification as a physician assistant (PA) in the GW Physician Assistant Program. In addition, public health coursework provides an orientation to population and community health. In the Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) track, students acquire skills in community health assessment, community based interventions, and the application of COPC principles in community based practice settings. SPHHS, coursework in health care administration, management, and health care economics prepares students to be leaders in a wide variety of clinical settings, office practices, outpatient clinics, community-based health centers, and health care institutions. Students are also exposed to the formulation of health policy. The curriculum includes a sequence of three courses stressing the theoretical and practical aspects of clinical leadership that includes field experiences in the practice of preventive medicine and public health:

1. PubH 6591 - PA/MPH Clinical Leadership Seminar (understanding and discussing the unique competencies of medical providers with public health training);
2. PubH 6014 - Practicum (within the clinical setting, but focused on using and applying public health skills in solving community-wide health care problems);
3. HSci 272 - Translating Clinical Evidence into Public Health Strategies.

Set in the center of the health policy in the nation, the PA/MPH Program affords students the chance to interact with individuals in both the public and private sector who are involved in policy research, practice, and legislation.

Inquiries should be directed to:

Professor James F. Cawley, MPH, PA-C Phone: 202.994-3573

Program Director

Prevention and Community Health

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George Washington University

Washington, DC 20037

The PA website is: www.gwu.edu/~gwu_pa/

Note: All curriculum revisions will be updated immediately on the website <http://www.gwumc.edu/sphhs/>

Physician Assistant Program

The Physician Assistant program at The George Washington University, one of the nation's first programs of its kind, was founded in 1972. Over 1600 health care professionals have graduated from the program and are employed nationally and internationally. The GWU PA-MSHS program ranks forth among national graduate degree PA educational programs (source: *US News and World Report*, 2007). The GW PA-MSHS program graduates have a greater than 98% pass rate on the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE). Since 1975 the GWU PA-MSHS program has held full accreditation through the Accreditation Review Commission for Physician Assistants.

Master of Public Health Program

The MPH program at GW's School of Public Health and Health Services was first accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) in 1990. Between 1987 and 1997 the Master of Public Health program was a part of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. The School of Public Health and Health Services offers a wide range of courses leading to the Master of Public Health (MPH), Doctor of Public Health (DrPH), Master of Science, Master of Health Services Administration (MHSA), and Graduate Certificate Programs. There are seven SPHHS departments: Environmental and Occupational Health; Epidemiology and Biostatistics; Exercise Science; Global Health; Health Policy; Health Services Management and Leadership; and, Prevention and Community Health. The COPC MPH program is based in the Department of Prevention and Community Health. *With permission, students may select any MPH program* For program descriptions, see <http://www.gwumc.edu/sphhs/academicprograms/masters.cfm>.

PA/MPH Admissions Requirements

If you are interested in the joint PA/MPH Program you will be receiving correspondence from both the School of Medicine and Health Sciences (PA) and the School of Public Health and Health Services (MPH) regarding the completion of your application and admissions decisions. An acceptance decision from each School means you have been accepted to the joint PA/MPH program. Should you be accepted to one degree program and not the other, you may accept the admissions offer from the program to which you were accepted, because decisions are made separately.

1. Submit the PA Application (CASPA and PA Secondary Application) according to the instructions on the website http://www.gwumc.edu/healthsci/Programs/PA/PA_admission.htm
 - You should submit the PA Secondary Application within two weeks of submitting the CASPA.
 - October 1 is the deadline for complete applications to include GRE score receipt.

The PA School, to save you time and money, will copy your application materials and send them to the School of Public Health and Health Services. Do not complete the SOPHAS Application and the SPHHS Secondary Application, as this will delay the processing of your application and result in your accruing increased application fees.

Tuition

Tuition (2009-2010) for the School of Public Health and Health Services and for the School of Medicine and Health Sciences programs is \$1,115 per credit hour. This means that tuition for a three credit course is \$3,345 (\$1,115 X 3 credits). PA/MPH students have a cap of 11 credits each semester, which means that joint students pay \$1,115 per credit up to and including 11 credits for semesters that they enroll in 11 credits or more (\$12,265). For example, first semester in the PA/MPH program students enroll in 15 credits. They pay for 11 credits (\$12,265) only. Note: Tuition increases each year in the range of 5% beginning in the summer session, which is the beginning of the fiscal year.

For questions about Admission to the joint PA/MPH, please contact

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| <p>School of Medicine and Health Sciences The George Washington University Health Sciences Programs 900 23rd Street, N.W., Room 6142 Washington, D.C. 20037 Phone: 202-994-8528 Fax: 202.994.0870 Email: hsphora@gwu.edu</p> | <p>School of Public Health and Health Services The George Washington University 221 Ross Hall 2300 I Street, NW Washington, DC 20037 Phone: 202.994.2160 Fax: 202.994.1850 Email: sphehr@gwumc.edu</p> |
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Resources

Faculty for the joint PA-MSHS /MPH Program hold appointments in the Departments of:

- ◆ Anatomy and Cell Biology
- ◆ Biochemistry
- ◆ Emergency Medicine
- ◆ Environmental and Occupational Health
- ◆ Epidemiology-Biostatistics
- ◆ Health Care Sciences
- ◆ Health Services Management and Policy
- ◆ Medicine
- ◆ Prevention and Community Health
- ◆ Obstetrics and Gynecology
- ◆ Pathology
- ◆ Pediatrics
- ◆ Pharmacology
- ◆ Physiology

Linkages and affiliations of the GWU Medical Center include the:

- ◆ Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- ◆ Children’s National Medical Center
- ◆ Department of Public Health of the District of Columbia
- ◆ Departments of Public Health of the States of Maryland and Virginia
- ◆ Health Resources and Services Administration
- ◆ National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- ◆ Numerous community clinics, public health and human service organizations
- ◆ Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
- ◆ Pan American Health Organization
- ◆ Regional county public health agencies
- ◆ US office of Health Promotion/Disease Prevention
- ◆ World Bank

Clinical teaching affiliates for student educational experiences include the:

- ◆ Area Health Education Centers (AHECs)
- ◆ Clinical Affiliates of the George Washington University Medical Center
- ◆ Medical Faculty Associates
- ◆ University Health Plan
- ◆ University Hospital
- ◆ Urban and community hospitals, private medical practices, managed care systems, community-based clinical and public health practices

MSHS(PA)/MPH Curriculum Overview

Students in The George Washington University PA-MSHS/MPH Program fulfill the requirements of both programs totaling 122 credits over 9 semesters (82 required credits for the PA-MSHS program and 40 required credits for the MPH COPC program), with the remaining degree requirements fulfilled through cross-crediting.

| PA-MSHS/MPH Community Oriented Primary Care Curriculum | | |
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| YEAR 1 | | |
| SUMMER SEMESTER | | |
| PubH 6002 | Biostatistical Applications for Public Health (PubH Core Course) | 3 |
| PubH 6003 | Principles and Practice of Epidemiology (PubH Core Course) | 3 |
| PubH 6007 | Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health (PubH Core Course) | 2 |
| PubH 6591 | PA/MPH Clinical Leadership Seminar | 2 |
| BIOC 6211 | Biochemistry for Health Services Students | 3 |
| Total Credits Summer Year 1 | MPH = 10 credits MSHS (PA) = 3 credits | 13 |
| FALL SEMESTER | | |
| PubH 6004 | Environmental and Occupational Health in a Sustainable World (PubH Core Course) | 2 |
| PubH 6005 | Policy Approaches to Public Health (PubH Core Course) | 2 |
| PubH 6510 | Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) – Principles and Practice (PubH Program Course) | 3 |
| PubH 6514 | Preventing Health Disparities | 2 |
| PubH 6500 | Planning & Administration of Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Programs (PubH Program Course) | 2 |
| PHYL 6211 | Physiology for Health Science Students | 3 |
| Total Credits Fall Year 1 | MPH = 11 credits MSHS (PA) = 3 credits | 14 |
| YEAR 1 | | |
| SPRING SEMESTER | | |
| PubH 6008 | Management Approaches to Public Health (PubH Core Course) | 2 |
| PubH 6014.22 | Practicum | 2 |
| PubH 6512 | COPC Policy and Issues (PubH Program Course) | 2 |
| PubH 6513 | Community Health Management | 2 |
| PubH 6501 | Evaluation of Health Promotion Disease Prevention Programs (PubH Program Course) | 3 |
| PubH 6516 | Community Health Information Resources | 2 |
| PubH 6502 | Applied Data Analysis | 1 |
| Total Credits Spring Year 1 | MPH = 14 credits MSHS (PA) = 0 credits | 14 |
| YEAR 2 | | |
| SUMMER SESSION | | |
| ANAT 6215 | Anatomy for Health Sciences Students | 4 |
| PA 6210 | Health, Justice, and Society I | 1 |
| PA 6219 | Role of the PA in Health Care | 2 |
| PA 6234 | Clinical Assessment | 4 |
| PA 6240 | Integration into Clinical Concepts I | 1 |
| Total Credits Summer Year 1 | MSHS (PA) = 12 + 3 cross over credits (HSci 6270 waived; from PubH 6003) | 12 |
| FALL SEMESTER | | |
| HSci 6237 | Microbiology for Health Sciences Students | 2 |
| HSci 6233 | Pathology for Health Science Students | 3 |
| PA 6211 | Health, Justice, and Society II | 1 |
| PA 6225 | Clinical Medicine I | 4 |
| PA 6229 | Human Behavior | 2 |
| PA 6230 | Clinical Skills I | 2 |
| PA 6241 | Integration into Clinical Concepts II | 1 |
| PubH 6503 | Introduction to Public Health Communication and Marketing | 3 |
| Total Credits Fall Year 2 | MPH = 3 + 2 cross over credits (PubH 6001 Biological Concepts waived, from PA 6225) MSHS (PA) = 15 + 3 cross over credits (HSci 6271 waived; from PubH 6002) | 18 |

| SPRING SEMESTER | | |
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| PHARM 6207 | Pharmacology for Health Sciences Students | 4 |
| HSci 6233 | Pathology for Health Science Students | 3 |
| PA 6212 | Health, Justice, and Society III | 1 |
| PA 6226-6227 | Clinical Medicine II and III | 10 |
| PA 6230 | Clinical Skills I | 1 |
| PA 6241 | Integration into Clinical Concepts II | 1 |
| PA 6250 | Evidence-based Medicine I | 1 |
| Total Credits Spring Year 2 | MPH = 0 MSHS (PA) = 21 credits | 21 |
| YEAR 3 | | |
| SUMMER SESSION (1st week May thru August = 17 weeks , 1 week vacation end of June) | | |
| PA 6260 | Long-term and Palliative Care Clinical Practicum | 2 |
| PA 6261 | Inpatient Medicine Clinical Practicum | 4 |
| PA 6264 | Women's Health Clinical Practicum | 2 |
| PA 6266 | Emergency Medicine Clinical Practicum | 2 |
| PA 6268 | Elective Clinical Practicum | 2 |
| Total Credits Summer Year 3 | MPH = 0 MSHS (PA) = 12 credits | 12 |
| YEAR 3 | | |
| FALL SEMESTER | | |
| PA 6251 | EBM II | 1 |
| PA 6262 | Ambulatory Care Clinical Practicum | 4 |
| PA 6265 | Pediatrics Clinical Practicum | 2 |
| PA 6267 | Behavioral Medicine Practicum | 2 |
| PubH 6015.22 | Culminating Experience | 2 |
| Total Credits Fall Year 3 | MPH Credits = 2 credits MSHS (PA) = 9 credits | 11 |
| YEAR 3 | | |
| SPRING SEMESTER | | |
| PA 6252 | EBM III | 1 |
| PA 6263 | Surgical Inpatient Clinical Practicum | 4 |
| PA 6269 | Final Clinical Practicum | 4 |
| Total Credits Spring Year 3 | MPH = 3 cross over credits (PA 6250-6251 subs for PubH XXX Elective) MSHS (PA) credits = 9 | 9 |

| Course Distribution Summary | Credits |
|---|----------------|
| Public Health | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health Core <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PA 6225 2 credits (substitutes for PubH 6001) ➤ PubH 6002 3 credits ➤ PubH 6003 3 credits ➤ PubH 6004 2 credits ➤ PubH 6005 2 credits ➤ PubH 6007 2 credits ➤ PubH 6008 2 credits | 14 + 2 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health Department Courses (Including PubH Required Electives) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PubH 6510 3 credits ➤ PubH 6503 3 credits ➤ PubH 6512 2 credits ➤ PubH 6513 2 credits ➤ PubH 6514 2 credits ➤ PubH 6500 2 credits ➤ PubH 6501 3 credits ➤ PubH 6516 2 credits ➤ PubH 6502 1 credit ➤ PubH 6591 2 credits – PA/MPH Clinical Leadership Seminar (Required Elective) ➤ PA 6250 – 6252 EBM I – III cross credited as PubH Required Elective | 22 + 3 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practicum/Culminating Experience | 4 |

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| Total MPH credits (43 MPH Credits + 2 credits of Cross Over Credits) | | 40 + 5 = 45 |
| Total PA credits (82 PA + 6 Cross Over Credits) | | 82 + 6 = 88 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PA 6210-6212 3 credits ➤ PA 6219 2 credits ➤ PA 6225 4 credits ➤ PA 6226-7 10 credits ➤ PA 6229 2 credits ➤ PA 6230-6231 3 credits ➤ PA 6234 4 credits ➤ PA 6240-6242 3 credits ➤ PA 6250-6 252 3 credits ➤ PA 6260 2 credits ➤ PA 6261 4 credits ➤ PA 6262 4 credits ➤ PA 6263 4 credits ➤ PA 6264 2 credits | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PA 6265 2 credits ➤ PA 6266 2 credits ➤ PA 6267 2 credits ➤ PA 6268 2 credits ➤ PA 6269 4 credits ➤ ANAT 6215 4 credits ➤ BIOC 6211 3 credits ➤ PHAR 6207 4 credits ➤ PHYL 6211 3 credits ➤ HSci 6233 1 credit ➤ HSci 234 3 credits ➤ HSci 6237 2 credits ➤ PubH 6002 3 credits (subs for HSCI 6270) ➤ PubH 6003 3 credits (subs for HSCI 6271) | |
| Total PA/MPH credits | | 122 |
| Updated 9.2010 | | |