

# Master of Physician Assistant Studies

**Advance your career while improving the quality of patient care.**

Franklin Pierce University is proud to introduce the new Master of Physician Assistant Studies program. The program offers one start each December beginning in 2009.

The program features a holistic approach to learning and patient care. Students receive instruction that advances their personal and professional development to become ethical, caring clinicians with a focus on treating a patient's body, mind and spirit. In addition to classroom instruction, clinical experience is a vital component of the program. Clinical sites throughout the country will provide this training with a concentration on rural and underserved regions of Vermont and New Hampshire.

Students will take classes at the University's Lebanon, New Hampshire center. Our modern, spacious facility includes classrooms, seminar rooms, a computer lab and a clinical lab where students learn hands-on practical skills with state-of-the art training equipment.

This is a full-time day program designed to be completed in 27 calendar months. Graduates of the Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program will be skilled and compassionate clinicians, who partner with physicians and patients to promote health and wellness, diagnose and treat acute illnesses and manage chronic disease.

For more information, contact the College of Graduate & Professional Studies at 1.800.325.1090 or e-mail [cgps@franklinpierce.edu](mailto:cgps@franklinpierce.edu)

## **PROGRAM INFORMATION**

- Courses are offered in four 12-week terms per academic year.
- The program is designed to be completed in 27 months of full-time study at the University's Lebanon, N.H. center.
- Candidates who have a baccalaureate degree and have successfully completed all the prerequisites and admission requirements will be considered for admission to the program.
- A total of 124 credits must be earned in order to qualify for graduation.
- Course sequencing and descriptions are available on the University Web site.

The University is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). The developing Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program is seeking provisional accreditation by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA, 12000 Findley Road, Suite 240, Johns Creek, GA, 30097, 770-476-1224, [arc-pa.org](http://arc-pa.org)). The program will submit an Application for Provisional Accreditation and undergo a site visit in late June 2009. A final decision regarding Provisional Accreditation of the program will be rendered by the ARC-PA Board in September 2009. Qualified students applying for admission to the first class, with an anticipated start in December of 2009, will be offered acceptance pending the program receiving a positive review at the September ARC-PA Board meeting. Students matriculating in a Provisionally Accredited program are eligible to sit for the National Certification Examination for Physician Assistants. Continuing accreditation status for a program is achieved only after a successful follow-up review and second site visit by ARC-PA which typically occurs 18 to 30 months after the program begins.



# MASTER OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

The mission of the Franklin Pierce University Physician Assistant Program is to graduate competent and compassionate physician assistants who possess the requisite knowledge, skills, and attitude to provide high quality, patient-oriented primary care in diverse environments.

## PROGRAM GOALS

1. Prepare students to function as primary care providers in the health care setting while providing enhanced training for those who wish to specialize.
2. To educate Physician Assistants to practice patient-centered, holistic medicine; caring for the patient's body, mind, and spirit.
3. To nurture students in the development of their professional role as a collaborative member of the health care team and their personal journey to becoming reflective, ethical practitioners.
4. To graduate self-directed learners with a desire to engage in critical evaluation of the practice of medicine and the medical literature.
5. To recruit students from rural and underserved communities, particularly those from Vermont and central and northern New Hampshire, as well as those from underrepresented populations in medicine.
6. To return these students to rural and underserved communities for clinical training and practice.

## ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

The Physician Assistant Program at Franklin Pierce University is a non-thesis, graduate level program awarding the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (M.P.A.S.) degree. Applications will be accepted beginning on April 1st for consideration of admission to the 2009 class (see Accreditation on reverse). Applications are available on the University Web site and can be requested by contacting Lisa Southwick, Director of the Physician Assistant Program, at southwickl@franklinpierce.edu. Requirements for consideration of admission to the M.P.A.S. program are listed below.

## Prerequisites:

- Completion of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution.
- Achievement of a minimum cumulative (GPA) of 2.8 and a science GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (candidates whose cumulative GPA is below a 3.0 may be considered on a case-by-case basis or if their GPA for the last 60 semester credits is at least 3.3).
- Successful completion of all prerequisite coursework with a grade of "C" or better.

## Required prerequisite courses:

- Two semesters of Anatomy and Physiology (with lab)
- Two semesters of Chemistry (with lab)
- One semester of Animal or Human Biology (with lab)
- One semester of Microbiology (with lab)
- One semester of Statistics or Calculus
- One semester of Psychology

## Recommended prerequisite courses:

Genetics, Immunology, Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry and/or Cell Biology, Nutrition, Sociology

## Application requires submission of these documents:

- Physician Assistant Program Application
- Admissions Portfolio
- Completed & signed P.A. Shadowing Form

## Additional requirements:

- Receipt of official transcripts from all colleges and/or universities attended
- On-campus written exercise and interview
- No entrance exams are required for admission into the program.

*Information is accurate at time of printing. May 2009. Complete admission criteria and application information can be found on the Franklin Pierce University Web site, [www.franklinpierce.edu](http://www.franklinpierce.edu).*

