## PAEA RESEARCH

\section*{| Curriculum |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Report 6 | Prereeuisites |}

By the Numbers | Data from the Prerequisite 2021 Website Analysis

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## Acknowledgements

The PAEA Research Team's Hannah De La Rosa, MPH was primarily responsible for collecting the website data. For any questions regarding the contents of this report, please contact research@PAEAonline.org.

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# BY THE NUMBERS <br> CURRICULUM REPORT 6: DATA FROM THE 2021 PREREOUISITE WEBSITE ANALYSIS 

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## PA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1972, the PA Education Association (PAEA) is the only national organization representing PA education programs in the United States. By the end of February 2022, PAEA represented 278 accredited PA programs and several developing programs. For more information about PAEA and our products and services, visit PAEAonline.org.

## METHODS

## DATA COLLECTION

The Curriculum Survey is administered in three parts that rotate annually and correspond to the major phases of PA school: the prerequisites/admissions phase, the didactic phase, and the clinical phase. Thus far, the Prerequisite Curriculum Survey has been administered in 2015 and 2018, the Didactic Curriculum Survey in 2016 and 2019, and the Clinical Curriculum Survey in 2017. The survey results are typically published in a report the year following administration.

As published in the Accreditation Standards for Physician Assistant Education, 5th edition, ARC-PA requires PA programs to publish and make readily available specific program attributes. Additionally, when considering the data collection process for Curriculum Report 6, the PAEA Research Team sought to reduce the survey burden following a challenging year for many programs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, instead of administering the conventional survey, an analysis was conducted by searching the websites of all nationally accredited PA programs between October 2021 and February 2022. To streamline the collection process, prerequisite data was collected in conjunction with information gathered for PAEA's Program Directory, a searchable repository of PA programs. The content of the two instruments overlapped significantly but not entirely. All items pertaining to what is typically gathered in the Prerequisite Curriculum Survey were included in the website analysis. The resulting data are reported in the following sections:

## Section 1. Program characteristics

Includes general information regarding the types of PA programs represented in the dataset (e.g., length of program) as collected in the website analysis, as well as information on required credits for program completion and incoming class sizes.

## Section 2. Required prerequisite coursework, health care experience, and tests

Includes information on required prerequisite coursework, health care experience, and standardized tests.

## Section 3: Applications and admissions

Includes information on types of students admitted, application components, and interview processes.

## Section 4: Curricular design

Includes information on special tracks and part-time options.
The data in all sections of the report reflect the 2021-2022 academic year.

## DATA CLEANING \& ANALYSIS

Data were checked for logical consistency and examined for possible errors. Program websites were reviewed once again for clarification in cases of obvious misinterpretations or inconsistencies in the data related to specific items. Data that fell outside of reasonable parameters were not included in our analyses. The tables and figures presented in this report display aggregate data from the websites. In general, analyses of the data consisted of calculating descriptive statistics on the variables of interest percentage, minimum and maximum values (range), arithmetic mean ( $M$ ), standard deviation (SD), median (Mdn), and percentiles (P). For some tables and figures, percentages will not equal $100 \%$ due to rounding or instances where multiple options per datum were reported. Total columns on tables and figures are designated by $n$. Any other notations not described here are defined in the body of the report.

## LIMITATIONS

By the end of the data collection period, there were 278 accredited PA programs. However, data was collected from only 273 of these programs due to internal error. Additionally, for the first time since 2015, when the Curriculum Survey was split into its current three-part rotation, these data were not collected through the rotating annual Curriculum Survey. Rather, the data was collected through a thorough analysis of PA program websites. Because of this, Curriculum Report 6: Data from the 2021 Prerequisite Website Analysis is more succinct than Curriculum Report 4: Data from the 2018 Prerequisite Curriculum Survey Report, as the data collection process was far different from the process established for the prerequisite curriculum survey.

All data presented in this report were self-reported by programs on their program websites. Curriculum Report 6: Data from the 2021 Prerequisite Website Analysis reports the data related to course names and topic areas in accordance with portions of the curricula that matched most closely to what was reported in previous Curriculum Reports. It is unknown to what extent they are exact matches, and there may be overlap between subject areas (e.g., "behavioral medicine" and "substance use disorder") or subject areas that were not captured. Finally, the changes programs may make to any aspect of their program vary yearly; therefore, these changes may not be reflected in this report.

## QUESTIONS \& DATA REQUESTS

The data from the 2021 website analysis, as well as custom reports using these data, are available upon request. More information is available in PAEA's Data Request \& Sharing Policies. Please direct inquiries regarding this report or data requests to the Research Team at research@PAEAonline.org.

## SECTION 1. PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

TABLE 1. DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS AND PROGRAMS BY PROGRAM PUBLIC/PRIVATE STATUS

|  | n | \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Type of Institution |  |  |
| Public | 75 | 28.6 |
| Private |  |  |
| For-profit | 14 | 5.3 |
| Non-profit | 165 | 63.0 |
| Subtotal | 179 | 68.3 |
| Public/private hybrid | 7 | 2.7 |
| Military | 1 | 0.4 |
| Total | 262 | 100.0 |
| AHC Status |  |  |
| Academic Health Center | 69 | 26.3 |
| Non-Academic Health Center | 193 | 73.7 |
| Total | 262 | 100.0 |
| Administrative Housing |  |  |
| College of Arts and Sciences | 5 | 1.9 |
| College of Graduate and Professional Studies | 13 | 5.0 |
| College/School of Medicine | 39 | 14.9 |
| Department of PA Studies/PA Program | 48 | 18.4 |
| School of Allied Health/ Health Professions/ Health Sciences | 129 | 49.4 |
| Science Department | 4 | 1.5 |
| Other | 23 | 8.8 |
| Total | 261 | 100.0 |

Note: "Private" institution types includes both for-profit and non-profit private programs. This information was collected through the 2019 Program Survey and COVID-19 Impact Surveys 1 through 4. Please see Program Report 34 for more information.

FIGURE 1. U.S. CENSUS BUREAU REGIONS AND DIVISIONS


Note: Numbers in parentheses indicate the number of PAEA member programs in each state.

REGION 1 NORTHEAST
79 PROGRAMS
DIVISION 1 NEW ENGLAND
Connecticut (6)
Maine (1)
Massachusetts (8)
New Hampshire (2)
Rhode Island (2)
Vermont (0)
DIVISION 2 MIDDLE ATLANTIC
New Jersey (5)
New York (28)
Pennsylvania (25)
REGION 2 MIDWEST
66 PROGRAMS
DIVISION 3 EAST NORTH CENTRAL
Illinois (6)
Indiana (8)
Michigan (8)
Ohio (14)
Wisconsin (5)
DIVISION 4 WEST NORTH CENTRAL
lowa (5)
Kansas (1)
Minnesota (5)
Missouri (4)
Nebraska (4)
North Dakota (1)
South Dakota (1)

REGION 3 SOUTH
107 PROGRAMS
DIVISION 5 SOUTH ATLANTIC
Delaware (0)
District of Columbia (1)
Florida (16)
Georgia (6)
Maryland (4)
North Carolina (11)
South Carolina (5)
Virginia (8)
West Virginia (5)
DIVISION 6 EAST SOUTH CENTRAL
Alabama (4)
Kentucky (4)
Mississippi (2)
Tennessee (10)
DIVISION 7 WEST SOUTH CENTRAL
Arkansas (2)
Louisiana (4)
Oklahoma (5)
Texas (10)

REGION 4 WEST
38 PROGRAMS
DIVISION 8 MOUNTAIN
Arizona (3)
Colorado (4)
Idaho (1)
Montana (1)
Nevada (2)
New Mexico (2)
Utah (2)
Wyoming (0)
DIVISION 9 PACIFIC
Alaska (0)
California (17)
Hawaii (0)
Oregon (3)
Washington (1)

## TABLE 2. GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF PA PROGRAMS

|  | Number of programs | $\%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Northeast Region |  |  |
| New England Division | 19 | 7.0 |
| Middle Atlantic Division | 58 | 21.3 |
| Subtotal | 77 | 28.3 |
| Midwest Region |  |  |
| East North Central Division | 41 | 15.1 |
| West North Central Division | 21 | 7.7 |
| Subtotal | 62 | 22.8 |
| South Region | 56 | 20.6 |
| South Atlantic Division | 20 | 7.4 |
| East South Central Division | 21 | 7.7 |
| West South Central Division | 97 | 35.7 |
| Subtotal | 272 | 15 |
| West Region | 21 | 13.7 |
| Mountain Division | 36 |  |
| Pacific Division |  |  |

TABLE 3. TOTAL PA PROGRAM LENGTH (MONTHS)

|  | $\boldsymbol{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d \boldsymbol { n }}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PA program length | 273 | $24.0-60.0$ | 27.0 | 3.6 | 27.0 |

## TABLE 4. NUMBER OF ACADEMIC CREDITS REQUIRED FOR PROGRAM COMPLETION

|  | n | Range | M | SD | P10 | P25 | P50 (Mdn) | P75 | P90 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Didactic coursework/ Classroom phase | 219 | 30.0-118.0 | 64.1 | 13.3 | 50.0 | 56.0 | 62.0 | 70.0 | 80.0 |
| Clinical rotations/ Clinical coursework/ Supervised clinical practice | 219 | 24.0-93.0 | 47.5 | 12.0 | 33.0 | 40.0 | 46.0 | 54.0 | 64.0 |
| Other hours | 15 | 2.0-32.0 | 8.5 | 7.5 | 2.0 | 4.0 | 6.0 | 9.0 | 22.4 |
| Total credits | 219 | 54.0-181.0 | 112.2 | 19.3 | 90.0 | 101.0 | 111.0 | 122.0 | 133.5 |

Note: Zeroes were excluded from calculations of "other hours." Total credits were calculated by summing the number of required didactic, clinical, and other credits.

TABLE 5. ESTIMATED SIZE OF INCOMING CLASS

|  | $\boldsymbol{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | P10 | P25 | P50 (Mdn) | P75 | P90 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Class size | 273 | $16.0-140.0$ | 46.7 | 20.7 | 26.0 | 30.0 | 40.0 | 55.5 | 75.0 |

## SECTION 2. REQUIRED PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK, HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCE, AND TESTS

FIGURE 2. IS A BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO THE GRADUATE PROGRAM?

Bachelor's degree is not required: 22.3\%


These data include programs that admit students into a pre-professional phase prior to completing a bachelor's degree, ultimately resulting in a master's degree upon completion of PA training.

Note: $n=273$ programs

## PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK

Website data was analyzed to indicate which courses programs required prospective students to complete prior to entering the graduate, professional phase of their education. Subsequently, for each required prerequisite course, the minimum number of semester hours required for program admissions was also collected.

Results are presented in two ways. First, results for all courses are presented together (pp. 11-13). Second, the results are reorganized into "Prerequisite Profiles" for the thirteen prerequisite courses required by at least $20 \%$ of responding programs. These Prerequisite Profiles contain the same information reported in the aggregate tables but are organized individually by course for easy reference. These thirteen courses are:

- Anatomy
- Biochemistry
- Biology (general)
- Biology (microbiology)
- Chemistry (general)
- Chemistry (organic)
- English composition/writing
- Genetics
- Medical terminology
- Physiology
- Psychology (general)
- Psychology (other)
- Statistics

TABLE 6. PREREQUISITE COURSES REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO THE GRADUATE, PROFESSIONAL PHASE

|  | n | \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Anatomy | 258 | 97.4 |
| Behavioral science | 16 | 6.0 |
| Biochemistry | 149 | 56.2 |
| Biology (general) | 105 | 39.6 |
| Biology (cell) | 8 | 3.0 |
| Biology (microbiology) | 237 | 89.4 |
| Chemistry (general) | 163 | 61.5 |
| Chemistry (organic) | 160 | 60.4 |
| English composition/writing | 53 | 20.0 |
| English literature | 6 | 2.3 |
| Ethics/medical ethics | 7 | 2.6 |
| Genetics | 77 | 29.1 |
| Humanities | 19 | 7.2 |
| Math (other) | 24 | 9.1 |
| Math (algebra) | 32 | 12.1 |
| Math (pre-calculus) | 12 | 4.5 |
| Math (calculus) | 10 | 3.8 |
| Medical terminology | 106 | 40.0 |
| Nutrition | 2 | 0.8 |
| Physics | 6 | 2.3 |
| Physiology | 258 | 97.4 |
| Psychology (other) | 88 | 33.2 |
| Psychology (general) | 72 | 27.2 |
| Psychology (abnormal) | 31 | 11.7 |
| Psychology (developmental) | 45 | 17.0 |
| Spanish/foreign language | 3 | 1.1 |
| Statistics | 214 | 80.8 |
| Total | 265 | -- |

Note: Programs that required "Psychology" without specifying what specific psychology course(s) were required were classified as Psychology (other). The Math (other) category includes programs that required math course(s) that were not listed as pre-calculus, calculus, or algebra. Percentages may sum to more than $100 \%$ since programs could require multiple courses.

FIGURE 3. PREREQUISITE COURSES REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO THE GRADUATE, PROFESSIONAL PHASE (\%)


Note: $n=265$ programs

TABLE 7. MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR PREREQUISITE COURSES

|  | n | \% | Range | M | SD | Mdn |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Anatomy | 185 | 71.7 | 3.0-8.0 | 6.7 | 1.8 | 8.0 |
| Behavioral science | 12 | 75.0 | 6.0-9.0 | 6.3 | 0.9 | 6.0 |
| Biochemistry | 94 | 63.1 | 3.0-4.0 | 3.2 | 0.4 | 3.0 |
| Biology (general) | 68 | 64.8 | 3.0-8.0 | 6.4 | 2.0 | 8.0 |
| Biology (cell) | 5 | 62.5 | 3.0-4.0 | 3.2 | 0.4 | 3.0 |
| Biology (microbiology) | 146 | 61.6 | 2.0-4.0 | 3.5 | 0.5 | 3.0 |
| Chemistry (general) | 121 | 74.2 | 3.0-8.0 | 7.0 | 1.8 | 8.0 |
| Chemistry (organic) | 104 | 65.0 | 3.0-8.0 | 4.0 | 1.5 | 4.0 |
| English composition/writing | 37 | 69.8 | 3.0-6.0 | 4.2 | 1.5 | 3.0 |
| English literature | 6 | 100.0 | 3.0-6.0 | 5.5 | 1.2 | 6.0 |
| Genetics | 46 | 59.7 | 2.0-4.0 | 3.0 | 0.3 | 3.0 |
| Humanities | 18 | 94.7 | 3.0-12.0 | 5.8 | 2.8 | 6.0 |
| Math (other) | 19 | 79.2 | 2.0-6.0 | 3.4 | 1.2 | 3.0 |
| Math (algebra) | 24 | 75.0 | 2.0-6.0 | 3.3 | 0.9 | 3.0 |
| Math (pre-calculus) | 10 | 83.3 | -- | 3.0 | 0.0 | 3.0 |
| Math (calculus) | 9 | 90.0 | 3.0-6.0 | 3.7 | 1.3 | 3.0 |
| Medical terminology | 67 | 63.2 | 0.0-3.0 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 1.0 |
| Physiology | 186 | 72.1 | 3.0-8.0 | 6.7 | 1.9 | 8.0 |
| Psychology (other) | 55 | 62.5 | 3.0-9.0 | 3.7 | 1.4 | 3.0 |
| Psychology (general) | 50 | 69.4 | 3.0-4.0 | 3.0 | 0.1 | 3.0 |
| Psychology (abnormal) | 22 | 71.0 | -- | 3.0 | 0.0 | 3.0 |
| Psychology (developmental) | 29 | 64.4 | -- | 3.0 | 0.0 | 3.0 |
| Statistics | 137 | 64.0 | 2.0-6.0 | 3.0 | 0.4 | 3.0 |

Note: \% reporting refers to the proportion of programs requiring each course that also reported a minimum number of semester hours for that course. Prerequisite courses for which fewer than five programs reported minimum semester hours were excluded from this table (i.e., ethics/medical ethics, physics, Spanish/foreign language, and nutrition). Courses listed with no range and a standard deviation of zero indicate that there was no variation in the minimum number of semester hours required across programs.

The minimum value was retained when a program reported a range. For example, 3-4 minimum semester credit hours would be reported as 3.

## PREREQUISITE PROFILES

In this section, the results from the previous tables above are reorganized into "Prerequisite Profiles" for the thirteen prerequisite courses required by at least $20 \%$ of programs. These Prerequisite Profiles contain the same information reported in the aggregate tables but are organized individually by course for easy reference.

## Anatomy

$\mathbf{9 7 . 4 \%}(\mathrm{n}=258)$ of programs required students to take anatomy before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.

TABLE 8. ANATOMY: MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d n}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester hours | 185 | $3.0-8.0$ | 6.7 | 1.8 | 8.0 |

## Biochemistry

$\mathbf{5 6 . 2 \%}(\mathrm{n}=149)$ of programs required students to take biochemistry before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.

TABLE 9. BIOCHEMISTRY: MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d n}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester hours | 94 | $3.0-4.0$ | 3.2 | 0.4 | 3.0 |

## Biology (General)

$\mathbf{3 9 . 6 \%}(\mathrm{n}=105)$ of programs required students to take biology (general) before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.

TABLE 10. BIOLOGY (GENERAL): MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

|  | $\boldsymbol{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d n}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester hours | 68 | $3.0-8.0$ | 6.4 | 2.0 | 8.0 |

## Biology (Microbiology)

$\mathbf{8 9 . 4 \%}(\mathrm{n}=237)$ of programs required students to take biology (microbiology) before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.

TABLE 11. BIOLOGY (MICROBIOLOGY): MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

|  | n | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d n}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester hours | 146 | $2.0-4.0$ | 3.5 | 0.5 | 3.0 |

## Chemistry (General)

$61.5 \%(\mathrm{n}=163)$ of programs required students to take chemistry (general) before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.

TABLE 12. CHEMISTRY (GENERAL): MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d \boldsymbol { n }}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester hours | 121 | $3.0-8.0$ | 7.0 | 1.8 | 8.0 |

## Chemistry (Organic)

$\mathbf{6 0 . 4} \%(\mathrm{n}=160)$ of programs required students to take chemistry (organic) before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.

TABLE 13. CHEMISTRY (ORGANIC): MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

|  | n | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d n}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester hours | 104 | $3.0-8.0$ | 4.0 | 1.5 | 4.0 |

## English Composition/Writing

$\mathbf{2 0 . 0} \%(\mathrm{n}=53)$ of programs required students to take English composition/writing before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.

TABLE 14. ENGLISH COMPOSITION/WRITING: MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

|  | n | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | SD | $\boldsymbol{M d n}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester hours | 37 | $3.0-6.0$ | 4.2 | 1.5 | 3.0 |

## Genetics

$\mathbf{2 9 . 1} \%(\mathrm{n}=77)$ of programs required students to take genetics before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.
TABLE 15. GENETICS: MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

|  | $\boldsymbol{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d \boldsymbol { n }}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester hours | 46 | $2.0-4.0$ | 3.0 | 0.3 | 3.0 |

## Medical Terminology

$\mathbf{4 0 . 0 \%}(\mathrm{n}=106)$ of programs required students to take medical terminology before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.

TABLE 16. MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY: MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

| Semester hours | $\mathbf{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d \boldsymbol { D }}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 67 | $0.0-3.0$ | 1.2 | 0.6 | 1.0 |

Note: One program currently does not require medical terminology to be taken for college credit, accounting for zero.
Most students in this program choose to take an online certification to fulfill the pre-requisite.

## Physiology

$\mathbf{9 7 . 4 \%}(\mathrm{n}=258)$ of programs required students to take physiology before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.

TABLE 17. PHYSIOLOGY: MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

|  | $\boldsymbol{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d n}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester hours | 186 | $3.0-8.0$ | 6.7 | 1.9 | 8.0 |

## Psychology (Other)

$\mathbf{3 3 . 2 \%}(\mathrm{n}=88)$ of programs required students to take psychology (other) before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.

TABLE 18. PSYCHOLOGY (OTHER): MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | SD | $\boldsymbol{M d n}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester hours | 55 | $3.0-9.0$ | 3.7 | 1.4 | 3.0 |

## Psychology (General)

$\mathbf{2 7 . 2 \%}(\mathrm{n}=72)$ of programs required students to take psychology (general) before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.

TABLE 19. PSYCHOLOGY (GENERAL): MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d n}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester hours | 50 | $3.0-4.0$ | 3.0 | 0.1 | 3.0 |

## Statistics

$\mathbf{8 0 . 8 \%}(\mathrm{n}=214)$ of programs required students to take statistics before entering the graduate, professional phase of the program.

TABLE 20. STATISTICS: MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR COURSE

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d n}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester hours | 137 | $2.0-6.0$ | 3.0 | 0.4 | 3.0 |

## REQUIRED MINIMUM GPAS

TABLE 21. MINIMUM REQUIRED GPAS

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | \% reporting | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d n}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Overall undergraduate GPA | 262 | 97.4 | $2.5-3.5$ | 3.0 | 0.1 | 3.0 |
| Prerequisite GPA | 253 | 94.1 | $2.0-3.5$ | 3.0 | 0.1 | 3.0 |
| Total | 269 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |

Note: \% reporting refers to the proportion of programs requiring each GPA that also reported a minimum GPA requirement.
$3.4 \%(n=9)$ of programs indicated no minimum overall GPAs required, and $7.1 \%(n=18)$ of programs indicated no minimum prerequisite GPAs required.

## REQUIRED HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCE

Programs that required students to have health care experience were analyzed to indicate the minimum number of hours and types of health care experiences required. Please note "other health care experience" refers to any experience that was not explicitly stated as direct patient care or PA shadowing on program websites.

TABLE 22. TYPES OF HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

|  | Required |  |  | Preferred |  | Not required |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | N | n | \% | n | \% | n | \% |
| Direct patient care | 273 | 184 | 67.4 | 57 | 20.9 | 32 | 11.7 |
| Other health care experience | 273 | 132 | 48.4 | 51 | 18.7 | 90 | 33.0 |
| Shadowing a PA | 273 | 60 | 22.0 | 106 | 38.8 | 107 | 39.2 |

Note: $N$ refers to the total number of program websites that reported the requirement status of each health care experience. $n$ refers to the number of programs that reported a particular requirement status for each health care experience. Paid and volunteer experience are grouped into a single category.

TABLE 23. MINIMUM NUMBER OF REQUIRED HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCE HOURS

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | SD | Mdn |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Direct patient care | 133 | $80.0-2,500.0$ | 657.5 | 476.0 | 500.0 |
| Other health care experience | 54 | $30.0-2,000.0$ | 561.1 | 504.5 | 500.0 |
| Shadowing a PA | 55 | $4.0-250.0$ | 38.9 | 43.2 | 24.0 |

[^0]
## REQUIRED STANDARDIZED TESTS

This section refers to the following standardized tests using their abbreviations.

- CASPer: Computer-Based Assessment for Sampling Personal Characteristics
- GRE: Graduate Record Examinations
- MCAT: Medical College Admission Test
- PA-CAT: Physician Assistant College Admission Test
- TOEFL: Test of English as a Foreign Language


## TABLE 24. STANDARDIZED TESTS REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | $\%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| TOEFL | 260 | 97.0 |
| GRE | 140 | 52.2 |
| CASPer | 46 | 17.2 |
| PA-CAT | 15 | 5.6 |
| SAT | 12 | 4.5 |
| ACT | 11 | 4.1 |
| MCAT | 13 | 4.9 |
| Other | 3 | 1.1 |
| Total | $\mathbf{2 6 8}$ | -- |

Note: "Other" includes a writing assessment, IELTS (International English Language Testing System), Duolingo, and the DAT (Dental Admission Test). In collecting these data, no distinction was made between standardized tests required for the pre-professional admissions versus graduate, professional admission.

TABLE 25. AVERAGE SCORES FOR GRE REQUIRED FOR ADMISSIONS

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | SD | Mdn |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GRE: TOTAL | 21 | $300.0-315.0$ | 306.7 | 4.3 | 306.0 |
| GRE: Verbal reasoning | 23 | $149.0-158.0$ | 153.0 | 2.1 | 153.0 |
| GRE: Quantitative reasoning | 23 | $146.0-158.0$ | 152.4 | 2.6 | 152.0 |
| GRE: Analytic writing | 27 | $3.7-4.4$ | 4.1 | 0.2 | 4.1 |

Note: Programs reporting average GRE scores as percentiles were excluded prior to analysis.

## SECTION 3. APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

## TYPES OF STUDENTS ADMITTED

Programs reported on the types of students admitted and whether they had special preferences or pathways for specific groups of students.

FIGURE 4. PROGRAMS WITH A PRE-PROFESSIONAL TRACK


Note: $n=273$ programs

FIGURE 5. PROGRAMS THAT ACCEPT TRANSFER STUDENTS FROM OTHER PA PROGRAMS

Do not accept
transfer students: 97.1\%


Note: $n=273$ programs

FIGURE 6. PROGRAMS THAT ACCEPT INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS


Note: $n=266$ programs

FIGURE 7. PROGRAMS WITH PATHWAYS OR SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR VETERANS

No, our program does not have veteran pathways: $24.5 \%$


Yes, our program has veteran pathways: 75.5\%

Note: $n=273$ programs

## APPLICATION MATERIALS

FIGURE 8. CASPA PARTICIPATION


Note: $n=273$ programs

FIGURE 9. NARRATIVE OR PERSONAL STATEMENT REQUIREMENT

No, a narrative/personal statement is not required: $1.1 \%$


Note: $n=273$ programs

TABLE 26. MINIMUM NUMBER OF REQUIRED WRITTEN REFERENCES

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\boldsymbol{M d \boldsymbol { D }}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Minimum required references | 270 | $2-3$ | 2.9 | 0.3 | 3.0 |

98.9\% ( $n=270$ ) programs required written references from prospective students.

## TABLE 27. TYPES OF REFERENCES REQUIRED

|  | n | $\%$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| PA | 72 | 82.8 |
| Academic reference (teacher, professor) | 22 | 25.3 |
| Physician | 54 | 62.1 |
| Other health care provider | 45 | 51.7 |
| Supervisor | 15 | 17.2 |
| Other | 25 | 28.7 |
| Total | $\mathbf{8 7}$ | -- |

Note: Percentages will sum to more than $100 \%$ because programs could require multiple types of required references. "Other" includes co-workers, high school principals/counselors, and other character references.

FIGURE 10. SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION REQUIRED

Do not require a supplemental application: 50.9\%


Note: $n=273$ programs

TABLE 28. SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION FEE (USD)

|  | $\boldsymbol{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\mathbf{P 1 0}$ | P25 | P50 (Mdn) | P75 | P90 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fee | 116 | $25.00-125.00$ | 56.51 | 20.20 | 30.00 | 45.00 | 50.00 | 70.00 | 84.50 |

FIGURE 11. ON-SITE INTERVIEW REQUIRED


Note: $n=273$ programs

FIGURE 12. DEPOSIT REQUIRED TO SECURE SEAT


Note: $n=273$ programs

TABLE 29. AMOUNT OF PROGRAM DEPOSIT REQUIRED TO SECURE SEAT (USD)

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | Range | $\boldsymbol{M}$ | $\boldsymbol{S D}$ | $\mathbf{P 1 0}$ | $\mathbf{P 2 5}$ | $\mathbf{P 5 0}(\boldsymbol{M d n})$ | P75 | P90 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Deposit <br> amount | 244 | $100.00-$ | 799.06 | 396.67 | 300.00 | 500.00 | 810.00 | $1,000.00$ | $1,500.00$ |

TABLE 30. REFUNDABLE DEPOSITS

|  | $\mathbf{n}$ | $\%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| No | 245 | 99.2 |
| Yes, partially refundable | 2 | 0.8 |
| Total | $\mathbf{2 4 7}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 0 . 0}$ |

## SECTION 4. CURRICULAR DESIGN

FIGURE 13. SPECIAL TRACKS OFFERED


Note: $n=273$ programs

FIGURE 14. PART-TIME OPTION OFFERED


[^1]
[^0]:    Note: Zeroes were excluded prior to analysis

[^1]:    Note: $n=273$ programs

