

# PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

DEGREE OFFERED: Master of Science (MS)

## CAREER SNAPSHOT

Physician Assistants practice medicine with physician supervision in all areas of medicine and surgery. Opportunities exist in primary care offices (pediatrics, family practice and internal medicine), medical sub-specialty offices such as cardiology, gastroenterology and endocrinology, as well as general surgery and surgical sub-specialty practices such as cardiothoracic surgery and orthopedics.

The physician assistant (PA) is one of the fastest growing professions in the United States. PAs have backgrounds in nursing, emergency medicine, the military, sports medicine, exercise physiology and other fields. They work in various settings including inpatient, outpatient, nursing homes, urgent care centers and emergency rooms.



## UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OFFERS:

- Small cohort size of 35 students each year allows for small classes, individualized attention.
- Academic medical center setting allows PA students to learn alongside other graduate-level disciplines (Medicine, Physical Therapy, Nursing).
- With the PA program's move into Upstate's New Academic Building, students have access to advanced learning spaces in addition to the existing Clinical Skills Center and Anatomy Lab on campus.
- Earn a master's degree in 27 months, including 12 months of direct contact with patients.
- Students have a variety of backgrounds — EMTs, radiation therapists, military medics, pharmaceutical reps, etc.
- State University of New York tuition

## CLINICAL OPPORTUNITIES

Clinical rotations are primarily in rural or medically underserved communities throughout Upstate New York during the 12-month clinical phase. Students are responsible for acquiring housing, as well as the expenses associated with housing and other living expenses.

## LICENSES AND ACCREDITATION

The program is accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) and licensed by the New York State Department of Education. Graduation from an accredited physician assistant program and passage of the national certification exam are required for state licensure.

## OUTCOMES

In the first five years of the program, 97 to 100 percent of our graduates passed the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination.

*"One of the reasons I chose Upstate was its smaller class size and emphasis on the class working together, using all of our unique backgrounds to help each other out. As a PA I'll be able to contribute to the growing need for health care workers, especially in rural communities."*

— Christopher Littmann, PA,  
The Cohen Center,  
Thousand Oaks, CA

**UPSTATE**  
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY  
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For more program details or to apply, visit:

[www.upstate.edu/chp/pa](http://www.upstate.edu/chp/pa)