

# Barry University

School of Podiatric Medicine

## Physician Assistant Program

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[www.barry.edu/pa](http://www.barry.edu/pa)

Dear Prospective Student,

Thank you for your interest in **Barry University Physician Assistant Program**. This packet contains pertinent information regarding the Program's admission requirements, curriculum, and cost of attendance.

If you have any additional questions after reading the material, please do not hesitate to contact our office. We look forward to hearing from you!

Best Regards,

Office of Admissions

Barry University Physician Assistant Program

11300 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Miami Shores, FL 33161

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## Program Summary

Barry University Physician Assistant Program is accredited by Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). The program is 28 months in length, full time, year round with breaks between terms. There is no part time, online or distance learning option available for this program. Students can expect to be in class Monday – Friday anywhere from 8 AM – 6 PM; later on days where labs are scheduled (approximately until 9 PM). For that reason, students are strongly discouraged from working while they are enrolled in the program. The curriculum is very demanding and time consuming. It would prove difficult to hold external employment simultaneously and do well in the program, particularly during your clinical rotation year, when students' locations and hours will vary greatly.

The program matriculates every **August** with approximately 100 seats available each year; 52 in **Miami Shores**, 24 in **St. Petersburg**, and 24 in **St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands**. The curriculum and program format is the same in all of the locations with the use of interactive video conferencing. Upon successful completion, students will be awarded a Master degree in Clinical Medical Sciences and a Physician Assistant Certificate, which is required to take the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE).

## Required Prerequisites and Credentials

- A Bachelors Degree (any discipline) from an accredited institution
- An overall GPA of 3.0, and science GPA of 3.0
- General/Inorganic Chemistry – 6 credits (2 courses)
- Organic Chemistry or Biochemistry – 3 credits (1 course)
- Biological Sciences – 12 credits (4 courses) Anatomy & Physiology are highly recommended. Other acceptable courses are the following: General Biology or Zoology, Human Genetics, Microbiology, Histology, or Cell/Molecular Biology
- Behavioral Sciences – 6 credits (2 courses) in any of the following: Psychology, Sociology, or Human Growth & Development. Unfortunately, Anthropology and Criminology courses are not accepted.
- Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) Scores (must be electronically submitted either before or at the time of application submission)
- Personal Statement
- Three Letters of Recommendation

Note: All prerequisite courses require students to take a minimum number of classes regardless of the number of credits earned for each. However, the aggregate number of credits for each prerequisite cannot be less than 3 credits.

All degree levels (undergraduate and advanced), and course attempts (including repeated, failed, or withdrawn results) are considered. There are no deviations or waivers permitted for the prerequisite science requirement, regardless of educational background or professional experience. **Prerequisite credits that are more than ten years old may not be accepted.** If an applicant would like to dispute this issue it would have to be brought to the attention of the Admissions Director. Incomplete prerequisite coursework may be completed as a non-degree-seeking student at Barry University or any other accredited institution.

### Healthcare Experience

Prior healthcare experience is **strongly recommended**, however, there is no set number of hours required. Although there is no set requirement, 1,000 hours is recommended. Shadowing a PA is strongly recommended in addition to your healthcare experience, and is looked favorably upon by the admissions committee. However, other acceptable experience would include volunteer work with direct patient care within a hospital or clinic. **Examples of direct patient contact include:** recording patient history, drawing blood, taking vital signs, or providing personal hygiene care. For applicants who are already health professionals, such as nurses, paramedics, phlebotomist, or respiratory therapists, this would constitute healthcare experience. Unfortunately, administrative duties within a healthcare setting (i.e. receptionist/records clerk) is not sufficient.

### International Applicants

International students who have completed all or part of their college coursework outside of the United States or Canada must have attended a college or university in the United States for a minimum of one year prior to application and submit their official **TOEFL** scores and a **Foreign Credential Evaluation Report** of all transcripts to CASPA. The foreign transcript evaluation agency must be a member of NACES. For a list of current NACES members, please visit [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org).

### Transfer/Advanced Standing

Due to considerable variation in physician assistant programs throughout the United States, students will not be considered or accepted for transfer into the program. There are no exemptions or special considerations made for international medical graduates or advanced degree holders (i.e. PhD). The entire curriculum, including rotations, must be completed. There is a no certificate or "PANCE review only" option available.

### Application Process

Applicants must submit their application electronically on the **Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA)** website: [www.caspaonline.org](http://www.caspaonline.org). Applicants must submit official transcripts from all institutions attended and letters of recommendation to CASPA. The CASPA application is the only application required for admission; there is no supplemental application. The application portal opens in **mid-April** and all supplemental documentation (i.e., GRE scores, letters of recommendation, and evaluation forms) must be submitted prior to **October 15<sup>th</sup>**. **All applications must be verified by CASPA by December 1<sup>st</sup>**. If an applicant has planned/in progress coursework at the time they complete their application, they may submit their final transcript directly to Barry University PA Program Office of Admissions after the deadline in order to update their file. . **Applications with more than three (3) planned/in progress prerequisites will not be reviewed by the Admissions Committee.** Next, arrange to have **official GRE scores** sent to Barry using the **institution code 5053 and program code 0634**.

Applicants with GRE scores that are more than five (5) years old must re-take the exam and submit current scores. **Applications without official GRE scores will remain in pending status until they are received. Official GRE scores must be submitted no later than 30 business days after your CASPA application has been e-submitted.** Due to the volume of applications processed, we politely ask that applicants refrain from submitting application related materials to the admissions office until after they have confirmation from the admissions office that their CASPA application has been received.

### Admission's Process

Admission to the program is based on **rolling admissions**, meaning that applications are processed throughout the admissions cycle until the class is filled. Admission is very competitive in nature with an average of 2,000 applications received annually for a limited number of seats. Candidates are considered on the basis of their overall GPA, science GPA, GRE scores, health care experience, and letters of recommendation, personal statement, and interview.

Interviews are granted at the discretion of the Admissions Committee, which consist of the program faculty. The Admissions Committee conducts interviews from September – March. The Committee strongly recommends that all documentation be complete prior to **October 15<sup>th</sup>** for consideration to interview. Once a candidate is provisionally accepted into the program, they must satisfy all the provisions of their acceptance which includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Submit two enrollment deposits of \$500 each
- Complete a Criminal Background Check
- Complete all planned/in progress courses
- Complete a Medical Terminology course
- Submit official transcripts from all institutions attended to the Program office. Note: although your transcripts have already been submitted to CASPA, Barry University's Registrar Office requires an official copy as well.

# Barry University

## Graduate Physician Assistant Program Curriculum

The following curriculum is provided for informational purposes and is subject to change. Course descriptions are provided in the Graduate Catalog via the following link: <http://www.barry.edu/pa/About/catalog.htm>

### FIRST YEAR (Didactic)

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Semester Hours</b>
SPM 530A The Physician Assistant Role in Modern Health Care	1
SPM 585 Physiology	4
SPM 586 Neuroanatomy	2
SPM 580 Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases	3
SPM 590P Gross Anatomy with Lab	6
SPM 605C Physical Diagnosis I	3
SPM 621A Clinical Pharmacology	1
<b>Spring</b>	
SPM 510 Human Genetics	1
SPM 535 Human Behavior and Psychiatry	3
SPM 602 Medical Pathophysiology I	6
SPM 605D Physical Diagnosis II	4
SPM 621B Clinical Pharmacology II	2
SPM 640P Surgical Principles	2
SPM 701 Women's Health/Pediatrics/Geriatrics	3

## Summer

SPM 573	Research in Community Health	4
SPM 603	Medical Pathophysiology II	3
SPM 649P	General Radiology	3
SPM 705B	Emergency Medicine	2
SPM 605E	Physical Diagnosis III	3
SPM 621C	Clinical Pharmacology III	2

## SECOND YEAR (Clinical)

There will be eight six-week rotations. Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Internal Medicine/Geriatrics, Prenatal Care and Women's Health, Pediatrics, Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, Surgery, and an Elective rotation. Following each rotation there will be End of Rotation Exercises.

## Fall, Spring & Summer\*

SPM 552	Medical Spanish	3
SPM 727	Clinical Orientation (PA)	1
SPM 740A	PA Rotation 1	6
SPM 741A	PA Rotation 2	6
SPM 742A	PA Rotation 3	6
SPM 743A	PA Rotation 4	6
SPM 744A	PA Rotation 5	6
SPM 745A	PA Rotation 6	6
SPM 746A	PA Rotation 7	6
SPM 747A	PA Rotation 8	6

### **THIRD YEAR (Advanced Didactic)**

#### **Fall**

SPM 553P	Biomedical Ethics/Health Care Delivery	2
SPM 530B	Transition to PA Clinical Practice	1
SPM 806P	Library Research Paper	7
SPM 638	Thanatology	1
SPM 665	Independent Study	1 - 3*
SPM 690	Clinical Therapeutics	2
SPM 695	Primary Care Review Course	3

*\*An elective may be taken in the advanced didactic semester.*

# Barry University

## PA Program Fees

Tuition and fees apply to all students regardless of campus. Specific fees and costs of attendance for the PA Program include:

Fees by Campus	Miami Shores	St. Petersburg	St. Croix
Tuition (increased annually)	\$32,800 per year*	\$32,800 per year*	\$32,800 per year*
Laptop computer	\$1,350	\$1,350	\$1,350
Medical Instruments	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Books / Supplies	\$4,425.00	\$4,425.00	\$4,425.00
Criminal Background Checks and Drug Screens	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$600.00
Health Insurance Plan	\$899-1911 (age based)	\$899-1911 (age based)	\$899-1911 (age based)
PDA or Smart Phone in clinical year	\$500.00**	\$500.00**	\$500.00**
Clinical travel	\$1500-3000	\$1500-3000	\$1500-3000
***Transportation	\$7,860.00	\$7,860.00	\$10,872.00
***Living	\$5,340.00	\$5,340.00	\$5,940.00
***Room/Board	\$19,560.00	\$19,560.00	\$25,272.00
Load Fees	\$205.00	\$205.00	\$205.00
Graduation Fee	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00

*\*A limited number of tuition discounts are available. Additional late fee, late registration, tuition deferred payment plan and other fees may apply. Tuition, fees, and costs are subject to change. Tuition for in-state and out-of state residents is the same. Medical supply costs are dependent on personal selection of equipment. The Barry University Financial Aid office assists all students at all campus locations in obtaining financial aid. As part of an agreement between St. Petersburg College (SPC) and Barry University through the SPC University Partnership Center, the Program provides a 20% tuition discount to up to 4 students per year who are both accepted into the St. Petersburg student cohort and who graduated from SPC. The Program's goal in establishing training in the USVI is to reduce the health professions shortages there. Therefore a 20% discount will be offered to up to 4 students a year from the USVI who plan to practice in the territory after graduation.*

*\*\*Students must purchase their own phone plan at additional cost.*

*\*\*\*The Barry University Graduate Financial Aid office has determined and verified through federal regulations, an increase in the cost of attendance (Room/Board, Living, and Transportation) for the St. Croix cohort.*