

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AT RIT

Building 3-108, Brighton Campus
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Physician Assistants (PAs) provide healthcare services under the supervision of physicians. They should not be confused with medical assistants, who perform routine clinical and clerical tasks. PAs are formally trained to provide diagnostic, therapeutic, and preventive healthcare services, as delegated by a physician. Working as members of the healthcare team, they take medical histories, examine and treat patients, order and interpret laboratory tests and x rays, make diagnoses, and prescribe medications.

Prerequisite Courses for RIT Physician Assistant Program:

BIO 155 - General Biology I	CHE 151 – General College Chemistry I
BIO 156 - General Biology II	CHE 152 – General College Chemistry II
BIO 142 – Human Anatomy	MTH 160 – Statistics I
BIO 143 – Human Physiology	MTH 200 – Applied Calculus
BIO 202 - Microbiology	

Recommended Courses:

BIO 217 – Nutrition	HIM 104 – Medical Terminology
BIO 221 – Principles of Biochemistry	SOC 101 – Introduction to Sociology
ENG 101 – English Composition	PHL 103 – Introduction to Ethics
ENG 105 – Introduction to Literature	PSY 101 – Introduction to Psychology
ENG 201/202/203/204 – Literature Elective	PSY 212 – Developmental Psychology: Lifespan
HED 115 – Death & Dying	PSY 206 – Abnormal Psychology
HED 118 – Intro to Safety & Emergency Care	HIS 105/106/108/111/112 – History Elective
HED 120 – Emergency Assistance Certification	

Note: Though not required, it is strongly recommended that a student complete EMT training (EMS 110) prior to applying to the program.

Students transferring to RIT should complete the RIT application and indicate the Physician Assistant Program as their first choice. The department personnel evaluate transfer credit and determine eligibility for first, second or third year status. Transfer applicants must meet the December 1st deadline date for the following fall class. The minimum grade point average for acceptance into the physician assistant program at RIT is 3.0 for transfer students; however a higher GPA is necessary to be competitive for admission. **Note: This is a highly competitive program with limited seat availability.**

Other Criteria of Importance for Acceptance:

- Recent experience in direct patient/health-related care is highly recommended. Working as an EMT would be one way to obtain this experience.
- It is very useful for prospective students to meet several practicing physician assistants and “shadow” one through a daily routine.
- A well written essay is also an important component of the application.
- Personal interview (by invitation only).

Please note: while every effort is made to ensure that the information in this guide is accurate, students are advised to meet with a counselor in the MCC Career Center and to contact transfer institutions for specific course requirements and the most up-to-date information.