

RIT's Physician Assistant program awards a five-year BS/MS degree upon completion. The program is divided into the pre-professional phase (years 1 and 2) which includes prerequisite and recommended courses listed below; and the professional phase (years 3, 4, and 5) which features didactic medical education and clinical rotations. This is a highly competitive program with very limited seat availability for transfer students.

Students applying 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.

Basic Science Coursework for RIT's Physician Assistant Program

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| MTH 160 Statistics I | BIO 156 Introduction to Organismal Biology and Ecology |
| MTH 200 Applied Calculus | BIO 202 Microbiology |
| BIO 144 Anatomy & Physiology I | CHE 151 General College Chemistry I |
| BIO 145 Anatomy & Physiology II | CHE 152 General College Chemistry II |
| BIO 155 Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology | |

Recommended Liberal Arts & Sciences Courses +

ENG 101 English Composition (for First-Year Writing course at RIT)
ENG 105 Introduction to Literature OR ENG 201/202/203/204 Literature Elective (for Artistic Perspective at RIT)
PHL 103 Introduction to Ethics (for Ethical Perspective at RIT)
GEG 102 Human Geography (for Global Perspective at RIT)
PSY 101 Intro to Psychological Science or Intro to Sociology (for Social Perspective at RIT)

Additional Helpful Courses

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| PSY 206 Adult Psychopathology | HIM 104 Medical Terminology |
| PSY 212 Developmental Psych: Lifespan | HED 115 Death & Dying |
| BIO 217 Nutrition | HED 118 Intro to Safety & Emergency Care |
| BIO 221 Principles of Biochemistry | |

It is strongly suggested that students apply to additional programs/colleges. Most MCC students are advised to prepare to transfer to a 4-year college or university for Biology or another science major, and then apply to PA graduate programs. Advanced Placement (AP) credit is **not** accepted for Biology or Chemistry requirements.

Recent Experience in direct patient/health-related care is highly recommended. EMT training (EMS 110 at MCC), though not required, is strongly recommended prior to applying to the program.

MCC students would need to take an additional Biochemistry course at RIT if admitted.

+ Use the [RIT Liberal Arts Perspectives Equivalency Worksheet](#) to cross-reference courses **Or** take recommended courses listed.

Other Criteria of Importance for Acceptance

- It is very useful for prospective students to meet and “shadow” practicing physician assistants through daily routines to gain insight into the depth and breadth of the profession.
- A well written essay is a highly important component of the application.
- Personal interview (by invitation only).

Make sure to read RIT’s website thoroughly and contact them with questions.

Note: While every effort is made to ensure that the information in this guide is accurate, students are advised to contact transfer institutions for specific course requirements and the most up-to-date information.

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