

Undergraduate Pre-PA Studies Direct Entry Admission

This direct entry opportunity allows for academically talented and mature incoming freshman students to gain direct entry admission into the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program after successful completion of the approved plan of study for the Pre-PA [Biology](#) major and fulfilling admissions requirements. Unfilled direct entry seats may be filled through articulation agreements and/or through the general graduate admissions (CASPA) process.

Projected seats reserved by entering cohort

- May 2022 (Class of 2024) 4 seats
- May 2023 (Class of 2025) 5 seats

The MPAS Program reserves the right to amend the number of seats, adjusting for ARC-PA approved cohort size.

Undergraduate Direct Entry Criteria

- High school minimum 3.50 GPA on 4.0 unweighted scale
- Standardized College Entry Exam minimum scores: ACT Composite 26 or SAT (R+M) 1220
- ACT minimum writing score of 5 or SAT minimum writing score 6.
- Select Pre PA [Biology](#) as a major
- Once accepted to Mercy College, a candidate will complete an Application for PA Direct Entry (deadline: January 15)
 - Essay- describing how extra-curricular or work-related experiences have prepared you for a PA career
 - Interview
- Complete Technical Standards form
- Must Receive a formal acceptance letter
- Letter of Intent, which must be signed, dated, and returned to the Office of Admission by May 1st.
- Direct Entry Undergraduate seat deposit of \$250
 - All requested information and documents must be returned by deadline or the student will forfeit the opportunity for direct admit and the next direct entry applicant will be considered.

Important Notes:

- Students who attend Mercy College of Ohio for their undergraduate degree and meet admission criteria are guaranteed an interview for the Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program.
- Undergraduate financial aid does not carry into the graduate level PA Professional Program.
- The PA Program does not accept transfer students/credits into the Direct Entry or Graduate Program or credit by examination for prerequisite courses. The PA Program does not award advanced placement.

Progression Criteria during Undergraduate Studies for Direct Entrants:

- Follow the four-year pre-PA Biology Plan of Study
 - Pre PA [Biology](#) Program prescribed sequence and pacing (i.e. no curriculum delays)

- Maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPA in all undergraduate course work
- Maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPA in all undergraduate prerequisite course work
 - A one-time, one semester Academic Probation grace period may enable a student to bring their GPA back up to 3.5 before MPAS Direct Entry dismissal
 - Academically dismissed students may still be eligible to apply through the competitive graduate application process if meet the graduate admissions criteria
- Demonstration of ongoing professional behaviors in accordance with expectations of all students. Entrants dismissed for professionalism violations may be in jeopardy for competitive graduate application process.
- Meet the graduate program admissions criteria including:
 - Bachelor's degree with completion of a relevant health care related internship, health care/clinical experience, or equivalent (approved by PA program and program of study).
 - CASPA Application
 - Take GRE (timed for CASPA application)
 - Altus Suite (Casper/Snapshot) Situational Judgement Test
 - Technical Standards
 - Clinical Requirements
 - Participate in graduate interview process
 - Payment of non-refundable PA graduate tuition deposits
- Direct entrants must complete the CASPA application by July 1 of the respective CASPA cycle to indicate formal intent of enrollment.

Articulation Agreements for Direct Entrants

With consideration of cohort size and number of Mercy College's Direct Entry Admit students, the MPAS Program may selectively pursue new articulation agreements or renewal of agreements for these potentially reserved seats. Articulating students must meet the criteria specific to the articulation agreements which reflect the admission requirements for the Mercy College Direct Entry Admits. Articulating students go through the same CASPA processes and interviews as do the Mercy College Direct Entry Admits. During these early cohorts, the seats reserved for Mercy College's Direct Entry Admits are the seats reserved for the articulating students.

Transfer of Credit Policy for Direct Entrants

The PA Program does not accept transfer credits into the MPAS Direct Entry or MPAS Graduate Program or credit by examination for prerequisite courses. The PA Program does not award advanced placement.