

TTUHSC PA Program Mission, Vision and Goals Report, Fall 2018

The Vision, Mission, and Goals of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Physician Assistant Program reflect the reason for founding the program in West Texas. These are consistent with the Vision, Mission, and Goals of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and the School of Health Professions.

VISION

The vision of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Physician Assistant Program is to be regionally and nationally recognized for graduating excellent healthcare providers.

MISSION

The mission of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Health Professions Physician Assistant Program is to provide comprehensive medical education to physician assistant students. Through an environment of academic excellence and the promotion of life-long learning and professionalism, graduates will be prepared to practice patient-centered primary care, increasing access to healthcare for diverse and underserved communities of West Texas and beyond.

GOALS

- **Provide student clinical opportunities in primary care in rural and underserved populations in West Texas**

Benchmark: 100% of students will be placed in a primary care rotation in West Texas

- **Admit highly qualified individuals with diverse backgrounds and life experiences**

Benchmark: Student body diversity of the TTUHSC PA Program will meet or exceed national averages of diversity (as reported by CASPA) in the areas of racial and ethnic diversity and disadvantaged student status

- **Maintain first time pass rate on NCCPA PANCE at or above the national average**

Benchmark: National average as reported on the Five Year First Time Test Taker Report for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination, TTUHSC PA Program

OUTCOMES

Goal 1: Provide student clinical opportunities in primary care in rural and underserved populations in West Texas

Benchmark: 100% of students will be placed in a primary care rotation in West Texas

Beginning in AY 2014-2015 and every year since, 100% of students have completed a minimum of three of the four required rotations in primary care disciplines in the 108 counties in the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center service area, incorporating large underserved and rural patient populations. Of the 108 counties, 98 are classified as rural and 54 are sparsely populated with fewer than seven person per square mile. For additional information, see www.ttuhscc.edu/rural-health/

Goal 2: Admit highly qualified individuals with diverse backgrounds and life experiences

Benchmark: Student body diversity of the TTUHSC PA Program will meet or exceed national averages of diversity (as reported by CASPA) in the areas of racial and ethnic diversity and disadvantaged student status

Over the past 3 years, the PA program has received over 4500 applications for admission, averaging more than 27 applicants per seat the last 2 admissions cycles. The overall and science CASPA GPAs of those admitted have been above the national average. All successful applicants have community service experience. The program continues to attract highly qualified applicants.

The program admits highly diverse classes of students each year. The percentage of matriculating students from disadvantaged and/or underrepresented minority populations is greater than 65% each year. The national averages have ranged from 25-30% over the last several years according to the Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistant (CASPA) matriculant data recorded by the Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA). Details regarding matriculant data may be found in Table 1 below.

Table 1: TTUHSC PA Program Admissions Statistics, 2013-2016.

TTUHSC Physician Assistant Program Admissions Outcomes			
	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
	TTUHSC (Nat'l)	TTUHSC (Nat'l)	TTUHSC
Applications Received	1255	1628	1685
Matriculants	58	58	58
Number of Applicants per seat	20.91	27.13	29.05
Mean age at matriculation	26.0 (24.94)	26.8 (24.83)	25.1
CASPA Overall GPA	3.50 (3.54)	3.53 (3.57)	3.55
CASPA Science GPA	3.46 (3.48)	3.47 (3.51)	3.43
GRE Quantitative Percentile *	42.5	39.4	40.3
GRE Verbal Percentile *	46.5	47	49.4
GRE Analytical Percentile *	46.7	43.7	53.5
Underrepresented Minority in Medicine (URM)	4	6	5
URM Disadvantaged	14	24	11
Disadvantaged (other minority and white)	19	17	26
Total Diversity (URM and disadvantaged status)	39	47	42
Veteran, Currently Serving Military, Military	2	5	4

Goal 3: Maintain first time pass rates on the NCCPA PANCE exam at or above the national average

Benchmark: National average as reported on the Five Year First Time Test Taker Report for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination, TTUHSC PA Program

The TTUHSC Physician Assistant Program has consistently maintained five year, first time NCCPA PANCE pass rates at or above the national average. The overall five year pass rate for the TTUHSC PA Program is 97% compared to the national average of 95%. Details for the last five graduating classes may be found in Table 2 below.

Table 2: NCCPA PANCE First Time Test Taker Report, NCCPA August 2013-2018

Class	Class Graduation Year	Number of First Time Takers	Program First Time Taker Pass Rate	National First Time Taker Pass Rate for the Class Graduation Year
August 2013	2013	58	98%	94%
August 2014	2014	53	98%	95%
August 2015	2015	56	95%	96%
August 2016	2016	51	100%	96%
August 2017	2017	50	96%	97%
August 2018	2018	54	98%	Available in 2019

Five Year First Time Taker Average Pass Rate for Program: 98%

Five Year National First Time Taker Average:96%