

## TTUHSC PA Program Mission, Vision and Goals Report, Fall 2019

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/](http://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 5000 applications for admission, averaging more than 28 applicants per seat the last 2 admissions cycles. All successful applicants have community service experience and the majority have health care 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 70% 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, 2017-2019 Matriculating Students

TTUHSC Physician Assistant Program Admissions Outcomes			
	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
	TTUHSC	TTUHSC	TTUHSC
Applications Received	1628	1685	1722
Matriculants	58	58	60
Number of Applicants per seat	27.13	29.05	28.7
Mean age at matriculation	26.8	25.1	26.1
CASPA Overall GPA	3.53	3.55	3.56
CASPA Science GPA	3.47	3.43	3.46
GRE Quantitative Percentile *	39.4	40.3	37
GRE Quantitative Score	150	150	149
GRE Verbal Percentile *	47	49.4	52.6
GRE Verbal Score	150	150	151
GRE Analytical Percentile *	43.7	53.5	52.2
GRE Analytical Score	3.6	3.9	3.8
Underrepresented Minority in Medicine (URM)	6	5	5
URM Disadvantaged	24	11	19
Disadvantaged (other minority and white)	17	26	18
Total Diversity (URM and disadvantaged status)	47	42	42
Veteran, Currently Serving Military, Military Dependent	5	4	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 96%. 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 2014-2018

Class*	Class Graduation Year	Number of First Time Takers	Program First Time Taker Pass Rate
August 2014	2014	53	98%
August 2015	2015	56	95%
August 2016	2016	51	100%
August 2017	2017	50	96%
August 2018	2018	54	98%

Five Year First Time Taker Average Pass Rate for Program: 97%

National First Time Taker Pass Rate By Calendar Year	
Year	Pass Rate
2014	95%
2015	96%
2016	96%
2017	97%
2018	98%
2019**	Available in 2020

Five Year National First Time Taker Average:96%