

## Health Sciences Programs 2012-13

The School of Medicine and Health Sciences offers a broad range of undergraduate and graduate programs to prepare health sciences professionals for roles in selected specialties within the health professions. These programs emphasize the interdependent roles and responsibilities of the network of health professionals who bring a variety of skills and expertise to the health care team. The programs strive to produce graduates with a firm foundation in the principles and practice of critical thinking and clinical skills and with preparation to take on leadership roles in new models of health care delivery.

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## Departments

Health sciences programs are offered through the following three departments.

The **Department of Clinical Research and Leadership** offers the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with majors in clinical laboratory science, clinical management and leadership, clinical research administration, and emergency health services; and the Master of Science in Health Sciences in the fields of clinical management and leadership, clinical research administration, clinical and translational research, immunohematology, health care quality, and regulatory affairs. Dual bachelor's/master's programs are offered in clinical management and leadership, clinical research administration, and in emergency health services clinical management and leadership.

The Department of Clinical Research and Leadership also offers contract programs with the military that lead to degrees include the Associate in Science with a major in health science laboratory technology; the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with a major in cytotechnology; and the Master of Science in Health Sciences in the field of immunohematology. The Associate in Science with a major in health sciences is available to active-duty military personnel who have completed the U.S. Navy's independent duty corpsman program, and the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with a major in clinical health sciences are available to active-duty military personnel who have completed the U.S. Navy's independent duty corpsman (IDC) program, Army Special Forces Medical Sergeant program (18D), or Air Force Independent Duty Medical Technician programs (IDMT).

The **Department of Physical Therapy and Health Care Sciences** offers the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with majors in pharmaceutical sciences and sonography; and the Doctor of Physical Therapy.

The **Department of Physician Assistant Studies** offers the Master of Science in Health Sciences in the field of Physician Assistant (PA). A dual-degree program is offered as well combining the PA degree and Masters in Public Health (PA/MPH).

This Bulletin contains updated information on policies, regulations, and other matters of concern to matriculated students. It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of the information contained in this Bulletin and any applicable program-specific handbook.

## Admission

To be considered for admission, applicants must submit a completed application form online, together with all required supporting documentation and a nonrefundable application fee.

Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences programs are designed for upper-division transfer students; applicants are expected to have completed a minimum of 60 credit hours of course work from a regionally accredited postsecondary institution prior to entry. Applicants to the post-baccalaureate and graduate programs must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university. Official transcripts must be submitted from each academic institution attended, regardless of whether credit was earned or is desired. The transcript(s) must indicate a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 on a scale of 4.0 for B.S.H.S. applicants and normally 3.0 on a scale of 4.0 for graduate students. The applicant must be in good standing and eligible to return to the academic institution most recently attended. Dual degree applicants must have a minimum

cumulative grade-point average of 3.3 on a scale of 4.0. With evidence of special promise, an applicant whose academic record falls short of the minimum GPA may be accepted on a conditional basis; see Conditional Admission, below. Students who have been academically dismissed or suspended will not be considered for admission for at least one year from the date of their last suspension or dismissal.

Applicants should refer to the individual program descriptions for information on prerequisites and supporting documents, since these vary by program. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that all required application materials are submitted by the designated deadlines. Unofficial copies, facsimiles, or photocopies of transcripts, certificates, or diplomas will not be accepted. All records become the property of the University and cannot be returned.

*Conditional Admission*—Admission with conditions to one of the health sciences programs may be offered at the discretion of the director of admissions and the program director. The terms of admission will be outlined in the letter of acceptance from the University. When conditions have been met, notification is sent from the Office of Admissions.

*Advance Tuition Deposit*—Upon notification of acceptance, an advance tuition deposit will be required of students in selected programs, including those re-admitted. The deposit is credited toward tuition and is not refundable. Payment of the orientation fee, if applicable, must be submitted along with the tuition deposit and is also not refundable.

## International Applicants

The following additional requirements pertain to international applicants:

*Required Records*—Official copies of all required documentation (transcripts, diplomas, and certificates as well as any other records listing subjects studied, grades received, examinations taken, the results of state examinations, and degrees received) must be submitted in the language in which the institution keeps its official records. If these documents are in a language other than English, they must be accompanied by a certified English translation. In addition, an evaluated copy completed by an acceptable international evaluation service must be submitted regardless of whether or not the official record is in English.

*Language Tests*—Applicants whose native language is not English or who are not citizens of countries where English is the official language must submit official test scores for either academic IELTS or TOEFL. The following are the minimum scores for admission consideration.

- a) Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 7.0, with no individual band score below 6.0.
- b) TOEFL: 600 paper-based or 100 Internet-based.

The IELTS/TOEFL requirement may be waived for applicants who hold a baccalaureate degree or higher from a regionally accredited college or university located in a country in which English is the official language and also the language of instruction at the institution where the degree was completed.

*Financial Certificate*—A Financial Certificate must be completed and submitted with the application for admission by all international students planning to study at the University under the authorization of either a student (F) or exchange visitor (J) visa. Satisfactory completion and submission of the Financial Certificate is required for the issuance of a Form I-20 or IAP-66.

## **Unclassified Students**

A student who wishes to take individual courses in health sciences programs must obtain permission to register as an unclassified student in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Application is made to the Office of Admissions, Health Sciences Programs. The dean's office, in conjunction with the appropriate department chair and program director, will determine if permission to register will be granted to an unclassified student. Permission to take individual courses, if granted, will generally be limited to a total of 6 credit hours.

Credit earned for courses taken as an unclassified student may be transferred to a degree program at the University if the courses are applicable to the program, have been taken for credit, and have been completed with the minimum grade required in the program. Successful completion of course work taken as an unclassified student does not guarantee admission to a degree program.

## **Readmission**

Students who were previously registered in a health sciences program at the University but who did not register during the immediate preceding semester (summer sessions excluded) and who did not receive an approved leave of absence must apply for readmission. Students who have attended other academic institutions while not enrolled at this University must have complete official transcripts sent directly to the Office of Admissions, Health Sciences Programs, from each institution attended. Applications for readmission are considered on the basis of regulations currently in effect.

## **Transfer Credit for Graduate Students**

The University reserves the right to refuse transfer credit in part or in whole or to allow credit provisionally. Up to 6 credit hours of course work may be accepted as transfer credit for graduate students provided the course work was completed within the past three years at a regionally accredited college or university, the course work was taken for graduate credit and did not apply toward completion of requirements for another degree, and the student earned a grade of B or better in the course. A limited amount of additional transfer credit may be approved upon petition to the senior associate dean.

## **Transfer Credit/Advanced Standing for Undergraduates**

Advanced standing may be awarded for appropriate course work completed at other regionally accredited institutions provided minimum grade requirements have been met. The minimum

acceptable grade is C for course work to be applied toward an undergraduate degree (C- grades and lower do not transfer). Advanced standing may also be awarded for nontraditional classroom or clinical experience as determined by the individual programs. The University reserves the right to refuse transfer credit in part or in whole or to allow credit provisionally. Health sciences degree programs vary in the amount of advanced standing they will award. For bachelor's programs, no more than 66 credit hours can be accepted as advanced standing from a two-year institution.

Degree candidates who are currently enrolled at this institution and plan to take courses at other regionally accredited institutions for transfer credit must first submit a course approval form for approval by the program director, department chair, and the appropriate dean.

## Academic Regulations

Many health sciences programs are taught in whole or in part via distance education. Students enrolled in such programs must ensure that they have hardware, software and consistent reliable internet access to be able to complete required coursework.

Student Technology Services (STS) provides [recommended hardware specifications](#). The GW Instructional Technology Lab maintains a [list of web browsers and plug-ins needed](#) to access material in Blackboard. To complete course assignments students will generally need:

1. A word processing program, such as Microsoft Word
2. A presentation program, such as Microsoft PowerPoint
3. A pdf writer, such as with Adobe Acrobat X or CutePDF Writer. This functionality may already be built in to your operating system or office suite.

However, additional software applications may be required for certain courses.

## Scholarship Requirements

All undergraduates must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.5 in courses required in the major. A minimum grade of C is required for all “Sono”-designated courses in the sonography program. All graduate students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0, and all courses must be completed with a grade of C or better. Although transfer credit may be assigned, courses taken at other institutions are not considered in computing the GPA. Programs may, in some instances, establish higher GPA requirements.

## Evaluation of Academic Performance

Faculty are responsible for evaluating the performance of students in a meaningful, useful, and timely manner and for assigning grades on a basis that is rational, just, and unbiased. The authority for assignment of grades rests with academic departments or with faculty in the respective programs. Official grades for course work can be obtained from the Office of the Registrar each semester and are not given out by instructors.

*Grades in Undergraduate Degree or Certificate and Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Programs*—The following grading system is used: A, Excellent; B, Good; C, Satisfactory; D, Low Pass; F, Fail. At the discretion of the program and individual faculty, “+” or “-” grades may also be assigned. Except for courses that specifically state that repetition for credit is permitted, a candidate for an undergraduate degree or undergraduate-level certificate (including post-baccalaureate certificate) at this University may not repeat a course in which a grade of D or better was received, unless a petition to do so is approved by the appropriate dean and/or chair upon recommendation of the program director. If a course is repeated, the first grade remains on the student's record and is included in the cumulative GPA. Symbols that may appear include CR, Credit; AU, Audit; P, Pass; NP, No Pass; I, Incomplete; IPG, In Progress; W, Authorized Withdrawal; Z, Unauthorized Withdrawal. These symbols are not considered in determining the GPA.

*Grades in Graduate Degree and Certificate Programs*—The following grading system is used: A, Excellent; B, Good; C, Minimum Pass; F, Fail. At the discretion of the program and individual faculty, “+” or “-” grades may also be assigned. Except for courses that specifically state that repetition is permitted, a candidate for a graduate degree or certificate at this University may not repeat a course in which a grade of C or better was received, unless a petition to do so is approved by the appropriate dean and/or chair upon recommendation of the program director. If a course is repeated, the first grade remains on the student's record and is included in the cumulative GPA. Symbols that may appear include CR, Credit; AU, Audit; P, Pass; NP, No Pass; I, Incomplete; IPG, In Progress; W, Authorized Withdrawal; Z, Unauthorized Withdrawal. These symbols are not considered in determining the GPA.

*Incomplete/In Progress*—The symbol of *I* indicates that the instructor has received a satisfactory explanation for the student's inability to complete the required work of the course. The grade may be used only if the student's prior performance in the course has been satisfactory. Any failure to complete the work of a course that is not satisfactorily explained to the instructor before the date when grades must be turned in will be graded F. Incomplete work must be made up by a date agreed upon by the instructor and the student but no later than the last day of the examination period for the semester immediately following the semester or summer session in which the grade of *I* is assigned. An extension of one additional semester can be requested by the student and may be approved by the program director. When work for the course is completed, the grade earned will be indicated in the form of *I* followed by the grade. The indication of *I* cannot be removed from the transcript. An Incomplete that is not changed within the allotted time automatically becomes an F.

The symbol of IPG is reserved for courses (such as special projects) in which the final class date extends beyond the official University deadline for submitting grades. Once the course has been completed, the IPG will be removed from the transcript and the earned grade recorded.

*Unauthorized Withdrawal*—The symbol of *Z* is assigned when students are registered for a course that they have not attended or have attended only briefly, and in which they have done no graded work. At the end of the academic year, students' records are reviewed; if there is more than one *Z* per semester, a student's record will be encumbered until released by the student's advisor or academic dean. The symbol of *Z* is not a grade but an administrative notation.

*The Grade-Point Average*—Scholarship is computed in terms of the grade-point average, based only on the student's record in this University. The grade-point average is computed from grades as follows: A, 4.0; A-, 3.7; B+, 3.3; B, 3.0; B-, 2.7; C+, 2.3; C, 2.0; C-, 1.7; D+, 1.3; D, 1.0; D-, .07; F, 0, for each credit hour for which the student has registered in a degree program. In undergraduate courses, grades of F will be computed in the grade-point average but will not be considered as fulfilling degree requirements. In graduate programs, grades below C- are recorded as an F. Courses in which an I or IPG has been assigned will be included when a final grade has been recorded.

*Dean's List*—The name of any full-time undergraduate student who achieves a GPA of 3.5 or higher in any one semester with no grades below B will be placed on the Dean's List for that semester.

*Appeal Procedures for Cases of Alleged Improper Academic Evaluation*—Students who believe that a grade or evaluation is unjust or inaccurate may use the following appeal procedures:

1. The student must submit a written appeal to the relevant faculty member within 10 calendar days of the time the grade is posted, with a copy to the program director.
2. Resolution should be sought first at the program and departmental levels. A review shall be conducted by the program director and chair, consulting as appropriate the student and faculty involved.
3. If a mutually satisfactory resolution is not achieved, the student may, within 5 days of the decision being rendered, submit a written letter of appeal to the senior associate dean for health sciences. In considering the student's appeal, the senior associate dean will determine whether or not the grading procedures employed were fair, equitable, objective and consistent.
4. The senior associate dean may refer the appeal to the Health Sciences Evaluation Committee chair, who will form a three-person committee to serve as a peer review body. The committee will consist of the director of the program and two other members of the Health Sciences Evaluation Committee who are not involved in the case. Should the chair of the Health Sciences Evaluation Committee be the member of the faculty alleged to have made the improper academic evaluation, the appropriate dean will choose the three members of the peer review body from the members of the Health Sciences Evaluation Committee. If a sufficient number of faculty is not available from within the Committee, other faculty from the health sciences programs will be appointed.
5. The peer review body will review the student and course materials in order to render a recommendation to the senior associate dean. In the event that the peer review body chooses to conduct a hearing, the student may not have legal representation present. Students will be allowed to move forward in didactic coursework until the grade appeal is resolved and a final decision rendered. However, students will not be allowed to move forward in clinical coursework until the grade appeal is resolved and a final decision rendered.
6. The peer review body will advise the senior associate dean on the outcome of their review and recommendations. Final action rests with the dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

## Academic Standing

An enrolled student is considered to be in good academic standing by the School of Medicine and Health Sciences provided that he or she is not on probation or suspended.

*Warning*—An undergraduate whose GPA falls between 2.0 and 2.6 and a graduate student whose GPA falls between 3.0 and 3.2 will receive a warning notification from the program director. The warning may be in the form of an email. A record of warning notifications will be kept with program records and HS student services.

*Academic Probation*—A full-time undergraduate student who has attempted a minimum of 12 credit hours of course work and whose cumulative GPA is below 2.0 will be placed on academic probation. A notation will be added to the student's transcript indicating probation. This probation extends over the period in which the student attempts an additional 12 credit hours of course work. Students while on probation will be allowed to register for no more than 13 credit hours per semester, unless approved by the program director and the appropriate dean.

A part-time undergraduate student who has attempted a minimum of 6 credit hours of course work and whose cumulative GPA is below 2.0 will be placed on academic probation. This probation extends over the period in which the student attempts an additional 6 credit hours of course work.

A full- or part-time graduate degree candidate whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0 will be placed on academic probation. For full-time students, probation extends for one semester of full-time course work as defined by the program; for part-time students, probation extends during the period in which the student attempts 9 credit hours of course work. If the program director and department chair determine that extenuating and valid circumstances exist, a student may be granted an extension on the probation period. If granted, the student will be notified by the program director outlining conditions to be met by the student. The student must return a statement to the program director by email or mail confirming that he/she has read, understands, and agrees to the conditions.

If the student fails to attain the conditions in the time specified, the student will be suspended (see *Suspension*). If the student succeeds in raising his/her cumulative GPA to 3.0 or higher, academic probation will be lifted. A student who has been placed on probation more than one time will be recommended for dismissal.

*Suspension*— Students previously on probation who have not raised their cumulative GPA within the allowed number of credit hours (12 for undergraduate and 9 for graduates) may be suspended. A student suspended for poor scholarship may not register for any course work at the University, even as an auditor. The program director mails or emails a Letter of Suspension notifying the student of suspension. A suspended student may apply for readmission after the lapse of the semester following suspension. Evidence must then be presented to the student's program director, demonstrating that the student is now better prepared to pursue academic course work. Any student suspended twice for poor scholarship will not be readmitted.

A graduate student who is suspended for failure to raise the cumulative GPA to 3.0 may apply for readmission after the lapse of one calendar year by submitting evidence that he or she is now better prepared to pursue graduate course work. If the student fails to achieve the minimum GPA of



3.0 at the end of the semester following readmission, the program director may recommend that graduate study be terminated and further enrollment prohibited. This will be reviewed by the appropriate dean, whose recommendation will then be forwarded to the dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

*Dismissal*—Any student who has received one or more failing grades during a semester, or who has been placed on probation more than one time, may be recommended for dismissal by the program director. If the program recommends dismissal, an email or letter will be sent to the student informing him/her that the recommendation for dismissal is being reviewed by the senior associate dean for Health Sciences in consultation with the program director and chair. At the discretion of the senior associate dean, the recommendation may also be reviewed by the Health Sciences Evaluation Committee before submitting the recommendation to the dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. The final decision about dismissal rests with the dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

## **Programs of Study**

Students enrolled in undergraduate degree, or undergraduate-level certificate (including post-baccalaureate certificate) programs must meet with their faculty advisor (in person or electronically) to review a program of study, listing all course work required for the degree or certificate, including applicable transfer credit. Changes to the program of study can be made through petition to the program. Changes may require approval of senior associate dean for health sciences.

*Transfer Within Health Sciences Programs*—To apply for a transfer from one health sciences program to another, a written request must be submitted to the Office of Student Services, Health Sciences Programs, along with the necessary supporting documentation required by the program. To change from certificate to degree program may require an admissions application.

*Changes Within Health Sciences Programs*—A student may not substitute one course for another without approval of the program director, the department chair, and the appropriate dean. After the deadlines for adding or dropping courses, a student must obtain the permission of the course instructor, the program director, and the appropriate dean to withdraw from a course or to change status from credit to audit or audit to credit.

*Adding and Dropping Courses*—During the registration period (before the end of the second week of classes) students may add or drop courses using GWeb. After the second week of classes, students who wish to add or drop a course must complete a [Registration Transaction Form](#) and submit the form to the Student Services Office. Adding a course after the second week requires a signature of the instructor or other authorized member of the department.

A course dropped during the first four weeks of classes will not appear on the student's transcript. A course dropped after the fourth week but before the end of the eighth week will be assigned a notation of W (Authorized Withdrawal).

The deadline for dropping a course without academic penalty is the end of the eighth week of classes. After the end of the eighth week of classes, dropping a course without academic penalty is only possible after the student presents a petition to the senior associate dean and receives written permission.

All charges for courses from which the student withdraws are subject to the refund policy listed under Fees and Financial Regulations in this Bulletin. Failure to withdraw by these procedures can result in an extended financial obligation and the recording of a grade of F (Failure) or a notation of Z (Unauthorized Withdrawal).

## **Policies and Definitions**

*Credit*—Credit is awarded only after registration for a course and satisfactory completion of the required work, or upon assignment of advanced standing.

*Auditing*—A student who has been admitted to a health sciences program may register as an auditor in a class only with the permission of the instructor, the faculty advisor, and the appropriate dean. An auditor receives no academic credit and is not required to take active part in the class or to pass examinations. A student who takes a course as an auditor may not repeat it later for credit. The regular program tuition rate is charged for audited courses.

*Attendance*—Students may attend only those classes for which they are officially registered. Regular attendance is expected. Students may be dropped from any course for undue absence. A student suspended for any cause may not attend classes during the period of suspension. Students are held responsible for all of the work of the courses in which they are registered, and all absences must be excused by the instructor before provision is made to make up the work missed.

*Transcripts of Record*—Official transcript of student records are issued by the Office of the Registrar and may be requested through GWeb by any student or former student who has paid all charges, including any outstanding student loan installments, due the University at the time of the request. A fee is charged for each transcript. Partial transcripts are not issued.

*Continuous Enrollment*—Once entered in a degree or certificate program, a student is expected to be continuously enrolled and actively engaged in fulfilling the requirements each semester of the academic year until such time as the degree is conferred or certificate completed. Students who break continuous enrollment at the University and do not request and receive a leave of absence (see below) must apply for readmission and, if granted, are subject to the requirements and regulations then in force. Students who plan to attend other institutions and apply credit earned toward graduation from this University must first obtain written approval from the program director and the appropriate dean.

*Leave of Absence*—A student who must interrupt active pursuit of the degree or certificate may petition the appropriate dean, through the program director, for a leave of absence for a specified

period of time, generally limited to one calendar year. If the petition is approved, the student must register for leave of absence in each fall and spring semester, following regular registration procedures. The request should be made using the [Petition Request Form](#). Students who discontinue their studies without being granted a leave of absence and students granted leaves who do not return to active study at the close of the period of approved absence must apply for readmission and are subject to the regulations and requirements then in force. The right to use University facilities is suspended while the leave is in effect.

*Policy Regarding Students Called to Active Military Duty*—Any student who is a member of a military reserve unit or the National Guard and is activated or called to active duty early in a semester or summer session automatically will be entitled to a full refund of all tuition and fees that he or she has paid toward the expenses of that academic term. If the notification of the call to active duty comes after the mid-term examinations or after other substantial graded work has been completed, the student will have the option of either taking a full refund of tuition and fees or taking an Incomplete in his or her courses with the privilege of returning to complete all required coursework at some future date without payment of any further tuition and fee charges. It is the responsibility of the student to present evidence of his or her activation to the Office of Student Accounts and to request the appropriate refund.

Should a degree student called up for active duty find it necessary to interrupt active pursuit of the degree he or she may petition the senior associate dean of health sciences for a leave of absence for a specified period of time, generally limited to one calendar year. Deans are encouraged to grant any request to extend the leave of absence for longer than the customary period should military service require an absence of more than one year.

All students on active duty will be automatically exempted from the request for a \$50 voluntary library contribution without requiring any communication from them or their initials on the bill.

*Complete Withdrawal From the University*—A student who wishes to withdraw from all courses during a given semester must complete a [Complete Withdrawal Form](#) and submit it to the Office of the Registrar. Forms are available on line, at deans' offices, and in the Office of the Registrar. The deadline for complete withdrawal from all courses without academic penalty is the end of the ninth week of classes. Complete withdrawal after the ninth week requires a petition to the dean.

All charges for courses from which the student withdraws are subject to the refund policy listed under Fees and Financial Regulations in this Bulletin. Failure to complete a Complete Withdrawal Form can result in an extended financial obligation and the recording of grades of F (Failure) or notations of Z (Unauthorized Withdrawal).

## Graduation Requirements

Degrees are conferred in January, May, and August. Graduating health sciences students may participate in the commencement ceremony held each year in May.

To be recommended for graduation by the faculty, students must have met admission requirements; have completed satisfactorily the scholarship, curriculum, residence, and other

requirements for the degree; have filed an application for graduation prior to the published deadline; and be free from all indebtedness to the University. Registration, either for course work or for continuous enrollment, is required for the semester or summer session at the close of which the degree is to be conferred.

Applications for graduation must be filed by October 1 for fall graduation, February 1 for spring graduation, and July 1 for summer graduation.

*Residence Requirements*—The minimum number of credit hours that must be satisfactorily completed in residence in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences are listed; specific programs may establish higher residency requirements. Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences programs require that 30 of the last 60 credit hours be completed in residence. In Master of Science in Health Sciences and Doctor of Physical Therapy programs, all but 6 of the total required credit hours must be completed in residence. Courses applicable to the degree taken while registered in any division of The George Washington University in the semester immediately prior to admission to degree candidacy in the health sciences are counted as courses in residence.

*Honors*—Bachelor's degrees with honors are awarded to students whose academic records give evidence of particular merit. The student's grade-point average determines the level of honors as follows: *cum laude*, 3.4-3.59; *magna cum laude*, 3.6-3.79; *summa cum laude*, 3.8-4.0. The grade-point average includes all course work completed at GW and is not rounded off. To be eligible for an honors designation, a student must complete at least 60 hours of course work at GW.

The grade-point average is calculated by the Office of the Registrar, and the honors designation is entered on the transcript and the diploma of those students who earn an honors designation. If honors are entered in the commencement program, honors status will be determined on the basis of work completed by the end of the seventh term and entered only for those students who have completed seven-eighths of the credit hours required for the degree. Honors indicated on the diploma are calculated on the basis of all course work completed. The diploma and transcript are the official indication that a degree was conferred and honors awarded.

*Award of Certificates to Degree Candidates*—Certificates are awarded to degree candidates who successfully complete designated requirements in the physician assistant program. Recipients must be free from all financial indebtedness to the University before certificates are awarded.

## Honor Society

Health sciences students who meet the qualifications specified by the constitution of Alpha Eta, a national honor society, are eligible to be nominated by a program director, faculty, or other Alpha Eta members.

## Financial Aid

The George Washington University's program of financial assistance for undergraduate students is described in *Financial Aid Sourcebook* from The George Washington University Office of Student Financial Assistance. Undergraduate aid consists of two basic types: awards for academic achievement or talent without reference to financial circumstances (merit scholarships) and scholarships, grants, loans, and employment based on academic achievement and demonstrated financial need. All undergraduate gift aid (institutional scholarships and grants, and federal grants) requires that the recipient be working on the first undergraduate degree and be registered for a full-time course load at GW. Students are limited to eight semesters of institutional aid. Loans and resident assistantships not based on financial need are available.

Several offices on campus provide information on financial assistance for graduate and certificate students. Information about funding opportunities is provided by [the Office of Graduate Student Assistantships and Fellowships](#). Forms and information on federal loans for graduate students can be obtained from [the Office of Student Financial Assistance](#). Information on the Federal Work-Study Program, cooperative education opportunities, and on- and off-campus employment is available from [the GW Career Center](#). Gift aid (scholarships, grants, fellowships, assistantships, etc.) is taxable to the extent that it exceeds the allowable costs of tuition, fees, and required books and supplies or is dedicated to other costs, such as room and board. Federal grants may be taxable if, together with other gift assistance, they exceed the allowable costs. In the case of a student who is awarded tuition scholarships, grants, or awards from more than one source, the combined amount cannot exceed tuition charges; institutional aid will be adjusted to this limit.

In general, consideration for financial aid is restricted to students in good academic standing who meet the minimum grade-point average for particular awards and are not financially encumbered by any other University office. Applications for institutional or federal aid cannot be processed if the relevant tax returns have not been filed in accordance with the IRS Code. Documents submitted as part of aid applications become the property of the University and cannot be returned. Federal regulations require that the University report suspected cases of fraud or misrepresentation to the appropriate federal, state, and local authorities.

Information on financial aid is accurate at the time each Bulletin is prepared for press. Future changes in federal regulations or institutional policies may alter the application requirements or program guidelines.

## Regulations on the Evaluation of Professional Comportment

Students enrolled in the Health Sciences programs (“Health Science students”) are required to conform to all rules, regulations, and policies with University-wide applicability, including those contained in [the Guide to Student Rights and Responsibilities](#) (hereinafter “the Guide”). In this regard, the Guide’s *Code of Academic Integrity*, *Policy on Equal Opportunity*, *Policy on Sexual Harassment*, *Student Grievance Procedures*, *Privacy of Student Records*, and Articles I-IV, VI, and VII of the Guide’s *Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities* apply to Health Science students. However, because of

the unique curriculum and degree requirements of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, the following Procedures govern Health Sciences students (hereinafter "Procedures").

These Procedures *supplement* certain applicable policies established by the Guide. For instance, the process set forth in the *Appeal Procedures for Cases of Alleged Improper Academic Evaluation* is designed to provide protection against improper academic evaluation as guaranteed by Article II, Section B of the Guide (Protection Against Improper Academic Evaluation). However, these Procedures, including the rights and procedures contained in them, *replace* the Guide in all instances involving alleged misconduct by Health Sciences students, with the exception of matters involving alleged academic dishonesty, which are processed under the Guide's *Code of Academic Integrity*.

All cases involving alleged misconduct (with the exception of those involving alleged academic dishonesty) will be processed solely under these Procedures. Further, Health Sciences students accused of misconduct will be afforded only those procedures and rights specifically set out in the Procedures below, unless the School of Medicine and Health Sciences dean or his/her designee (hereinafter "dean") decides in a particular case to have the case processed under the Guide's Code of Student Conduct. To the extent these Procedures are silent as to a particular right or procedure, such right or procedure is not intended to be afforded under these Procedures. In the case of any inconsistency or ambiguity between these Procedures and University-wide rules, regulations, and policies, including the Guide, these Procedures shall govern. Health Sciences students in programs with clinical placements must adhere to these regulations as well as to the specific policies, procedures, and regulations set forth by the clinical setting.

As members of the health care community, Health Sciences students are expected to behave in a manner consistent with the principles and obligations inherent in professional practice. Professional maturity, integrity, and competence are expected of students in every aspect of the clinical setting with preceptors, coworkers, and patients. Students are obliged to practice diligence, loyalty, and discretion in the patient-provider relationship.

Some behaviors or patterns, either during the didactic or clinical phase, may raise concerns as to the student's suitability to continue in the program of study. Inappropriate behaviors for a Health Sciences student may include, but are not limited to, breaching patient confidentiality, using illegal drugs or abusing controlled substances, becoming sexually involved with a patient, undertaking a procedure or scope of practice beyond that of a student, disobeying or showing disrespect for others, showing a judgmental attitude toward patients, or revealing a lack of concern or compassion in practice.

The process described below is intended to address behaviors that are unacceptable to the School of Medicine and Health Sciences and raise questions about the student's fitness for clinical practice.

1. When a problem with professional comportment (other than academic dishonesty) regarding a student is perceived, the observer will communicate this concern in writing to the relevant program director. If the program director determines that further action is required, the concern will be communicated in writing to the student and the appropriate Chair and the Senior Associate Dean of Health Sciences or his/her designee (hereafter the Sr. Associate Dean). The notice to the student must be accompanied by a copy of these Procedures.
2. Upon receiving such a communication, the Sr. Associate Dean will create a confidential file in which all documents pertaining to the matter will be placed. Access to this file will be

restricted to the student under consideration; the Sr. Associate Dean, the Dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences and his/her staff; an ad hoc comportment sub-committee of the Health Sciences Evaluation Committee, if one is constituted; and attorneys for the University and student.

3. As soon thereafter as possible, the Sr. Associate Dean may do one or more of the following:
  - a. Meet with the student.
  - b. Refer the case to an ad hoc comportment sub-committee of the Health Sciences Evaluation Committee.
  - c. Suspend the student pending review and recommendation of the ad hoc comportment sub-committee Health Sciences Evaluation Committee.
4. The involvement of, and actions taken by, the Sr. Associate Dean may be continuing in nature

*Paragraphs 5 through 18 apply if the student is referred to the Health Sciences Evaluation Committee.*

5. An ad hoc comportment sub-committee of the Health Sciences Evaluation Committee (“Sub-Committee”) and its Chair will be named by the Sr. Associate Dean. The Sub-Committee, including the Chair, will consist of three faculty members from the Health Sciences Evaluation Committee.
6. The Sr. Associate Dean will notify the student in writing of the composition of the Sub-Committee. The student will be allowed ten (10) calendar days from the mailing of this notice to object to any person's appointment to the Sub-Committee. Such objection must be sent to the Sr. Associate Dean in writing. The Sr. Associate Dean will, at his/her sole discretion, determine whether an objection warrants the appointment of one or more different persons to the Sub-Committee, who shall be selected by the Sr. Associate Dean.
7. The Sub-Committee will investigate the allegation. The Sub-Committee will review the student's confidential file and interview him or her. The Sub-Committee also may gather and review other material and interview any other person who the Sub-Committee, at its sole discretion, has reason to believe may have relevant information to contribute.
8. The student under review and the student's advisor may attend the information-gathering sessions. If the student in question selects an advisor the student is required to inform the Sr. Associate Dean of the advisor's identity at least five (5) days in advance of the hearing. The information-gathering sessions are not in the nature of an adversarial proceeding. The student and/or his or her advisor may submit written questions to be answered by persons interviewed by the Sub-Committee, but the procedure regarding their questioning is left to the sole discretion of the Sub-Committee, including whether the questions submitted by the student and/or his or her advisor will be modified and/or posed to the persons interviewed. The student also may suggest persons to be interviewed by the Sub-Committee, but the decision to interview such persons is left to the sole discretion of the Sub-Committee. The student may speak on his/her behalf and may submit other material. The student's adviser may not speak. The legal Rules of Evidence, including but not limited to those rules regarding relevancy and hearsay, are not applicable. The materials and/or testimony to be considered and the weight to be given to them is left to the sole discretion of the Sub-Committee. The information sessions should not become excessively legalistic and are not conducted as criminal or civil trials. The legal rules of evidence, including, but not limited to, those rules regarding relevancy, hearsay, and admissibility are not applicable and the

- criminal and/or civil standards of due process are not controlling. The student and the student's advisor cannot be present when the Sub-Committee meets in executive session.
9. Meetings of the Sub-Committee are confidential. Minutes of the Sub-Committee will be placed in the student's confidential file upon the completion of the Sub-Committee's review.
  10. The Sub-Committee Chair and all members will be required to be present for all meetings of the Sub-Committee. Meetings may be conducted by conference call when it is not possible for all members to be physically present.
  11. The Sub-Committee will make its final recommendation(s) to the Sr. Associate Dean. Such recommendation(s) will be in writing and shall include findings of fact and the reasons for the recommendation(s). There is no required format for the recommendation(s). The content of the recommendation(s), including the nature and specificity of the findings and reasons, is left to the sole discretion of the Sub-Committee. The Committee Chair may review and sign the final recommendation(s) on behalf of the Sub-Committee.
  12. The recommendation(s) could include, but is (are) not limited to, one or more of the following:
    - a. Recommending conditions with which the student must comply in order to continue in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.
    - b. Recommending temporary suspension from the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.
    - c. Recommending dismissal from the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The Sub-Committee must agree that its recommendation is supported by a preponderance of the evidence (more likely than not). The Sub-Committee shall make an additional recommendation regarding whether or not the confidential file will be made a part of the student's permanent academic file.

13. The Sr. Associate Dean will review the student's confidential file and the Sub-Committee report, and will forward recommendation(s) to the Dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.
14. The Dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences will review the student's confidential file and the recommendation(s) of the Sub-Committee and the Sr. Associate Dean. The Dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, at his/her sole discretion, may meet with the student prior to making his/her determination.
15. The Dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences will take whatever action s/he deems appropriate, including dismissal of the student from the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. The Dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences will inform the student in writing of his/her decision.
16. The student shall have ten (10) calendar days in which to appeal the decision of the Dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Such appeal shall be in writing sent to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. The scope of this appeal is limited to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs or his/her designee's determination as to whether the procedures set forth in these Procedures have been complied with. Failure to appeal the decision shall be deemed a waiver of any and all rights to challenge the dean's decision and shall be deemed an acceptance of the same.



17. The Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs or his/her designee will make his/her decision on the written record of the proceedings. His/her decision shall be final.
18. At any time during the process, if the student in question selects an attorney as his or her advisor, the University will have its attorney present. The student is required to inform the Sr. Associate Dean five (5) days in advance of the hearing if counsel is to be present.

## **Policy and Procedures Concerning Mistreatment of Health Sciences Students**

The Policy and Procedures Concerning Mistreatment of Medical Students can be found at <http://smhs.gwu.edu/mdprograms/currentstudents/policies/studentmistreatmentpolicy/> and where applicable pertains to all health sciences students.

## **Policy and Procedures Concerning Drug Screening (DS) and Criminal Background Checks (CBC)**

Some criminal offenses preclude students from participating in patient care. In addition, some professional licensure boards prohibit licensure for those convicted of specific offenses. Thus, students from professional programs are subject to the statutory and/or regulatory requirements independently imposed by law, or as required by affiliating entities. Students must meet any and all requirements of the clinical facility, which may be more extensive than referenced herein. Inability to participate in patient care or being subject to any other exclusion prescribed by law will preclude successful completion of the requisite curriculum. As such, affected students may not be eligible for matriculation, continuation in the program, or graduation, if applicable.

This policy is designed to provide a safe environment for patients, visitors, faculty, employees and students at The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences Health Sciences Programs (“HSP”) and its affiliated institutions. Criminal background checks (CBC) and Drug Screens (DS) allow the HSP to evaluate whether students possess the character and fitness to participate in clinical education activities.

The HSP do not guarantee that state licensure boards will ultimately issue a license to an individual with or without a criminal record. Applicants with any record of a criminal offense are strongly encouraged to contact the licensing board of the profession within the state in which they would like to practice in the future to determine whether or not their record could preclude them from obtaining a license.

This policy applies to all students enrolled in Health Sciences courses and/or programs whose program of study requires them to complete a clinical rotation.

### *Prospective Students:*

Prospective students seeking admission to the HSP will be informed of this policy and its requirements will be posted on the admissions website. Prospective students are required to disclose misdemeanor or felony convictions at the time of application for admission.

### *New Students:*

Students admitted to any HSP that require clinical practica will be informed of this policy and its requirements at the time of acceptance. Once admitted, students will be required to complete a CBC and DS, and to authorize release of the results to appropriate academic and/or clinical personnel. The CBC and DS will be considered a condition of acceptance and it must be completed by the end of the first month of classes.

### *Enrolled Students:*

The cost of all CBCs and DSs shall be the responsibility of the student, unless the clinical facility agrees to assume the cost. Further, the student shall be deemed responsible for completing all CBCs and DSs in a timely manner.

Failure of either the CBC or DS may preclude participation in any further clinical rotations. As a result, the student may not be able to complete the requirements of the education program, may not be eligible for federal or state credentialing required for practice, and may be dismissed from the Program.

Results of all background checks and drug screens shall be privileged and confidential, will be maintained in a secure place and shall not be released or otherwise disclosed to any person or agency, other than (1) senior associate dean of Health Sciences or his/her designee; (2) persons who have a legitimate need to know, as determined by the senior associate dean of Health Sciences; (3) upon direction of a court order; (4) any affiliated entity providing clinical training; or, (5) with the written consent of the student. Records will be maintained on students until graduation or end of matriculation.

*CBC:* Enrolled students are required to disclose misdemeanor or felony convictions, other than minor traffic violations, to the Office of the Senior Associate Dean of Health Sciences within five (5) business days of occurrence. Non-disclosure or falsification may be grounds for dismissal or degree revocation. Any disruption in enrollment may require the student to undergo an additional criminal background check. In addition, students may be required to undergo additional CBCs during their matriculation as a Health Sciences student, as deemed necessary by the academic and/or clinical facility.

*DS:* Students may be required to complete a DS during their matriculation as a student in the HSP, as deemed necessary by the academic and/or clinical facility. Any disruption in enrollment may also require the student to undergo a drug screen as determined by the academic and/or clinical faculty.

### ***Procedures For Criminal Background Check***

1. Prospective students for any of the Health Sciences programs requiring clinical practica will be notified through the admissions web page that admission is contingent upon the successful completion of a CBC and authorization of the release of the CBC results to appropriate academic and/or clinical personnel after admission.
2. Once admitted, students will be notified by letter or e-mail of the deadline for completion of the CBC. The School will provide students with the name(s) of approved vendor(s) to conduct CBCs. Students will be given instructions on obtaining and reporting the results of

their CBC. Students will be responsible for all costs associated with completion of a criminal background check.

3. The Program Director or designee can access a secure database to determine whether the CBC has been completed. The results of the CBC will be only accessible to the senior associate dean of Health Sciences (or his/her designee) through a secure database hosted by the vendor. If a CBC report reveals a significant event (i.e., report with anything other than a minor misdemeanor), the senior associate dean of Health Sciences will review and investigate the results of the background check and make a recommendation to the dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) for further disposition. The dean of SMHS will make the final decision regarding the action to be taken regarding the status of the student.
4. Students claiming inaccuracies in their CBC will be referred to the entity completing the initial CBC for procedures as required by the Fair Credit Reporting Act.
5. Students are responsible to provide all requested information and documentation to clinical sites providing practica experience. The HSP may not be able to find alternative sites for students ineligible to attend clinical rotations at specified sites based on a positive CBC. If a student is unable to be placed in a clinical facility, s/he will be unable to complete his/her educational requirements and will be dismissed from the program pending the outcome of an appeal, should such right be invoked.

### ***Procedures For Drug Screen***

1. Prospective students for any of the HSP that require clinical practica will be notified through the admissions web page that, if accepted, they will be required to complete a drug screen and authorize release of the results to appropriate academic and/or clinical personnel. Students accepted for admission will be notified that matriculation is contingent upon the evaluation and acceptable outcome of all required drug screens
2. Upon completion of the screening the vendor will send an email notifying the student that the drug screening report is complete. The program director or designee can access a secure database to determine if the DS is complete or not complete, but cannot view the results. The results (indicated as either “clear” or “not clear”) are only accessible to a designee of the senior associate dean of Health Sciences via the secure database where the vendor has posted the results of the DS. If a positive drug screen is received, senior associate dean of Health Sciences will review and investigate the results of the drug screen and make a recommendation to the dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) for further disposition. The dean of SMHS will make the final decision regarding the action to be taken regarding the status of the student.
3. Students are responsible to provide all requested information and documentation to clinical sites providing practica experience. The HSP may not be able to find alternative sites for students ineligible to attend clinical rotations at specified sites based on a positive DS. If a student is unable to be placed in a clinical facility, s/he will be unable to complete his/her educational requirements and will be dismissed from the program pending the outcome of an appeal, should such right be invoked.

## Programs Leading to the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences

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### Clinical Laboratory Science

In addition to the general requirements for admission to degree candidacy for health sciences programs, students applying to the program must have satisfactorily completed 3 hours of English composition; 12 hours of chemistry (including inorganic and organic or biochemistry); 8 hours of general biology; 3 hours of college mathematics; 4 hours of microbiology; and 15 hours of electives as part of the 60 credit hours with which they enter the program. Applicants must submit a signed Essential Functions Acknowledgment Form and an acceptable Clinical Site Packet, indicating their ability to meet the required standards of the program.

The 120-credit-hour program requires satisfactory completion of 60 credit hours within the major, consisting of five health sciences courses (HSci 2112W, 2102, 2105, and two courses chosen from HSci 2101, 2103, 2104, 2108, 2109), plus CLS 4118 through 4133, 4140, 4151 and CLS 6201. Students must pass a comprehensive examination at the completion of all course work.

### Clinical Management and Leadership

### Clinical Research Administration

### Emergency Health Services

In addition to the general requirements for admission to degree candidacy, applicants to either the clinical management and leadership clinical research administration or emergency health services programs must have successfully completed an associate's degree or equivalent from a regionally accredited college or university or from an acceptable hospital-based program. Admission to either program requires 60 credit hours of advanced standing, generally in a health sciences discipline, with 3 hours of English composition; when applicable, clinical training may be part of the 60 hours of advanced standing. For the emergency health services program, all applicants must hold certification as an Emergency Medical Technician-Basic. The clinical management and leadership program, clinical research administration program, and the emergency health services program each require 120 credit hours. Students must complete a minimum of 60 GW credits in order to meet the academic residency requirement.

The programs require 21 credit hours of general education courses, including 3 hours of English Composition, 6 hours of natural science courses, and 12 hours of humanities or social sciences courses. These majors require eight health sciences courses: HSci 2103, 2104, 2108, 2112W, 2113, 2115, 4103, and 4112W plus the following courses:

***Clinical Management and Leadership***—HSci 2105, 2107, 2109, 4105, CML 2140 through 4144; and three electives chosen from GW Health Sciences Programs courses.

***Clinical Research Administration***—HSci 2105, 2107, 4105, CRA 2101 through 2105 and 2107; and three electives chosen from GW Health Sciences Programs courses.

***Emergency Health Services***— CML 2140 through 2142, and 4144; EHS 2170 through 2173, and 2179; and three electives chosen from GW Health Sciences Programs courses.

Dual B.S.H.S./M.S.H.S. programs are offered clinical management and leadership, clinical management and leadership/health care quality, clinical research administration, clinical research administration/regulatory affairs, and emergency health services/clinical management and leadership. Information is available on the Health Sciences Programs website.

## **Pharmaceutical Sciences**

As part of the 60 credit hours with which they enter the program, students must have satisfactorily completed 6 hours each of English composition, humanities, and social sciences; 3 hours each of calculus, 16 hours of chemistry with lab, including 8 hours of inorganic and 8 hours of organic; 8 hours of general biology with lab; 4 hours each of physics and microbiology with labs; and 3 hours of economics.

Through an agreement with Shenandoah University's Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy, students who have completed the B.S.H.S. with a major in pharmaceutical sciences will be eligible to apply to Shenandoah's Pharm.D. program and will be considered for advanced placement into the second year of the program.

The 129-credit-hour pharmaceutical sciences program requires satisfactory completion of 69 hours in the major consisting of 18 hours of health sciences courses (HSci 2102, 2105, 2112, 2115, 3116 and 4112); CRA 2101; Phar 3170, 3190; and Phrg 2141 and 2142, 4152-4157, 4161, 4163 and 4172. Students must select from one of two elective sets of courses (Phrg 4151, 4165, 4167, 4168, 4170 and 4171 or HSci 2103, 4198 and 4199).

## **Sonography**

In addition to the general requirements for admission to degree candidacy for health sciences programs, students applying to the program must have satisfactorily completed 6 hours of English composition; 3 hours each of human anatomy, human physiology, mathematics, physics, psychology, humanities or social sciences, and medical terminology as part of the 60 credit hours with which they enter the program. A personal interview is required. A signed Technical Standards Acknowledgment Form must be submitted.

Students may receive up to 48 hours of credit applicable toward fulfillment of the general curriculum requirements listed above if they have completed a nontraditional classroom or clinical experience in diagnostic radiography, nuclear medicine technology, or radiation therapy technology and are currently nationally registered or will be nationally registered during the first semester of study at The George Washington University. Students may receive up to 60 hours of credit applicable toward fulfillment of the general curriculum requirements as well as all program requirements excepting 6 credits of English composition if they have a Medical Degree with accompanying transcripts.

All sonography majors require 5 health sciences courses: HSci 2102, 2112, and three of the following (HSci 2101, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2108, 2109 and 2113). The following five majors are available:

***Vascular Sonography***— Sono 3101, 3103, 3104, 3111, 3112, 3119, 3141, 3143, 3145 through 3163, 4126, 4132, 4186 through 4188, and 4197.

***Cardiac Sonography***— Sono 3101, 3103, 3104, 3111, 3113, 3119, 3141, 3143, 3145 through 3163, 4125, 4131, 4186 through 4188, and 4198.

***General Sonography***— Sono 3101 through 3111, 3114, 3120, 3141, 3143 through 3147, 3151 through 3163, 4126, 4132, 4186 through 4188, 4195, and 4196.

***Vascular and Cardiac Sonography***— Sono 3101, 3103, 3104, 3111, 3113, 3115, 3121, 3122, 3141, 3143, 3145 through 3163, 4127, 4128, 4133, 4134, 4186 through 4188, 4197, and 4198.

***Vascular and General Sonography***— Sono 3101 through 3111, 3114, 3115, 3121, 3123, 3141 through 3147, 3151 through 3163, 4127, 4129, 4133, 4135, 4186 through 4188, and 4195 through 4197.

## **Programs Leading to the Master of Science in Health Sciences**

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**Clinical Management and Leadership**

**Clinical Research Administration**

**Clinical and Transitional Research**

**Health Care Quality**

**Immunohematology**

**Regulatory Affairs**

In addition to fulfilling the general admission requirements for the Master of Science in Health Sciences, applicants to the clinical management and leadership and the health care quality programs must present evidence of clinical training/ health care experience; to the clinical research administration program, clinical research or health care experience; to the clinical and translational research program, a bachelor's degree in basic, clinical or biomedical sciences, community health, or health services research and policy, and demonstrated research experience in a core discipline area; to the regulatory affairs program, two years of experience working in regulatory affairs or clinical research and to the immunohematology program concurrent enrollment in an accredited Specialist in Blood Banking program or national certification within the past seven years a bachelor's degree in chemistry, biologic science, or Medical Technology(MT)/Clinical Laboratory Science(CLS)/Medical Laboratory Science(MLS), completion of a Specialist in Blood Banking (SBB) program accredited by CAAHEP, and certification as an SBB by the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP). Licenses, certificates, and other credentials as well as the resume and statement of purpose are used to verify the clinical training/experience required for the individual field.

Depending on the program chosen, M.S.H.S. requirements for the fields vary; excluding clinical and translational research, immunohematology and regulatory affairs, all require a core of 9 credits of professional core courses (HSci 6223, 6240, 6241); 6 credits of research courses (HSci 6270, 6271); and field-specific courses as listed below.

***Clinical Management and Leadership***—21 credits in addition to the 15 credits of course requirements indicated above: CML 6202, 6203, 6204, 6274, 6275; one approved 3-credit elective.

***Clinical Research Administration***—21 credits in addition to the 15 credits of course requirements indicated above: CRA 6201, 6202, 6203, 6204, 6210, 6275; one course chosen from CRA 6208, 6209, HSci 6295, 6263, 6264.

***Clinical and Translational Research***—36 credits including: HSci 6261, 6262, 6263, 6264, 6265, 6275, CRA 6201, 6205, CSci 4577 and 3 approved 3-credit electives.

***Health Care Quality***—21 credits in addition to the 15 credits of course requirements indicated above: HCQ 6201, 6202, 6203, 6204, 6205, 6275; one approved 3-credit elective.

***Immunohematology***—22 credits in addition to the 34 transfer credits assigned for Specialist in Blood Banking courses and/or certification: CLS 6201; CLS 6210, 6213, 6215; HSci 6241, 6270, 6271, 6297.

***Regulatory Affairs***—36 credits including RAff 6201, 6202, 6203, 6204, 6205, 6275; HSci 6240, 6241, 6263, 6270, 6271; one approved 3-credit elective.

## Physician Assistant

### *Admission to Degree Candidacy*

Application to the Physician Assistant Program is made through the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA), [www.caspaonline.org](http://www.caspaonline.org), which allows one to apply to multiple PA programs by filing a single application. CASPA will verify the application for accuracy, process it electronically, and send the materials to the Office of Admissions, Health Sciences Programs. The applicant must also submit a [supplementary application](#) online. When both applications have been processed, and prerequisites verified, the file is forwarded to the Physician Assistant Program for further review and for selection of applicants to be interviewed. The deadline for applications to be received and considered complete is October 1; applications are considered on an as received basis.

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree with a minimum science and cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 and complete the following minimum prerequisites from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning in the United States with a grade of B- or better: two semesters of biological sciences for science majors (human anatomy and physiology strongly recommended,

botany not acceptable); two semesters of chemistry for science majors (one semester should be either organic or biochemistry), and two semesters of psychology (general psychology required, abnormal psychology strongly recommended).

Applicants may apply to the program with outstanding prerequisites, but only one can be outstanding as of the beginning of the calendar year in which the applicant would potentially start the program. All prerequisites must be completed before beginning the program. College seniors are eligible to apply, provided they will have fulfilled all baccalaureate requirements before matriculating. Six months of direct patient care experience is required, and an additional six months of health-related experience is highly recommended.

The Graduate Record Exam is required of all applicants. GRE scores are only valid for five years. Official GRE reports must be received by October 1; official transcripts from each academic institution attended must be submitted to the Office of Admissions, Health Sciences Programs, following acceptance into the PA program.

### ***Degree Requirements***

The Physician Assistant Program can be undertaken on a full-time basis only. Students must satisfactorily complete a total of 89 credit hours of course work (60 hours of didactic phase course work and 29 hours of clinical phase course work). The course work is listed below.

#### *Didactic Phase (60 credit hours)*

*Basic science curriculum*—Anat 6215; Bio Chem 6211; Phys 6211; Pharm 6207, 6208; Hsci 6233

*Clinical sciences*—PA 6225, 6229, 6234, 6237, 6240, 6241, 6242, 6266; Hsci 6234

*Other required courses*—PA 6210, 6211, 6219, 6230, 6231, 6270, 6271;

#### *Clinical Phase (29 credit hours)*

*Clinical rotations*—PA 6261 - 6269, PA 6275

### ***Joint Master of Science in Health Sciences and Master of Public Health***

Applicants to the Physician Assistant Program who are interested in public health and meet the admission requirements for both the M.S.H.S. and the Master of Public Health may be eligible to pursue a joint program. This three-year, 119-credit-hour program enables students to complete the M.P.H. in conjunction with the didactic course work and clinical requirements of the Physician Assistant Program. The didactic portion of the M.S.H.S. and most M.P.H. courses are completed during the first two years, while the third year consists primarily of clinical rotations in a variety of health care settings.



## The Doctor of Physical Therapy

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Applicants to the Doctor of Physical Therapy apply through the Physical Therapy Central Application Service (PTCAS) at [www.ptcas.org](http://www.ptcas.org), which allows application to multiple physical therapy programs by filing a single application. PTCAS will verify the application for accuracy, process it electronically, and send the materials to the Office of Admissions, Health Sciences Programs. The applicant must submit a [supplementary application](#) online at [www.gwumc.edu/healthsci](http://www.gwumc.edu/healthsci). When both applications have been processed and prerequisites verified, the file is forwarded to the Program in Physical Therapy for further review and for selection of applicants to be interviewed. Early deadline for application is December 15; applications are considered on an as received basis.

Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree and have completed the following courses: two semesters of anatomy and physiology (a semester of anatomy and a semester of physiology or a two-course sequence of anatomy and physiology or a similar combination is acceptable); two semesters of biological sciences (exercise physiology may be substituted for one biology course), two semesters each of chemistry and physics (both with lab—all science courses must be for science or health sciences majors); two semesters of psychology (including one psychology course beyond the introductory level); two semesters of English; and one semester of statistics. The Graduate Record Exam is required except for applicants with a post-baccalaureate degree; GRE scores are only valid for five years. Applicants may be admitted with outstanding prerequisites, but all prerequisites must be completed before matriculating into the program.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program is an eight-semester, 102-credit sequence taken on a full-time basis only.

*Required:* PT 8401 through 8489; HSci 6270, 6271, 6272.

## Certificate Programs

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In addition to degree programs in which a certificate is awarded along with the degree, the School of Medicine and Health Sciences offers certificate-only programs in health sciences. Undergraduate certificates are available in vascular, cardiac, general, vascular and cardiac, vascular and general, and sonography. An additional undergraduate-level certificate in health science laboratory technology is offered through a military contract program. At the post-baccalaureate level, certificate programs are offered in clinical laboratory science, and in blood banking, chemistry, hematology, and microbiology for clinical laboratory science. Graduate certificates in clinical and translational research, clinical research administration, health care quality, and regulatory affairs are offered. Further information can be obtained from the Office of Admissions, Health Sciences Programs.