



ADMISSIONS SELECTION PROCESS

College of Health Sciences, Education and Rehabilitation Physician Assistant Program

The selection of a candidate for admission to the Salus University Physician Assistant Program is based upon the premise, **Does the candidate meet all academic and health care experience requirements set forth by the University?**; and secondly, **Will the candidate make a "good" Physician Assistant?**

The Admissions Committee has developed a selection process based upon the questions mentioned above. This process, which is referred to as a "Candidate's Profile," is comprised of two indices: (1) the Academic Index (A.I.) and (2) the Interview Index (I.I.).

1

The **ACADEMIC INDEX** (A.I.) evaluates the candidate's academic ability. The criteria consists of grade point averages (specifically prerequisite, BCP (biology, chemistry, and physics) and overall), major type (more points are awarded for those with a BCP major), number of science college credits completed each semester, degree status and hours of patient care and PA shadowing experience. In particular, heavier science loads, BCP majors and higher GPAs are prioritized and generate more points in the academic index. The objective criteria are weighed according to recommendations of the Admissions Committee. If a candidate's A.I. falls within an acceptable range, the candidate is invited for an interview.

2

The **INTERVIEW INDEX** (I.I.) evaluates the candidate's knowledge, interest and motivation about the profession as well as professional communication skills. The Admissions Committee recommends that the interview should be conducted by a member of the faculty. The interviewer will have access to the candidate's file prior to the interview, to allow for a holistic review of the applicant, and will complete an interview guide questionnaire based upon their impressions of the candidate. They will also rate the candidate according to their interaction with the candidate as well as taking into consideration the personal statement and letters of recommendation. The candidate then meets with an admissions counselor to review their application file and discuss items that may need further explanation. The admissions counselor will also provide a written narrative and rating regarding impressions of the candidate.

In addition to the above indices, the Admissions Committee takes into consideration various non-cognitive factors in the candidate's profile, which include extra-curricular activities and motivation for the profession, as evidenced in the application and during the interview. The responsibility of evaluating these aspects of the candidate's profile is the function of the Admissions Committee with input from the Office of Admission staff members.

After the interview, the Admissions Committee will evaluate the aforementioned findings of the candidate's profile and make a recommendation to the Director of Admissions regarding the candidate's acceptability status. The Admissions Committee meets regularly to review applications and tries to provide decisions to candidates within two weeks of his/her scheduled interview.

Special Considerations

Applicants from affiliated institutions who have met established minimum requirements are given priority consideration in the admissions selection process. In addition, applicants who have taken three or more science courses per semester, maintain a Biology/Chemistry/Physics GPA of 3.5 or higher, or have shadowed licensed physician assistants across various disciplines are given priority consideration in the admissions selection process.

Applicants who have successfully completed the Salus' Post-baccalaureate in Health Sciences Certificate Program and who have met all minimum prerequisites for admission will be afforded the opportunity to interview and be considered in the general applicant pool. Please note: To successfully complete the Post-baccalaureate certificate, students must complete 25 credits while maintaining good academic standing (a GPA of 3.0 or higher and no more than two 'C' grades).

Salus University complies with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and all other applicable federal, state, or local laws regarding unlawful discrimination. Salus University prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, genetic information, veteran status, disability and any other characteristic protected by state law, federal law, or local ordinance in hiring, employment opportunities, education programs, and any other activities sponsored by the University.

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