

Nova Southeastern University
Physician Assistant Program Fort Myers
Mission, Goals, and Outcomes

Mission statement

In keeping with the principles of both Nova Southeastern University (NSU) and the Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences (CHCS) mission statements, the NSU Physician Assistant (PA) Program Fort Myers endeavors to:

- provide an educational experience that emphasizes primary medical care;
- provide health care experiences in medically underserved communities;
- prepare students for lifelong learning;
- prepare students for leadership roles;
- produce PAs who uphold the tenets of professionalism;
- enable graduates to demonstrate competency and skill in a variety of clinical and cultural settings.

Goals

- Produce competent primary care PAs
- Produce PAs with awareness of the challenges of the medically underserved and disadvantaged populations
- Produce PAs who uphold the tenets of professionalism
- Produce PAs from increasingly diverse backgrounds

Mission Supported Goal	Measures of Success (Benchmark)	Outcomes
Produce competent primary care PAs	PANCE Performance (First time pass rate of 90% or higher)	Class of 2023 First-Time Taker pass rate– 98% Five-year First-Time Taker pass rate - 94% (as of 12-15-2023)
	Attrition Data	2023 Academic Attrition: 3.7% 2023 Overall Attrition: 5.5%
	Preceptor Feedback	Excellent (quantify) feedback from preceptors regarding the quality of students’ preparation for clinical rotations. Class of 2023 average evaluations scores from preceptors were 92.6%

	Graduate Exit Survey Data	<p>Class of 2023 (N=51)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 92% of all 2023 graduates agree that the Program adequately prepared them to practice in primary care medicine. • 6% of the Class of 2023 accepted jobs in Primary Care
Produce PAs with awareness of the challenges of the medically underserved and disadvantaged populations	<p>Community Service Involvement</p> <p>Required Rural Rotations</p> <p>Cultural Awareness and Diversity training</p> <p>Alumni practicing in Rural and Underserved areas</p>	<p>Faculty and students participate in the annual Project SEED (Serving Everyone Embracing Diversity) health fair in Immokalee, FL; High School Athletic Clearance Physicals; toy drives for the underserved communities. The program was a 2016, 2017, and 2018 recipient of a Collier Foundation Grant for Project SEED.</p> <p>Every student is required to complete at least one rural/underserved supervised clinical practice experience (SCPE)</p> <p>All students receive instruction and competency testing on cultural issues and diversity as it relates to the medically underserved and disadvantaged</p> <p>9.6% of the Class of 2023 has secured a job in a rural or underserved area</p>
Produce PAs who uphold the tenets of professionalism	Involvement of faculty and students in professional associations	Most (quantify) PA faculty are fellows in the American Academy of Physician Assistants and the Florida Academy of Physician Assistants, and all faculty are members of the Physician Assistant Education Association.

		<p>Faculty regularly attend professional association workshops, CME events, and seminars.</p> <p>Students participate in the Sean P. Grimes Student Society, SAAAPA, FAPA, the state and national challenge bowls, and are past winners of the CHCS Ethics Bowl.</p>
<p>Prepare students for Lifelong Learning</p>	<p>Professionalism expected and taught throughout curriculum. Tested through OSCE, Competency testing and Preceptor evaluations.</p> <p>Faculty and Student publication, research, and presentations</p>	<p>100% of students graduate with sufficient to outstanding competence in professionalism issues.</p> <p>Faculty and students have been published in JAAPA, JPAE, JAMA and various other publications. One faculty member published a textbook in the field of bioethics. Faculty and students have participated in and presented at community events, FAPA, AAPA and PAEA symposiums as well as NSU's Research Day. Faculty presentations are updated annually to reflect current guidelines and standards.</p>
<p>Prepare students for Leadership Roles</p>	<p>Alumni Achievements</p>	<p>Provide leadership to AAPA, FAPA, and various other state PA organizations</p> <p>Many Alumni lecture and precept current students</p> <p>Received prestigious postgraduate fellowships from Dartmouth, Yale, Johns Hopkins, Nemours, Orlando Health and others</p>

Produce PAs from increasingly diverse backgrounds	Increase diversity in the classroom	<p>Several Alumni own their own medical practices Alumni are authors, business owners, bloggers, and podcast hosts. See links below</p> <p>Admissions committee seeks applicants from rural and underserved areas as well as diverse backgrounds</p> <p>Program visits local high schools and colleges with message of increasing diversity</p>
---	-------------------------------------	---

Select Alumni Achievements

Floyd Meyer, PA-C, MPH (2017), is author of Buff Enough: Strategies for busy, purpose-driven people to enhance your health, energy, and impact.

<https://www.amazon.com/Buff-Enough-Strategies-purpose-driven-enhance-ebook/dp/B07KKPMKPT>

Megan Tetlow, PA-C (2010) is a blogger for the New England Journal of Medicine.

<https://blogs.jwatch.org/frontlines-clinical-medicine/2017/03/23/when-medicine-is-hard/>

Gray Phelps, PA-C (2015) hosts Medgeeks podcasts.

<https://physicianassistantboards.libsyn.com/stories-from-the-emergency-room>

Rodelein Joseph, PA-C (2016) is Founder and CEO of Medsembly, an upcoming application for connecting healthcare workers <https://medsembly.com/about/>

Jimmy Salia, PA-C (2013) is owner of an Urgent care in Cape Canaveral, FL

<https://www.medecmedicalcare.com/meet-our-provider/dr-qazim-salia-mp-pa-c>

Angelia Sakyi-Agyekum, PA-C (2018) is owner and practitioner at Coastal Med Urgent Care in Fort Myers, FL, <https://coastalmedurgentcare.com/>

Samantha Zavada, PA-C (2020) has an Instagram page about PA life with 7k followers

<https://www.instagram.com/sam.in.scrubs/channel/?hl=en>

Adrian Ungureanu PA-C (2010) Owner and practitioner at Redi-Med Walk-in Family Care in Naples, FL, <https://www.redimednaples.com/about-us>

Select Faculty Achievements

Sylwia Bareja, PA-C (2007) Poland and Physician Assistants. *Journal of the American Academy of Physician Assistants*. <https://doi.org/10.1097/01.JAA.0000718292.45648.bfDr>.

Stephanie Anderson, M.D., J.D. *Southern Medical Journal*, "Unresolvable moral disagreements and the ethical integrity of the medical profession" (SMJ-23-108R1)