



Pathway: Therapeutic Services

Plan of Study: Physician Assistant (Health Sciences)

Career Goal (29-1071): Physician Assistant

Suggested High School Courses

High School * Default includes CDHE Higher Education Admission Requirements	9 th	Core Academic Courses*:	English I, Algebra I, Biology, Civics or State History	Suggested Electives: Science courses, Computer Applications
		Career Path Courses:	Health Science Technology I - Introduction to Health Science	
	10 th	Core Academic Courses*:	English II, Geometry, Chemistry, US History, Foreign Language I	Suggested Electives: Science courses
		Career Path Courses:	Health Science Technology II - Health, Safety, and Ethics	
	11 th	Core Academic Courses*:	English III, Algebra II, Physics, Foreign Language II	Suggested Electives: Communications
		Career Path Courses:	Biology, Chemistry or other lab based science Health Science Technology III - Employment In Health Science	
	12 th	Core Academic Courses*:	English IV, Calculus, Pre-Calculus, or Statistics, Anatomy and Physiology, Economics and Psychology	Suggested Electives: Advanced Computer Applications/ Medical Informatics, Volunteerism
		Career Path Courses:	Health Science Technology IV- Introduction to Therapeutic Services	

Required College Courses†- (Order of Courses is Suggested)

Bachelor's Degree †-see Website for course requirements	1 st year- College Algebra or higher, General Chemistry (100 level or above), General Biology (100 level)
	2 nd year- Organic Chemistry**, Human Anatomy and Physiology**(separately or as a combined course)
	3 rd year- Biochemistry**, Microbiology**, Statistics
	4 th year- Cell Biology**, Genetics** **- at 200 level or above

Colorado Postsecondary Programs Available

Colorado Institutions

Entrance Exams/ Requirements

Postsecondary Education Programs	Certificate	Physician Assistant	www.collegeincolorado.org Red Rocks Community College	Bachelor's Degree. See Program Website for Admissions Requirements
	Associate Degree	none		

Bachelor Degree	none		
Graduate (Degree)	Physician Assistant	www.collegeincolorado.org Red Rocks Community College* *MS granted through St. Francis University concurrent with RRCC certificate completion University of Colorado School of Health Sciences	Bachelor's Degree. See Program Website for Admissions Requirements

Cluster Overview: The **Health Science Career Cluster** prepares students for careers in planning, managing, and providing therapeutic services, diagnostic services, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development.

Suggested Learning Experiences

Curricular Experiences: Health Occupations Students of America	Extracurricular Experiences: Shadowing Physician Assistants National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine Medical Mission Trips Special Olympics
Work-Based Learning Experiences: 2000 hours of paid medical experience REQUIRED (e.g. EMT, Paramedic, Athletic Trainer, CNA/MA, LPN/RN, Physical Therapist or PT Assistant, Pharmacist, Nutritionist, etc)	Program Accreditation and/or Professional Association(s): ARC-PA (Accreditation Review Commission on the Education of the Physician Assistant) PAEA (Physician Assistant Education Association) NCCPA (National Commission of the Certification of Physician Assistants) AAPA (American Academy of Physician Assistants) CAPA (Colorado Association of Physician Assistants)
Service Learning Experiences: Community Service Volunteer in underserved populations	

Career Options:

Salary Range:

Certificate	Physician Assistant-Certified***	\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$
Associate Degree	Physician Assistant-Certified***	\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$
Bachelor's Degree	Physician Assistant-Certified***	\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$
Graduate Degree	Physician Assistant-Certified***	\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

\$ = \$15-25,000; \$\$ = \$25-55,000; \$\$\$ = \$55-90,000; \$\$\$\$ = Above \$90,000

*** Ability to practice is based upon completion of an ARC-PA accredited program along with current national certification through NCCPA.

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