

Physician Assistants: Transforming Healthcare

Scope of Practice







- Take patient histories
- Perform physical exams
- Diagnose & treat illness
- Write prescriptions

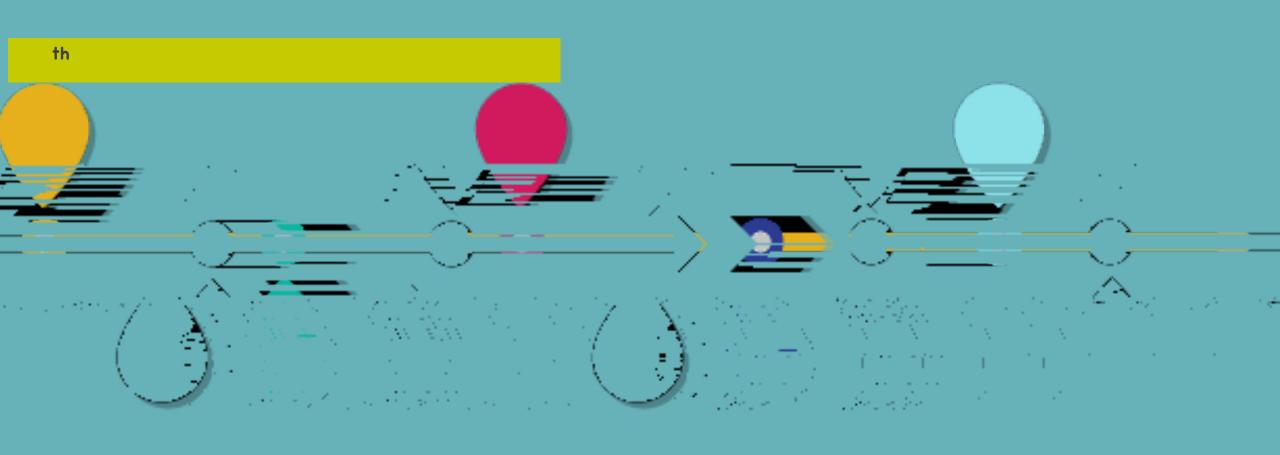
- Order & interpret lab/radiology tests
- Perform procedures

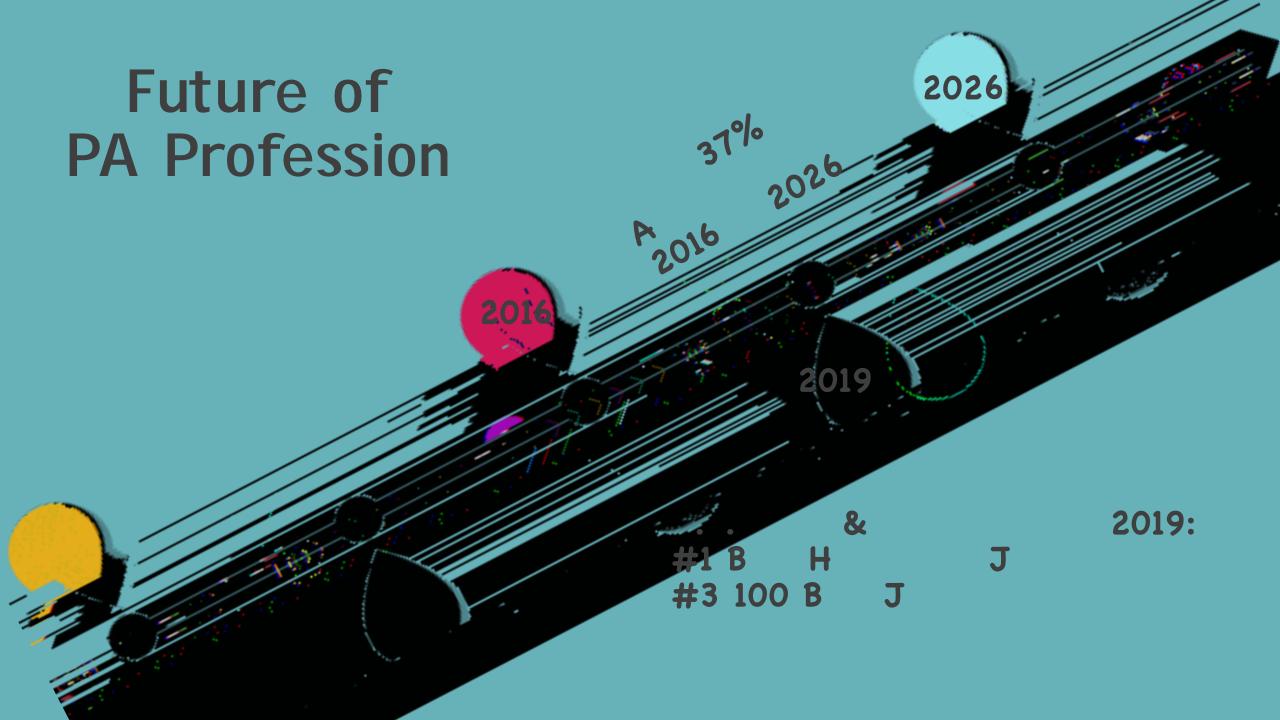
- Assist in surgery
- Counsel patients on preventive health





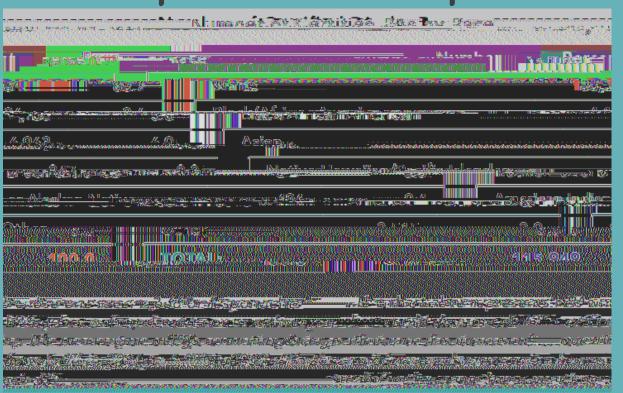
History of PA Profession





Creating Diversity in Healthcare

National PA di ersit



PA si deni di ersi



Track to Becoming a Physician Assistant

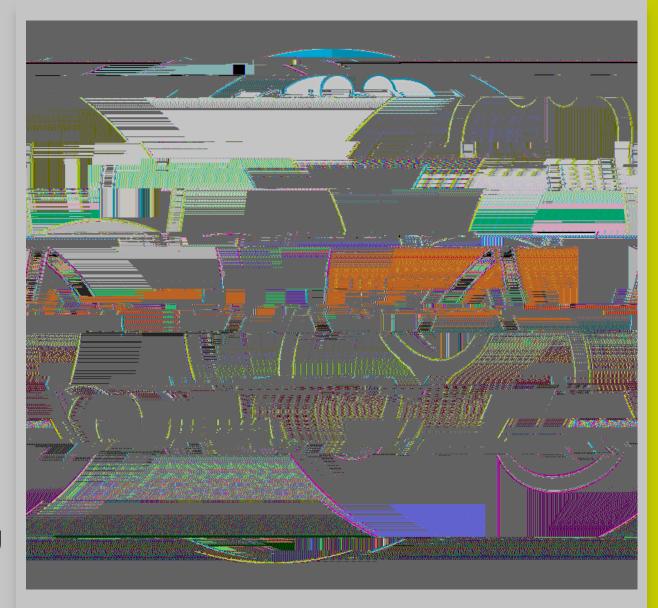
- Earn undergraduate degree
 - Most common: biology, chemistry, nursing, exercise science, kinesiology, nutrition, psychology, genetics
- Complete PA program prerequisites
 - Most common: basic biology, anatomy, physiology,

What does PA school entail?

• 24-36month program based on didactic lectures and clinical rotations

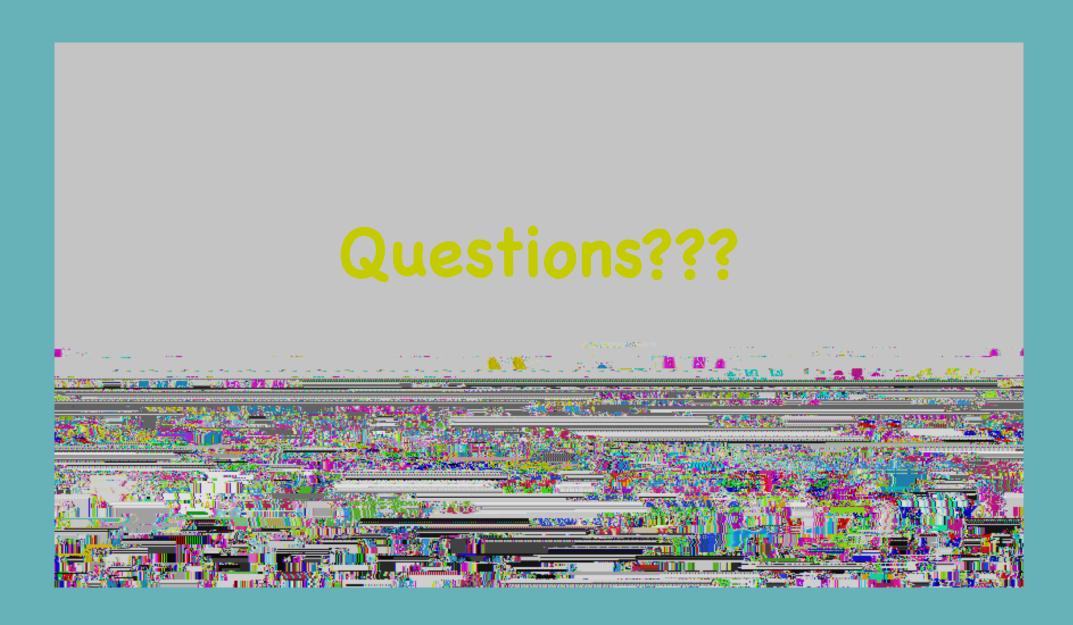
Didactic portion

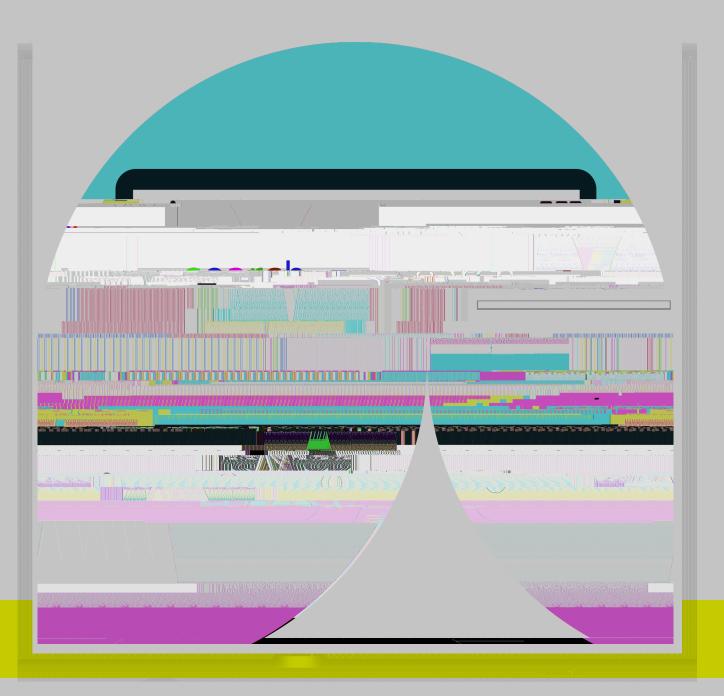
- Structure and courses vary among program
- Common courses: anatomy, physiology, clinical assessment based on multiple organ systems, cadaver lab, in depth studies of diseases of organ systems, pharmacology, genetics, ethics, behavioral sciences
- Clinical portion
 - 2,000+ hours of clinical rotations in medical and surgical settings, including family medicine, internal medicine, OB/GYN, pediatrics, general surgery, emergency medicine, and psychiatry





stfrancis.edu





Links to look into

- aapa.org
- yourpacan.org
- pafocus.org
- directory.paeaonline.org