

HOW DO I BECOME A BOARD CERTIFIED PA-C ?

PAs are medical professionals who diagnose illness, develop treatment plans, prescribe medications, and perform procedures. They practice in every medical specialty—from primary care to surgery and emergency medicine.

Interested in becoming a PA-C? Start here:

1 RESEARCH PA PROGRAMS

Before completing your bachelor's degree:

- Compare admissions requirements (they vary by program)
- Check prerequisites and minimum GPAs
- Understand patient care hour expectations
- Attend a PA info session (often virtual)

2 EARN A BACHELOR'S DEGREE

To apply to PA school, you'll need:

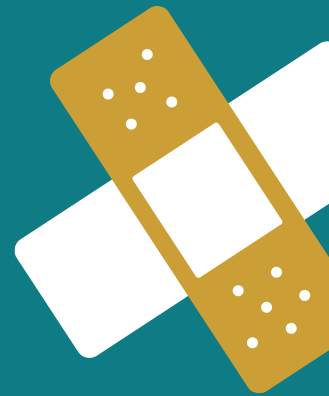
- A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Any major (as long as you complete prerequisites)
- Strong coursework in science classes

3 OBTAIN PATIENT CARE EXPERIENCE

Most programs look for hands-on healthcare experience.

- Patient Care Experience: direct responsibility for patient care (preferred)
- Healthcare Experience: healthcare exposure that may be less direct

Tip: Start early and track your hours.



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APPLY TO PA SCHOOL

Most applicants apply through Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA).

Typical application materials include:

- Transcripts
- Letters of recommendation
- Personal statement
- Documentation of patient care experience

Many programs also require an interview (virtual or in person).

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COMPLETE PA SCHOOL

Most PA programs are about 27 months long.

PA school includes:

- Classroom learning
- Clinical rotations in multiple specialties (2000+ hours)

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PANCE

After graduation, you must pass the national certification exam:

- Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE)
- Apply for state licensure

Once certified and licensed, you can begin practicing as a Board Certified PA-C

Learn more about becoming a PA-C!
Visit our **PAsDoThat** website!

Scan the QR Code

