

SELECTIVE INTERNAL PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT ADMISSIONS (SIPAAP)

PATHWAY



SIPAAP SCHOLARS

The overarching goal of the Selective Internal Physician Assistant Admissions Pathway is to increase diversity in the physician assistant (PA) workforce through an intentional medical professional mentorship program. The SIPAAP Scholars program is an internal North Central College pathway, or “pre-PA program,” for candidates who meet selective criteria to gain provisional admission to the MSPAS program.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

PATHWAY I – HIGH SCHOOL ENTRY

Students may enter SIPAAP after high school upon acceptance into NCC as an undergraduate. Admission is based on completion of the application and the criteria below.

Eligibility Requirements

- Completion of the following high school courses:
 - 3 years of Mathematics
 - 1 year of Chemistry
 - 1 year of Biology
 - 4 years of English
- Science GPA of 3.5 or higher.
- Unweighted cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher
- 500-word essay explaining why you want to become a physician assistant
- One letter of recommendation from a high school teacher

PATHWAY II – CURRENT OR TRANSFER COLLEGE STUDENT ENTRY

Current NCC students or transfer students may apply through Pathway II if they have a minimum of four semesters of undergraduate coursework remaining (including summer terms). Transfer coursework may be considered if approved by the NCC Office of the Registrar.

Eligibility Requirements

- Cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.5 or higher
- Science GPA of 3.5 or higher (last 60 hours)
- Minimum of four semesters remaining at NCC (including summer)
- All transfer credit approved by the NCC Office of the Registrar prior to consideration
- 500-word essay explaining why you want to become a physician assistant
- One letter of recommendation from a college professor



**NORTH CENTRAL
COLLEGE 1861**
NAPERVILLE'S UNIVERSITY

CONTACT US

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ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Acceptance into the SIPAAP Pathway:

Potential SIPAAP Scholars will be invited to apply following acceptance to North Central College. The admissions subcommittee will review applications starting in January and invite competitive candidates to interview in March-April. Following an interview, candidates will be notified of their acceptance into the program, as well as the terms of their Provisional Admissions to the MSPAS program by **May prior to the end of the academic year**. All scholar activities will commence in the summer following acceptance.

The admission committee follows a holistic admissions process that values academic achievement, life experiences, and personal attributes. Applicants with strong academic performance will be given preference in our admissions process. The program also considers leadership, community service, research, and teaching experience, as well as the strength of professional references and the personal narrative in its holistic review. Additional consideration is given for prior military service, first generation student status, low family income, residence in medically underserved or rural/small town areas, English as second language, U.S. Citizens by birth abroad, permanent residents or dual nationals, and applicants from outside Illinois and the surrounding Midwest region.

Example of a SIPAAP Scholar's Admissions Timeline:

- Student receives acceptance to North Central College or is a present North Central student.
- Student applies to SIPAAP program.
- Student's application is reviewed by MSPAS Program Admissions Subcommittee.
- Student receives communication of SIPAAP interview.

SIPAAP SCHOLAR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Maintain a course load that will result in graduation at the end of four years (12 credit hours per semester).
- Maintain a cumulative GPA at or above 3.5 by the end of each academic year while at North Central College.
- Attend mentoring sessions wherein courses and grade updates and official transcripts are discussed (one session per semester; must be after semester grades are obtained).
- Attend scheduled PA program activities (1 per semester, including summer).
- Complete all required courses, direct patient care hours and PA shadowing required of the MSPAS program.
- Submit a timely, completed and verified CASPA application to North Central College in your senior year.

Should the student be unable to comply with the minimum 12 hour credit load, this must be discussed with the MSPAS faculty mentor and program director. Failure to disclose this will result in withdrawal from the program.

ACCREDITATION STATEMENT

The ARC-PA has granted Accreditation-Provisional status to the North Central College Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program sponsored by North Central College.

Accreditation-Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when a program holding Accreditation-Provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students.

Accreditation-Provisional does not ensure any subsequent accreditation status. It is limited to no more than five years from matriculation of the first class. The program's accreditation history can be viewed on the ARC-PA website at <http://www.arc-pa.org/accreditation-history-north-central-college/>.

