



**Department of Physician Assistant Studies
College of Allied Health Sciences**

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June 14, 2024

Dear ECU PA Class of 2026,

Welcome to the Department of Physician Assistant Studies at East Carolina University (ECU) in the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS)! Our faculty and staff are excited to see you again in August. Over the next 27 months, we will provide the educational and clinical experiences to allow you to become an outstanding physician assistant. Below you will find information regarding the program and what you need to accomplish prior to the start of classes. At the end of this letter, you will find a list of important websites as well as a student check list for reference.

Classes begin on **August 19, 2024**. There will be a mandatory PA Studies orientation on **August 15 and 16** at the Health Sciences Building on the ECU West Campus (where interviews were held). Attendance is required. You can expect Orientation to last from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Thursday and Friday with a one-hour lunch break each day. Please plan to dress business casual for orientation. A complete agenda will be available prior to the start of Orientation on our website. There will also be a few "virtual" (online) orientation materials that you are required to complete on your own. You will receive more information about virtual materials at Orientation.

The PA Program has pre-registered students for the Fall semester of 2024; subsequently, there is no need for you to contact the Program about registration. Please log into PiratePort (see link below) to view your tuition statement and select payment options.

If you completed prerequisites in the Fall of 2023, do not assume CASPA forwarded these results. Please assure your record is up to date and shows completion of your bachelor's degree by making sure your official transcript(s) are sent to the Graduate School on/or before **August 1, 2024**. Contact Theresa Cartwright (cartwrightt@ecu.edu) at the Graduate School if you have questions about graduate admissions.

Most of our assessment is done by computer and all course materials are posted on Canvas, a web-based learning management system. For this reason, a laptop computer (**not a tablet**) is **required** by the program. The PA Program requires certain specifications for laptop computers (please see link below), and *only the laptops with these specifications are supported by the university for technological support*. Your computer must have an integrated or free-standing webcam and microphone of sufficient quality to participate in live teleconference meetings. For both days of Orientation, bring your charged, working laptop as the availability of electrical outlets in the classroom is limited.

In addition to your laptop computer, you will also need to secure adequate internet access and speed to participate in live online meetings, download and upload large video files, and participate in proctored testing should the need arise.

The Graduate School requires compliance with ECU Student Health Services (SHS) policies for admission. ECU requires that all students be in full compliance with the North Carolina immunization law and have completed all immunizations listed under “College/University Vaccine Requirements & Number of Doses” on the [SHS website](#). Please read the website carefully for submission instructions and requirements. You will need to upload one of the acceptable records of immunization (found [here](#)) to myPIRATEchart. You are subject to additional ECU fines if you fail to submit the immunization requirements.

The PA Program requires **additional** immunizations in compliance with the CDC guidelines for healthcare workers. A list and explanation of all required vaccinations can be found on our [website](#). Immunization information should be reported first to SHS via myPIRATEchart and second to CastleBranch. All immunization information must be submitted by **August 1, 2024**. Please keep the program informed of your progress as you complete any outstanding or missing items.

Students are responsible for maintaining personal health insurance throughout the PA Program. Documentation of insurance coverage must be submitted via CastleBranch by **August 1, 2024** and kept up to date; therefore, any changes in insurance coverage must be submitted to CastleBranch immediately. Students are eligible for health care by appointment or on an urgent care basis at SHS clinics as a part of their general university fees, but personal health insurance is still required. The costs of services of off-campus providers and at agencies other than SHS clinics are not included in the ECU health fee. The student health insurance plan (SHIP) may be purchased through ECU Student Health Services. For further information, contact SHS at the link listed below.

Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers (**American Heart Association**) certification is required for enrollment and is to be maintained for the duration of the Program. No other CPR course will be accepted. Certification must be completed by the start of classes in August. Documentation of current BLS certification should be submitted through CastleBranch.

A medical terminology exam is given during the first week of classes to demonstrate basic competence. We recommend that you review terms this summer. We have included a free, online medical terminology resource for your use on the attached checklist.

A textbook list for the first Fall semester can be found on our website. You may order your books from ECU Dowdy Student Store or online from a retailer of your choice. Many of the required books you will use in the first four semesters are available online at no cost through ECU Laupus Library. Please note that some of the books, however, are only available in print form and you are required to purchase those texts. Please have your textbooks prior to the start of class. Students are encouraged to compare costs with various vendors when purchasing textbooks.

A list of **required** medical equipment and supplies is included with this letter. You are free to purchase your supplies wherever you choose. The ECU Dowdy Health Sciences Store here on campus will also have the required supplies if you choose to purchase from them. You are each required to purchase 2 sets (top and pants) of **navy blue** scrubs. The scrubs may be whatever brand you choose, as long as they are basic matching scrubs in **solid navy blue** color. Scrubs are required attire for labs and other events, and many students choose to wear them to class also. The ECU Health Sciences Store carries several options of Landau brand scrubs, which you can try on and purchase directly from them, if desired. The bookstore also offers (optional) name embroidery on scrubs for an additional charge. Please note, the short white lab coat **must** be **Meta style 738 or 739**.

You may choose between the 3 stethoscope types listed on the supply list and are free to customize your stethoscope colors. I suggest you visit the Littmann website to review the features of each stethoscope before purchasing one. A stethoscope is an investment that will serve you for many years in your PA career!

Please visit the links provided below. If you have any further questions, please email Mr. McKezian Williams at williamsmc22@ecu.edu.

Congratulations, and we look forward to seeing you soon. Go Pirates!

Sincerely,

Tina Seemann, MHS, PA-C
Associate Director of Didactic Education
East Carolina University
Dept. of Physician Assistant Studies

ECU PA Studies Program Checklist
Class of 2026

- Transcripts to Graduate School by August 1, 2024
<https://gradschool.ecu.edu/>
 - Theresa Cartwright - cartwrightt@ecu.edu

- Upload documentation to CastleBranch by August 1, 2024
<https://www.castlebranch.com/>
 - Immunizations
 - PA Department requirements: <https://pa.ecu.edu/requirements/>
 - CPR (American Heart Association BLS for Healthcare Providers)
 - Criminal Background Check
 - SSN Disclosure
 - Media Consent
 - Personal Health Insurance

- Submit required documentation to ECU Student Health Services
<https://studenthealth.ecu.edu/>

- Information about Student Health Insurance Program (SHIP) if needed -
<https://studenthealth.ecu.edu/ship/>

- Obtain laptop computer with Program and University specifications
<https://itcs.ecu.edu/pirate-techs/student-computer-requirements/>

- Orientation information (to be posted this summer)
<https://pa.ecu.edu/resource-links/>

- Purchase textbooks prior to first day of class
<https://pa.ecu.edu/resource-links/>
<https://ecu.bncollege.com/>

- Purchase lab coats, patches, medical instruments, and scrubs by the start of the second week of classes (see attached list)
<https://ecu.bncollege.com/>
https://www.littmann.com/3M/en_US/littmann-stethoscopes/

- Contact the Financial Aid office early to make any necessary arrangements
<https://financialaid.ecu.edu/>
 - Deana Summerlin - summerlind@ecu.edu

- Contact the Cashier's office about payment plans
<https://financialservices.ecu.edu/cashiers-office/>

- Review Medical Terminology (Proficiency exam will be given week 1 of classes)
Nelson, A., & Greene, K. (2021). *Medical Terminology for Healthcare Professions*. University of West Florida Pressbooks <https://pressbooks.uwf.edu/medicalterminology/>
- Register your PirateID and create your password
<https://pirateid.ecu.edu>
- Explore PiratePort to locate important information and services at ECU
<https://pirateport.ecu.edu>
- Website for admitted graduate students on preparing to start Graduate School at ECU
<https://gradschool.ecu.edu/new-students/>



ECU Physician Assistant Program Supplies List – 2024

Required Items	Purchasing Information
Stethoscope: choose one from choices below; any color/finish	Please see attached pricing information from ECU Dowdy Health Sciences Store. <i>Feel free to purchase supplies from the ECU store or elsewhere.</i>
Littmann Classic III Stethoscope	
Littmann Cardiology IV Stethoscope	
Littmann Master Cardiology Stethoscope	
Manual blood pressure cuff with sphygmomanometer*	
PA Medical Tools Kit (includes penlight w/batteries, EKG calipers, 512 tuning fork, 256 tuning fork, reflex hammer, bandage scissors, soft case with zipper.)	Kit is sold by ECU Health Sciences Store only; see attached pricing information
Or purchase items individually below:	
Penlight - disposable OR Penlight w/batteries	
EKG Calipers	
Tuning Fork – 512Hz	
Tuning Fork – 256Hz	
Reflex Hammer	
Maxwell Quick Medical Reference w/Eye Chart	
Privacy Filter for Laptop Screen	Purchase from office supply store or online
ECU PA Patch for White Coat	From ECU Health Sciences Store only
White Consultation Coat (Meta 738/739)**	
2 sets (top & pants) of matching solid navy blue scrubs**	
ECU Name Tag w/engraving	Will be ordered by ECU PA; information coming
Optional Items	
Name embroidery on white coat or scrubs (2 lines)	From ECU Health Sciences Store only
Stethoscope/Equipment Case	Amazon (see example link below)

*Examples of acceptable bp cuffs include: ADC Diagnostix 700, 720, or 760; MDF Instruments MDF808M11 *or similar*

SCRUBS & WHITE COAT: Scrubs may be any brand as long as they are basic matching scrubs in solid navy blue. You may choose to have your scrubs and/or white coat embroidered. ECU Health Sciences Store has the embroidery requirements of the department. You **must utilize them for consistency in embroidering. Please order early so you will have them before or shortly after classes begin. White Coats must be Meta style 738 or 739.

Optional stethoscope case example:

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B089CNS3ZJ/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_title?ie=UTF8&th=

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Booklist: Fall 1 Semester 2024

Course	Book	ISBN	Publisher
Principles of Professional Practice I PADP 6001	No books required for this course		
Intro to Clin Med PADP 6050	<i>Current Medical Diagnosis and Treatment , 2025</i>	To be released in August 2024 9781266266232 Current 2024 version available online via Laupus Library	McGraw-Hill Medical
	<i>Lippincott's Primary Care Orthopedics , 2nd Ed</i>	9781451173215 Available online via Laupus Library	Lippincott William & Williams
	<i>Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology, 9th Ed</i>	9781264278015 Available online via Laupus Library	McGraw-Hill Medical
	<i>The Sanford Guide to Anti-Microbial Therapy 2024</i> (online/mobile app also acceptable) https://store.sanfordguide.com/sanford-guide-mobile-app-subscription-p93.aspx	9781944272265 (print) Please note: mobile app updates regularly	Antimicrobial Therapy

History and PE I PADP 6200	<i>Bates' Guide to Physical Examination and History Taking</i> , 13th Ed	9781496398178 Available online via Laupus Library	Lippincott William & Williams
	<i>Maxwell Quick Medical Reference</i>	9780964519152	Maxwell Publishing Company
Clinical Gross Anatomy PADP 6030	Required text: <i>Moore's Essential Clinical Anatomy</i> , 6th or 7th Ed	9781496369659 (6th) 9781975154066 (7th) Available online via Laupus Library	Lippincott Williams & Wilkins
	Recommended text: <i>Grant's Atlas of Anatomy</i> , 15th or 16th Ed	9781975138707 (15th) 9781975193430 (16th) Available online via Laupus Library	Lippincott Williams & Wilkins
Human Physiology PADP 6040	<i>McCance & Huether's Pathophysiology</i> 9th edition	9780323789875	Elsevier
Pharm & Therapeutics PADP 6510	<i>Pharmacology</i> , 8th Ed	9781975170554 Available online via Laupus Library	Lippincott Williams & Wilkins
	<i>Antibiotics Simplified</i> , 5th Ed	9781284250060	Jones & Bartlett Learning