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# University of Iowa Physician Assistant Program Overview

PA Program Overview  
Health and Human Physiology Club  
University of Iowa

# Overview of Today's Presentation

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- Overview Carver College of Medicine
- Overview of PA Programs Nationally
- Overview of Admissions for the PA Program at Iowa
- Overview of Didactic Phase of Program
- Overview of Clinical Phase of Program
- General Conclusion
- Q & A Session

# UIHC Three-Part Mission

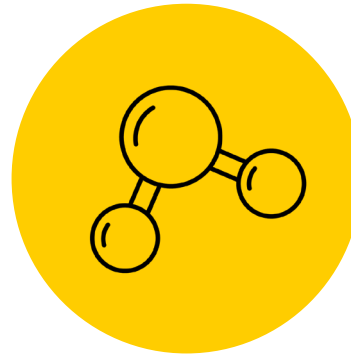
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## Education

**(MD, PA, PT, PhD programs)**

Teaching and training  
tomorrow's health care providers



## Research

Bringing new discoveries  
and new treatments



## Patient Care

**(UIHC and SFCH)**

Providing high-quality  
primary and specialty  
care services

# Carver College of Medicine (CCOM): Overview

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- The Carver College of Medicine (CCOM) is a part of University of Iowa Health (UIHC), an academic health center.
- The PA Program as part of the center has tremendous resources available to be utilized in accomplishing its mission.
- Focuses on a Three-Part Mission

# Carver College of Medicine (CCOM) Overview

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- West side of the Iowa River (UI health sciences campus) includes:
  - Colleges of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy and Public Health
  - University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, one of the nation's largest university-owned teaching hospitals (~800+ beds).
  - Most UI athletic venues

# National Rankings



**6**  
nationally ranked  
programs

*U.S. News & World Report*  
**"2021 Best Graduate Schools"**

- Physician Assistant: No. 1
- Physical Therapy: No. 4
- Family Medicine: No. 15
- Primary Care: No. 20
- Internal Medicine: No. 29
- Research: No. 34



**6**  
nationally ranked  
specialties

*U.S. News & World Report*  
**"2019-2020 Best Hospitals"**

- Ear, Nose, and Throat: No. 6
- Ophthalmology: No. 6
- Gynecology: No. 19
- Orthopedics: No. 27
- Pulmonology: No. 27
- Cancer: No. 43



**5**  
nationally ranked  
specialties

*U.S. News & World Report*  
**"2020-2021 Best Children's Hospitals"**

- Neonatology: No. 32
- Pediatric Orthopedics: No. 37
- Pediatric Endocrinology: No. 38
- Pediatric Nephrology: No. 42
- Pediatric Neurology/  
Neurosurgery: No. 49

# PA Program: Mission Statement

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- *To recruit exemplary individuals from diverse backgrounds and educate them to provide high quality, compassionate healthcare as Physician Assistants*

# In addition, the PA Program strives to...

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- Provide students with a broad-based interprofessional medical education that will enable them to adapt to the changing health care environment with a focus on evidence-based practice
- Prepare and encourage graduates to practice in rural communities and other underserved settings
- Educate students in a collaborative team model that promotes critical thinking and medical problem-solving skills
- Continue our tradition of excellence in preparing students to successfully pass the national certification exam (PANCE)
- Develop faculty and staff members with a commitment to excellence in teaching, service, and scholarship



**UNIVERSITY OF IOWA**  
**CARVER COLLEGE**  
**OF MEDICINE**

University of Iowa Health Care

# University of Iowa Physician Assistant Program

**PA Programs  
National  
Data**

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# Total Number of PA Programs Nationally

## SECTION 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

FIGURE 1. CUMULATIVE TOTAL NUMBER OF PROGRAMS SINCE 1965

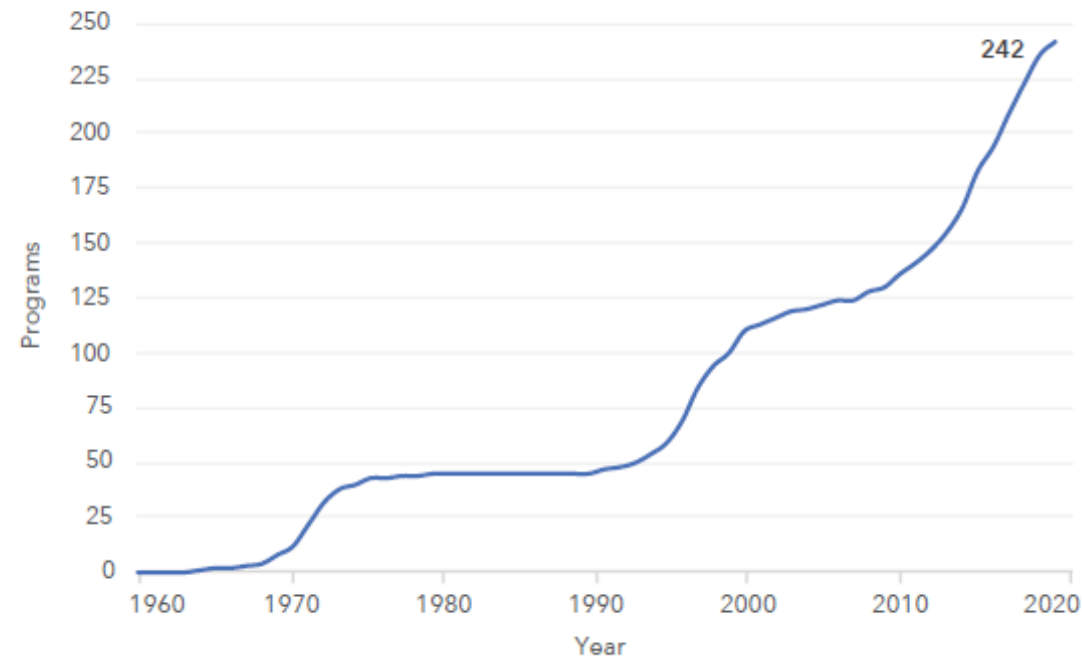
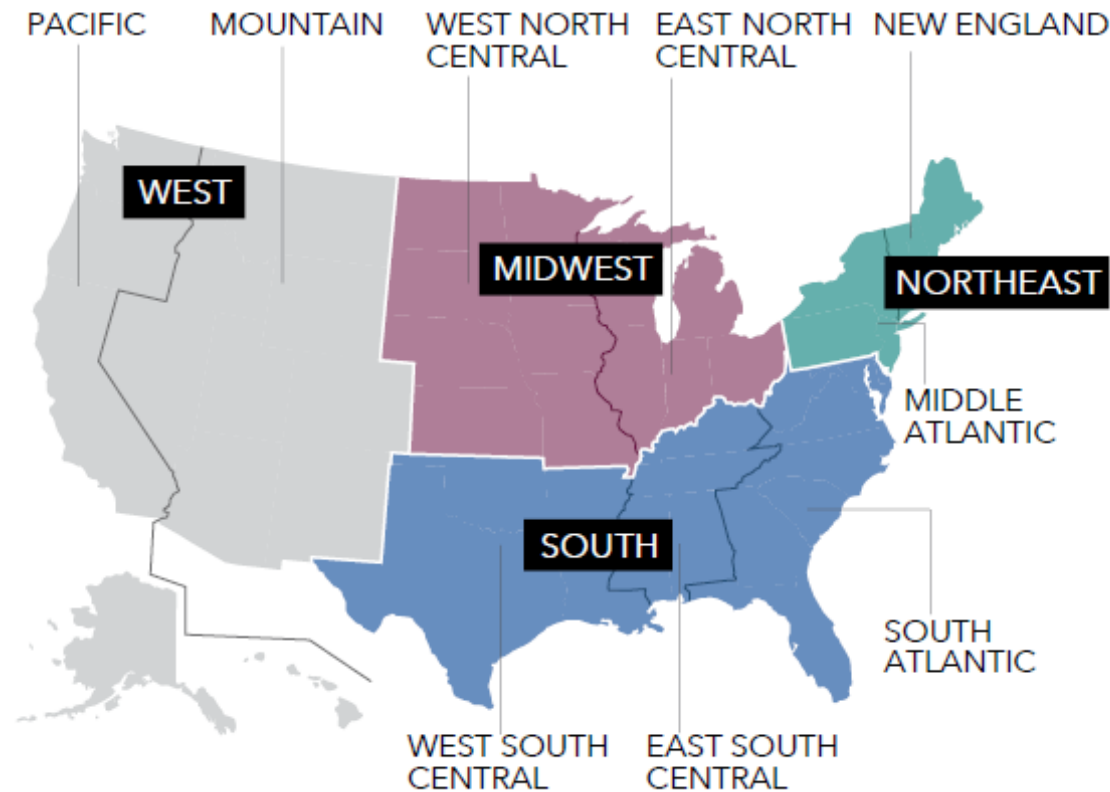


TABLE 1. SPONSORING INSTITUTION ATTRIBUTES

	n	%
Type of institution		
Private, non-profit	145	61.7
Public	69	29.4
Private, for-profit	13	5.5
Public/private hybrid	7	3.0
Military	1	0.4
Academic Health Center status		
Non-AHC	171	72.8
AHC	64	27.2
Administrative housing		
School of Allied Health/Health Professions/Health Sciences	130	55.3
Department of PA Studies/PA Program	41	17.4
College/School of Medicine	37	15.7
College of Graduate and Professional Studies	10	4.3
College of Arts and Sciences	8	3.4
Other health discipline (e.g., Nursing, Pharmacy, Podiatry, etc.)	5	2.1
Science department	4	1.7
Total	235	100.0

# PA Programs Nationally Geographic Distribution

FIGURE 2. U.S. CENSUS BUREAU REGIONS AND DIVISIONS



## REGION 1 NORTHEAST

### DIVISION 1 NEW ENGLAND

Connecticut (6)  
Maine (1)  
Massachusetts (8)  
New Hampshire (2)  
Rhode Island (2)  
Vermont (0)

### DIVISION 2 MIDDLE ATLANTIC

New Jersey (3)  
New York (23)  
Pennsylvania (21)

## REGION 2 MIDWEST

### DIVISION 3 EAST NORTH CENTRAL

Illinois (5)  
Indiana (8)  
Michigan (5)  
Ohio (12)  
Wisconsin (5)

### DIVISION 4 WEST NORTH CENTRAL

Iowa (3)  
Kansas (1)  
Minnesota (3)  
Missouri (4)  
Nebraska (4)  
North Dakota (1)  
South Dakota (1)

## REGION 3 SOUTH

### DIVISION 5 SOUTH ATLANTIC

Delaware (0)  
District of Columbia (1)  
Florida (16)  
Georgia (5)  
Maryland (3)  
North Carolina (10)  
South Carolina (5)  
Virginia (8)  
West Virginia (3)

### DIVISION 6 EAST SOUTH CENTRAL

Alabama (3)  
Kentucky (3)  
Mississippi (1)  
Tennessee (8)

### DIVISION 7 WEST SOUTH CENTRAL

Arkansas (2)  
Louisiana (3)  
Oklahoma (3)  
Texas (9)

## REGION 4 WEST

### DIVISION 8 MOUNTAIN

Arizona (3)  
Colorado (4)  
Idaho (1)  
Montana (1)  
Nevada (2)  
New Mexico (2)  
Utah (2)  
Wyoming (0)

### DIVISION 9 PACIFIC

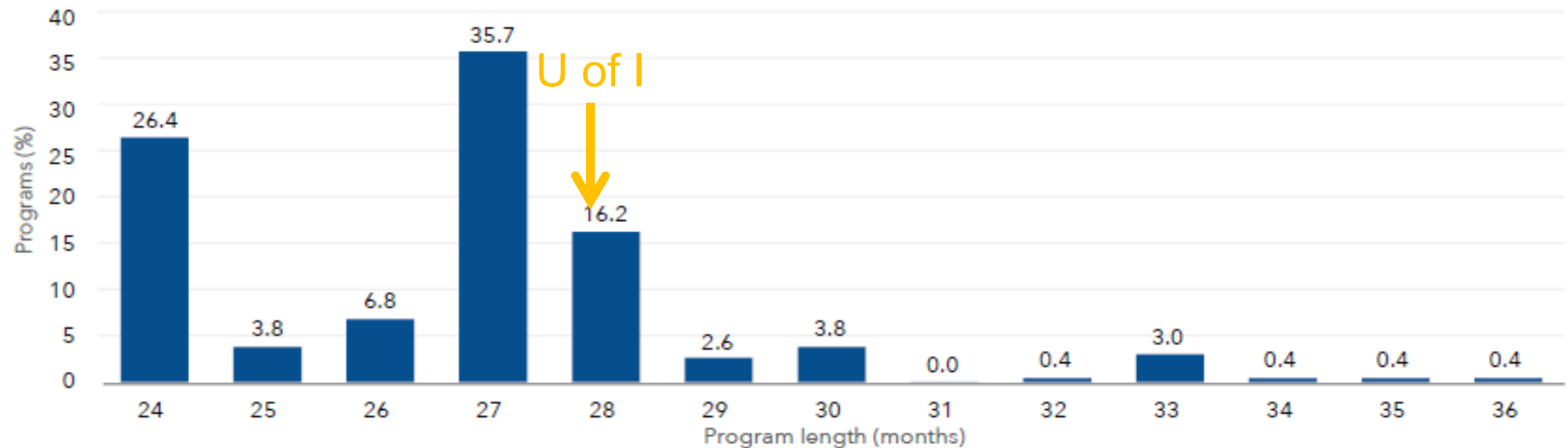
Alaska (0)  
California (15)  
Hawaii (0)  
Oregon (2)  
Washington (2)

# PA Programs Nationally Length in Months

TABLE 6. TOTAL PROGRAM LENGTH (MONTHS)

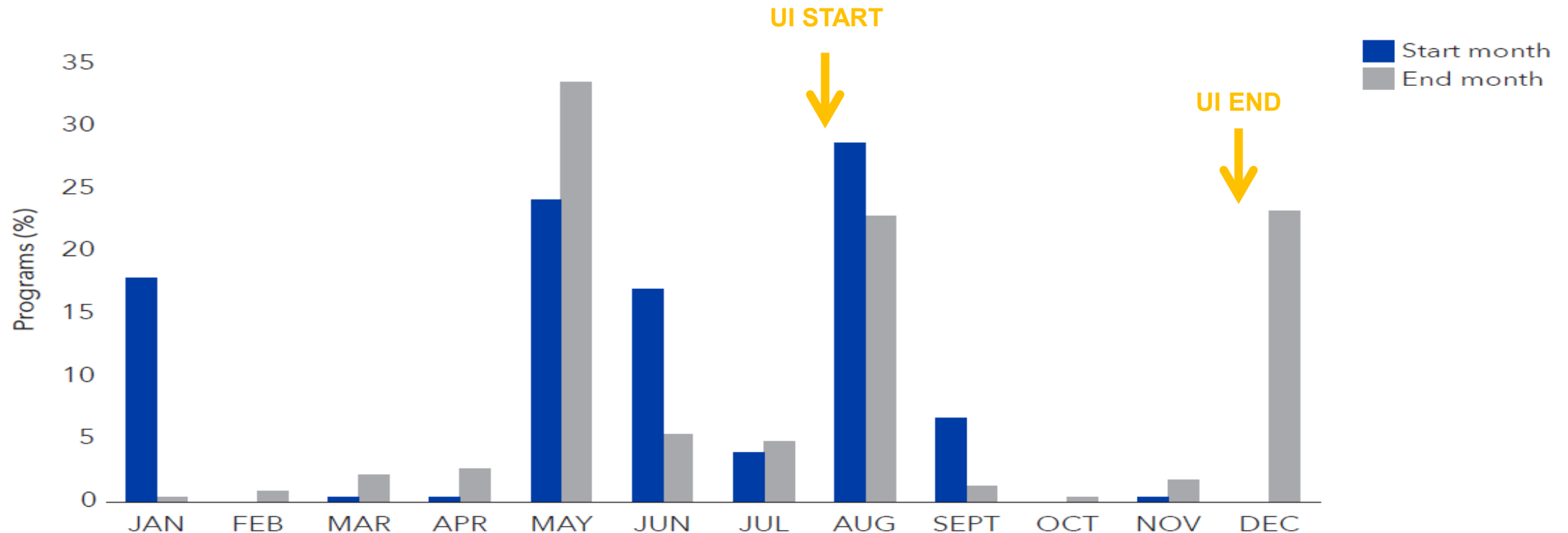
	<i>n</i>	Min	Max	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>Mdn</i>
PA program length	235	24.0	36.0	26.7	2.3	27.0

FIGURE 5. TOTAL PROGRAM LENGTH (MONTHS)



# PA Programs Nationally Start/End Dates

FIGURE 4. PA PROGRAM START AND END MONTHS







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**CARVER COLLEGE**  
**OF MEDICINE**

University of Iowa Health Care

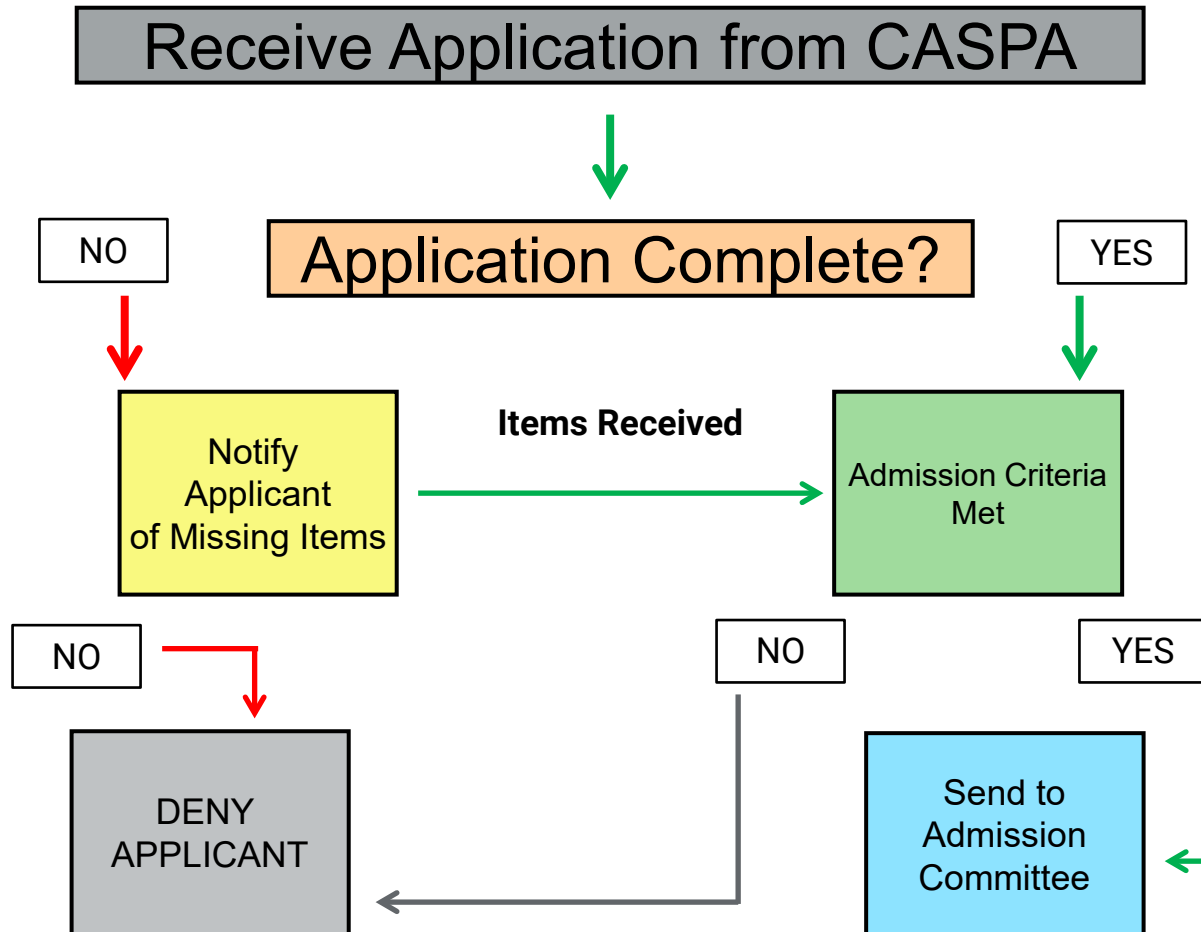
# **University of Iowa Physician Assistant Program**

**UI PA  
Program  
Admission  
Information**

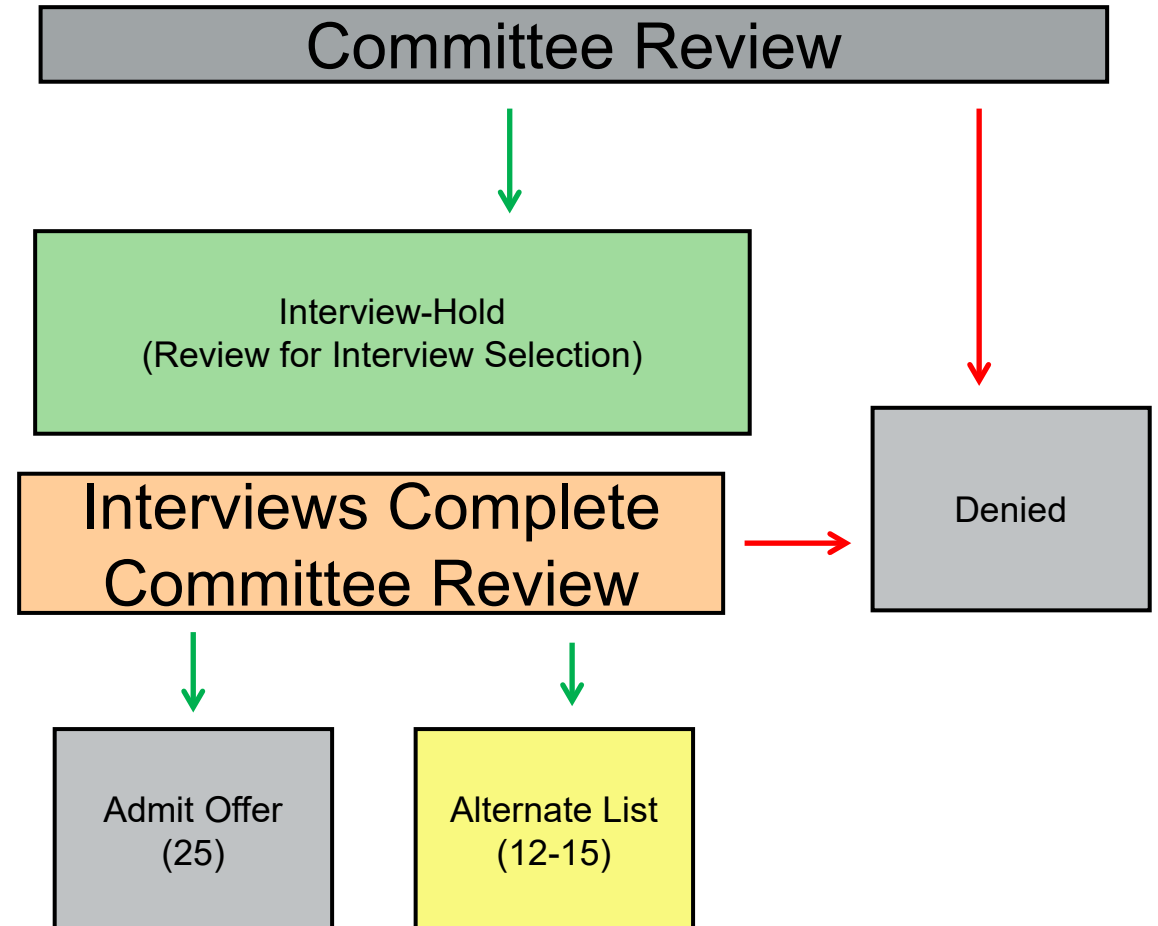
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# UI PA Program -- Admission Process

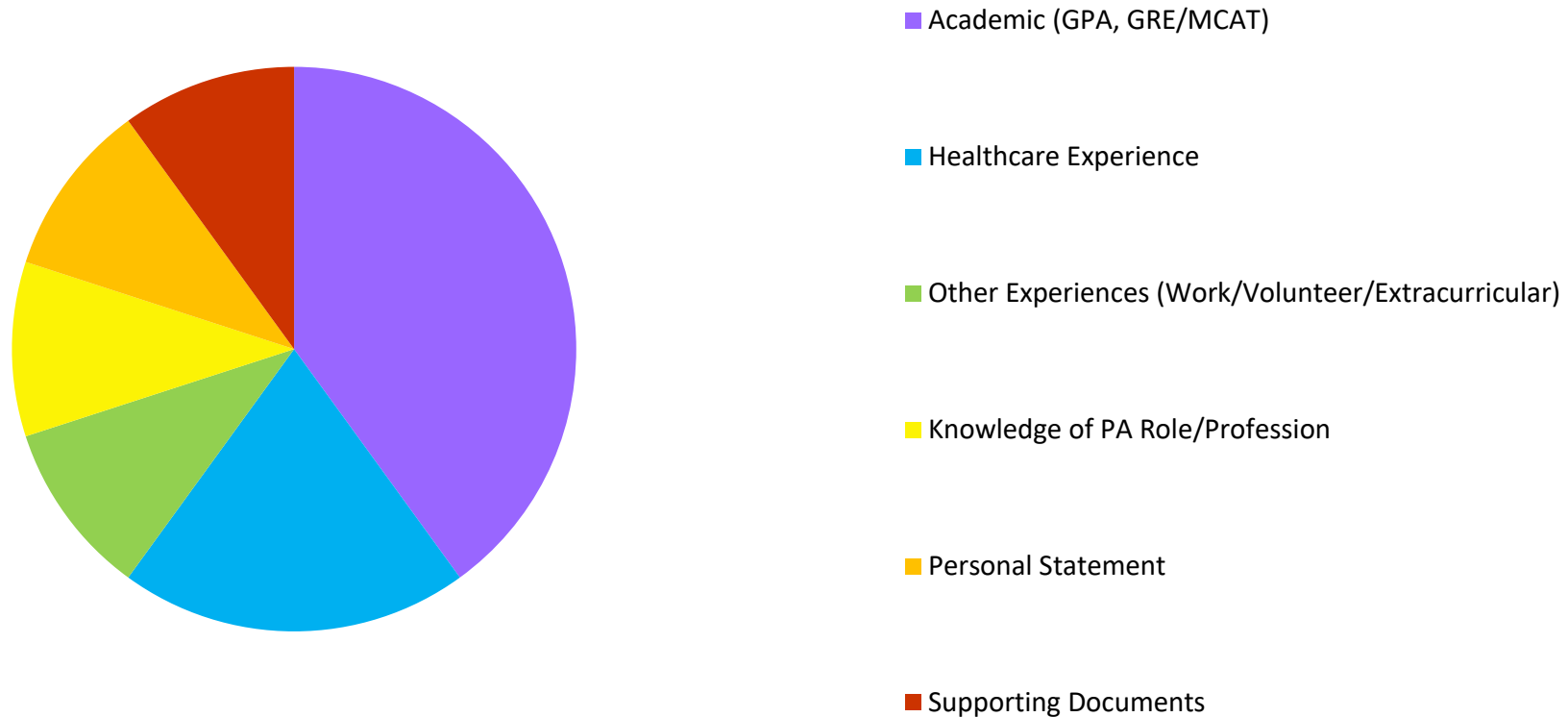
## • App Review Process



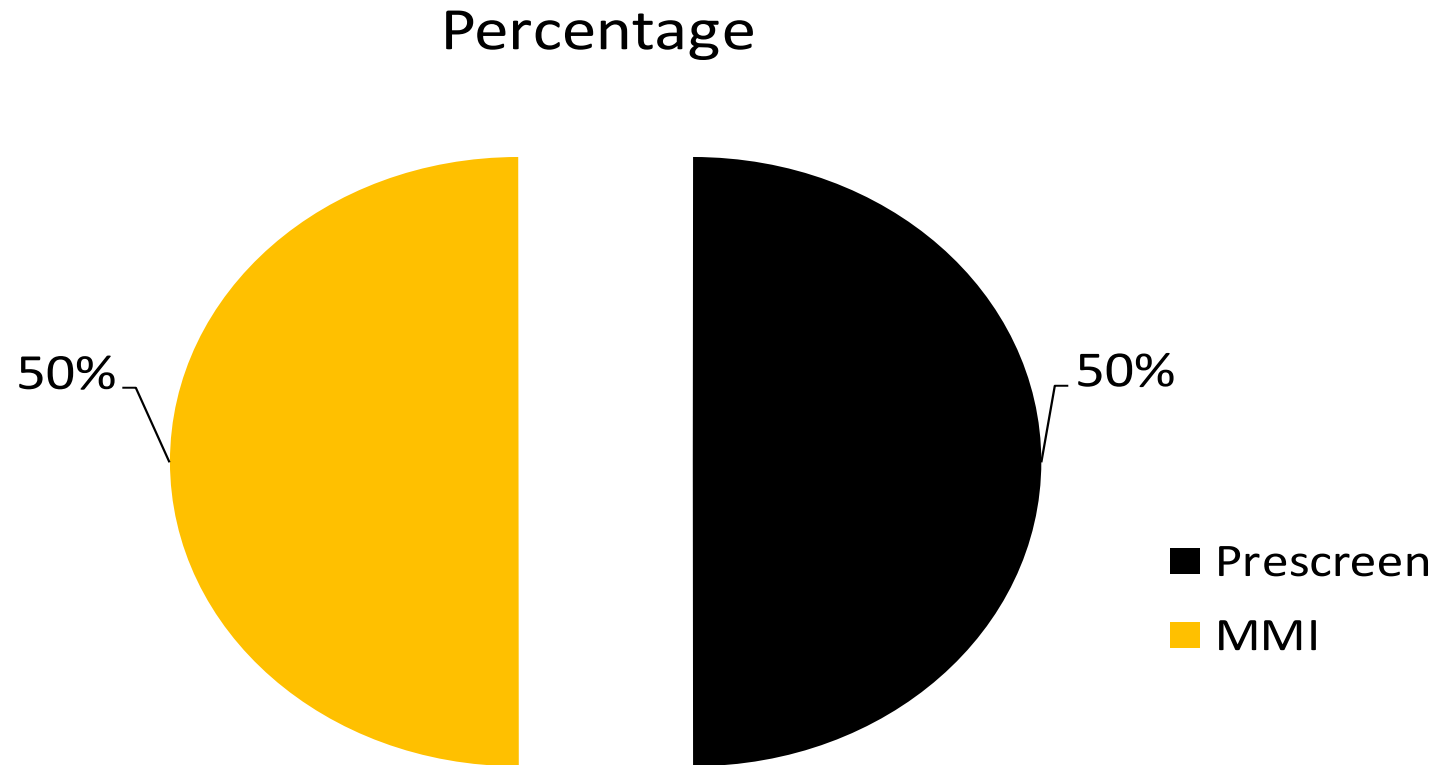
## • Interview Process



# UI PA Program Interview Selection Criteria (Comprehensive Review)

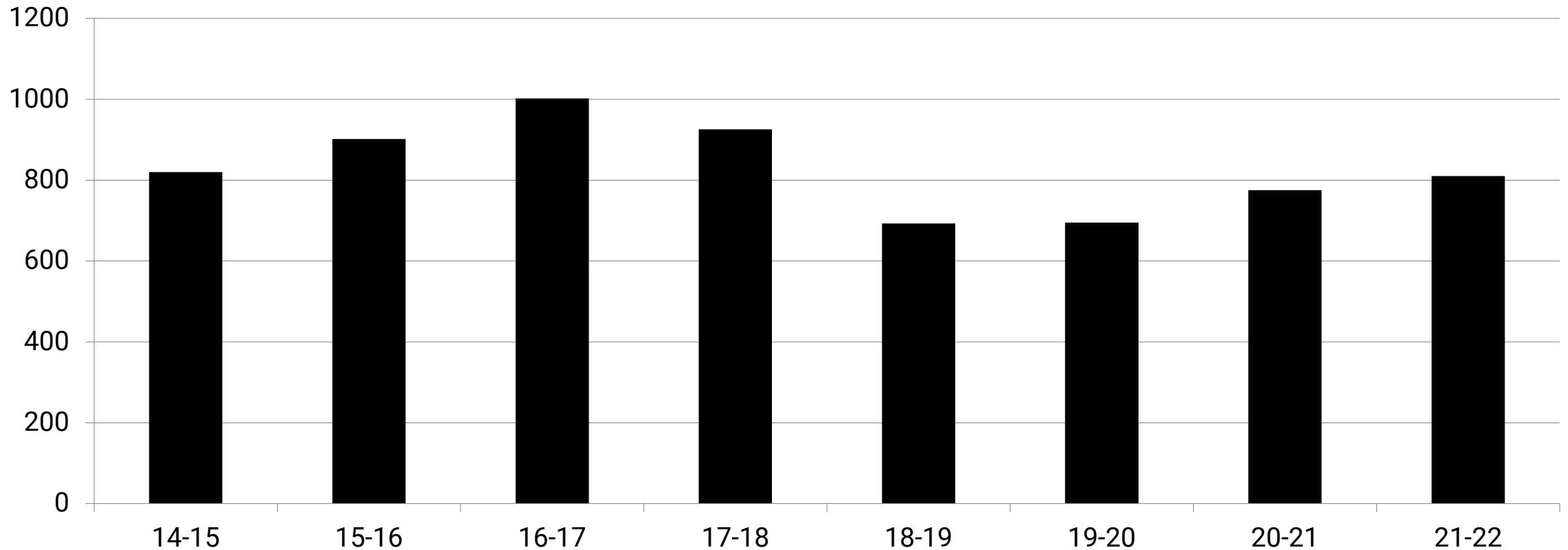


# UI PA Program Admission Selection Criteria



# UI PA Program Number of Applicants (2014-2021)

Applicants



# UI PA Program: Class of 2021-2023 Profile

## GENDER, AGE AND RESIDENCY STATUS:

### GENDER:

Male: 48%

Female: 52%

### AGE:

Mean: 25 years

### RESIDENCY:

Iowa: 44%

Other: 56%

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND PRIOR TO ENTRY:

### AVERAGE GPA:

Cumulative: 3.79/134 hours

Science: 3.74/77 hours

Last 40: 3.76

### AVERAGE GRE SCORES:

Verbal: 158 Analytical: 4.4

Quant.: 158

**AVERAGE MCAT: 508**

## HEALTHCARE AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Healthcare Exp.: 3,005 hours**

**Research Exp.: 938 hours**





# **University of Iowa Physician Assistant Program**

## **Didactic and Clinical Year Curriculum**

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# UI PA Program Curriculum

Revised curriculum

Highly integrated basic sciences/clinical experience

Focus is on 3 strands:



# Physician Assistant Program Curriculum

	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Year 1		Orientation	Clinical and Professional Skills Medicine and Society Foundations Course Anatomy	MOHD 1	Vacation		Clinical and Professional Skills Medicine and Society MOHD 2	MOHD 3			Clinical Skills Lab Clinical Experience Lab Medicine Vacation	
Year 2	Clinical Skills Lab Clinical Experience Lab Medicine Vacation		Clinical and Professional Skills Medicine and Society MOHD 4	MOHD Keystone	Vacation	ICS	Required Rotations Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Surgery Elective Rotations: TBD					
Year 3			Required Rotations Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Surgery Elective Rotations: TBD PA Capstone Course		Finals Week Graduation							

# Physician Assistant Program Curriculum

	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
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Year 3			Required Rotations Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Surgery Elective Rotations: TBD	PA Capstone Course	Finals Week	Graduation	<p>In <b>Medical Gross Anatomy</b> students learn to identify the various components comprising the human body and how their structures and locations relate to their functions. This includes complete dissection of the human body. The course provides students with much of the new language they will need to communicate accurately and specifically with patients and other clinicians.</p>					

# Physician Assistant Program Curriculum

	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	
Year 1		Orientation											
			Clinical and Professional Skills						Clinical and Professional Skills				Clinical Skills Lab Clinical Experience Lab Medicine Vacation
			Medicine and Society					Vacation	Medicine and Society				
			Foundations Course		MOHD 1			MOHD 2		MOHD 3			
			Anatomy										
Year 2													
	Clinical Skills Lab Clinical Experience Lab Medicine Vacation		Clinical and Professional Skills						Required Rotations Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Surgery Elective Rotations: TBD				
			Medicine and Society					Vacation					
			MOHD 4		MOHD Keystone								
Year 3													
	Required Rotations Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Surgery Elective Rotations: TBD					Finals Week Graduation	Clinical and Professional Skills (CAPS) The goal of CAPS is to provide students with the knowledge, skills and attitudes required for professional development and clinical excellence including the sense of inquiry and lifelong habits of skill acquisition, self-assessment and reflective practice. CAPS offers sequentially more challenging clinical experiences across the 28 months, repeated practice opportunities, observation and feedback, simulations and self-directed learning and reflection.						
	PA Capstone Course												

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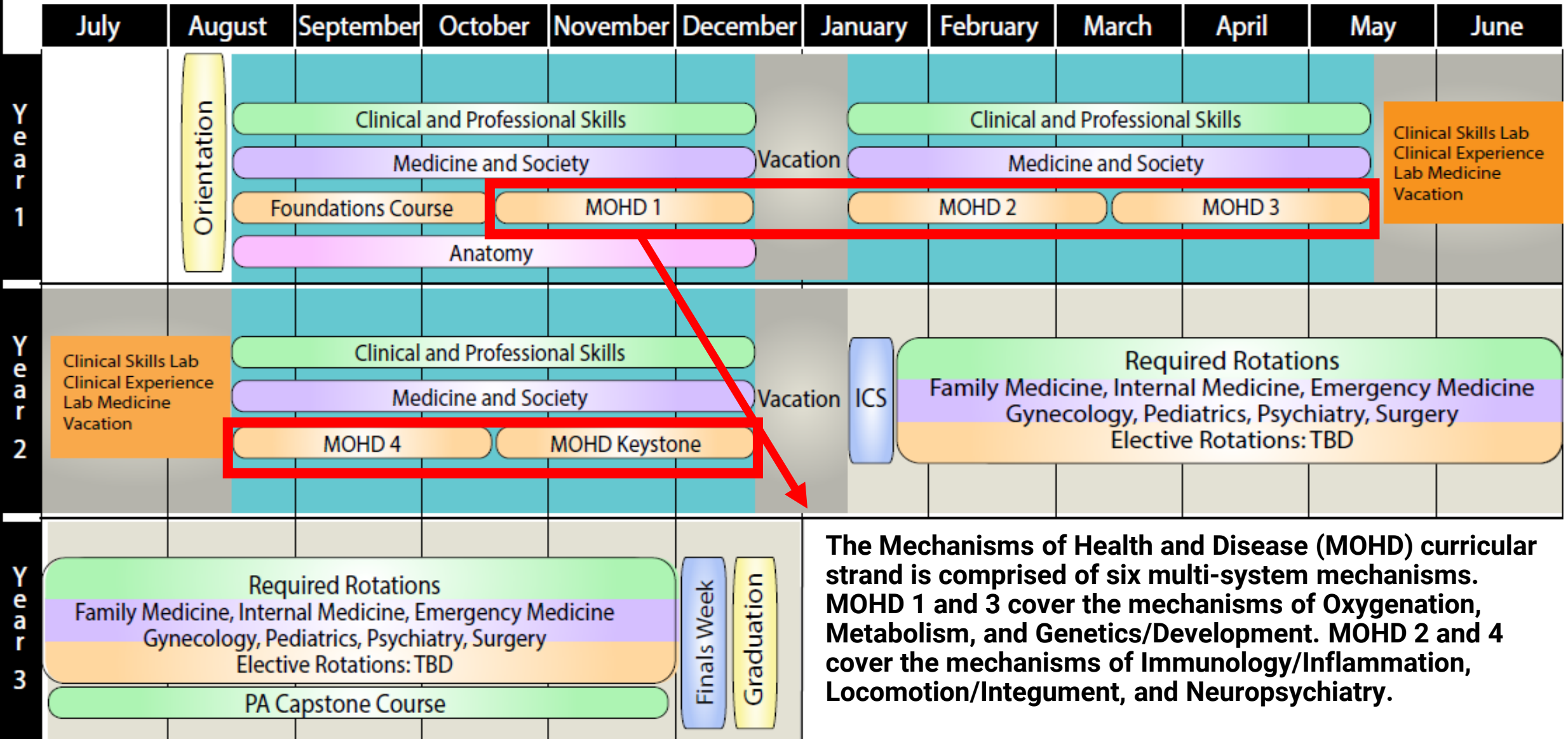
# Physician Assistant Program Curriculum

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Year 3			Required Rotations Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Surgery Elective Rotations: TBD PA Capstone Course		Finals Week	Graduation	<b>Medicine and Society (MAS) consists of three consecutive, integrated courses in which students learn about disease prevention, health promotion services, public health, epidemiology, health services organizations and delivery, and community dimensions of medical practice.</b>					

# Physician Assistant Program Curriculum

	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Year 1		Orientation	Clinical and Professional Skills Medicine and Society <b>Foundations Course</b> Anatomy	MOHD 1	Vacation		Clinical and Professional Skills Medicine and Society MOHD 2	MOHD 3			Clinical Skills Lab Clinical Experience Lab Medicine Vacation	
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Year 3			Required Rotations Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Surgery Elective Rotations: TBD	PA Capstone Course	Finals Week	Graduation	<p><b>Foundations incorporates genetics, embryology, molecular biology, biochemistry, cell biology and histology. Students will learn the molecular events required for cellular life and describe how cells grow and interact to form the basic tissues of the human body. This course provides the necessary framework to begin to explore the six Mechanisms of Health and Disease.</b></p>					

# Physician Assistant Program Curriculum



# Physician Assistant Program Curriculum

	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Year 1		Orientation	Clinical and Professional Skills Medicine and Society Foundations Course Anatomy	MOHD 1	Vacation		Clinical and Professional Skills Medicine and Society MOHD 2	MOHD 3			Clinical Skills Lab Clinical Experience Lab Medicine Vacation	
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The Summer courses are PA only courses and include: Professional and Clinical Skills, Seminar for PA students, Foundations in Radiology, EKG and ACLS for PA Students, and Clinical Laboratory Medicine.

# UI PA Program Clinical Year Curriculum

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- Clinical Curriculum Format
- Introduction to Clinical Skills
- Core Rotations
- Elective Rotations
- Rotation Sites
- Evaluation Techniques

# UI PA Program Clinical Year Curriculum

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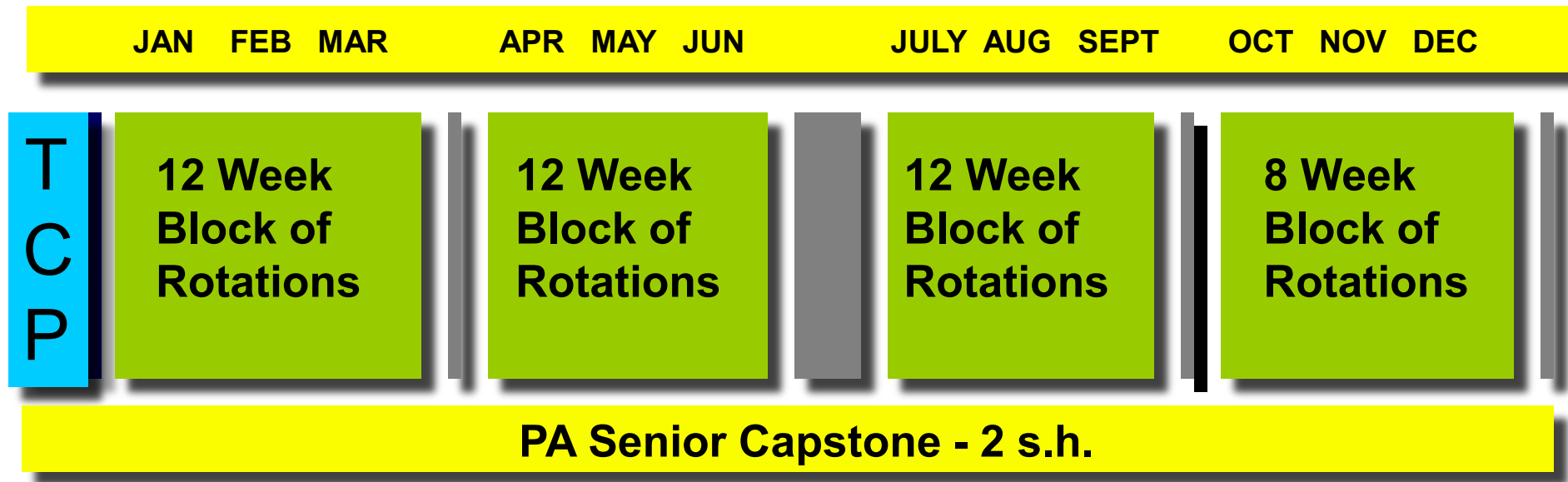
- 48 weeks of clinical rotations (4 from summer and 44 during clinical year)
- Assigned by director of clinical education after meeting with student
- In surrounding area, Iowa, regional, national and/or international
- Assisted with housing




# UI PA Program Clinical Year Curriculum

- **Required Clinical Rotations (weeks in length)**
- Summer Curriculum (4 Week)
- Family Practice (4) X 2 (one in a rural/underrepresented location)
- Internal Medicine (4 weeks of General IM and 2 weeks of a Sub-specialty)
- Pediatrics (4)
- Surgery (6)
- Psychiatry (4)
- Gynecology (4)
- Emergency Medicine (4)
- Total of 40 weeks of Required Rotations
- **Elective Rotations**
- Students select 8 weeks of elective rotations

# University of Iowa PA Program

## PA Curriculum – Clinical Year



-  = Rotations (44 Semester hours)
-  = Transitions to Clinical Practice (2 Semester hours)
-  = Quarterly Meetings and/or Break

# UI PA Program Clinical Year Curriculum

## Computer Based Testing

- End of Rotation Examinations (All Core)
- Web-administered Mid-year Examination
- PACKRAT National Examination (X2)
- Final Comprehensive Examination

# UI PA Program Clinical Year Curriculum

## Practical Assessments of Student Performance

- Preceptor Evaluations
- Simulated Patient Assessments
- Student's Quarterly Self-Assessment
- Faculty Quarterly Comprehensive Assessment
- PBAs (Patient Based Assessment with simulated patients)



**UNIVERSITY OF IOWA**  
**CARVER COLLEGE**  
**OF MEDICINE**

University of Iowa Health Care

# **University of Iowa Physician Assistant Program**

## **Program and Graduate Outcomes**

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# UI PA Program Degree and Certification

- College of Medicine:
  1. Certificate of Completion - this certificate enables the student to sit for the National Certification Examination
  2. Masters of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Degree

# UI PA Program PANCE Results



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## Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination Five Year First Time Taker Summary Report

Program Name: University of Iowa

Program Number: 1017

Report Date: 07-09-2021

Definitions of the report headings are provided at the end of the report.  
All information is current as of the date the report was generated.

Class*	Class Graduation Year	Number of First Time Takers	Program First Time Taker Pass Rate
Class of 2016	2016	24	100%
Class of 2017	2017	26	100%
Class of 2018	2018	24	100%
Class of 2019	2019	24	100%
Class of 2020	2020	24	100%

Five Year First Time Taker Average Pass Rate for Program: 100%

\*Note: The PANCE testing window ends each year near mid-December. Classes that graduate in December may be required to test in the following calendar year due to their graduation dates. Similarly, individual December graduates may elect to test after the start of the new year. Accordingly, it may be appropriate for programs that graduate in December to compare their first-time taker pass rates with the national averages from the following calendar year.

National First Time Taker Pass Rate By Calendar Year	
Year	Pass Rate
2016	96%
2017	97%
2018	98%
2019	93%
2020	95%
2021**	Available in 2022

Five Year National First Time Taker Average: 96%

# UI PA Program PANCE Results – Content Area



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## Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination Program Performance Report by Class Program 1017: University of Iowa Class: Class of 2020

Program Summary Table

	Number of Candidates	Number of Candidates that Passed	Percent of Candidates that Passed
<b>ALL PROGRAMS (2020) :</b>			
All Takers	10266	9915	97%
First-Time Takers	9990	9450	95%
<b>PROGRAM 1017, Class of 2020 (2020) :</b>			
All Takers	24	24	100%
First-Time Takers	24	24	100%

PANCE Content Area Feedback

CONTENT AREA	PROGRAM 1017		ALL PROGRAMS (2020)			
	Percent Correct Score		Percent Correct Score			
	First-Time Exams	All Exams	First-Time Exams	All Exams	First-Time Exams	All Exams
	Mean	Mean	Mean	s.d.	Mean	s.d.
<b>ORGAN SYSTEMS</b>						
Cardiovascular System	85	85	82	9	82	9
Dermatologic System	82	82	82	12	82	12
Endocrine System	83	83	83	12	82	12
Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Throat	81	81	81	11	80	11
Gastrointestinal System/Nutrition	81	81	79	10	79	11
Genitourinary System (Male and Female)	88	88	80	14	79	14
Hematologic System	81	81	77	14	76	14
Infectious Diseases	81	81	79	12	78	13
Musculoskeletal System	80	80	77	10	76	11
Neurologic System	86	86	80	11	79	12
Psychiatric/Behavioral	82	82	84	11	83	11
Pulmonary System	81	81	79	10	78	11
Renal System	90	90	83	13	82	13
Reproductive System (Male and Female)	82	82	80	11	79	11
<b>TASKS</b>						
Applying Basic Scientific Concepts	82	82	78	10	78	11
Clinical Intervention	83	83	81	8	80	9
Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis	85	85	82	7	82	8
Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventive Measures	79	79	75	11	74	11
History Taking and Performing Physical Examination	84	84	81	8	81	9
PANCE Professional Practice	89	89	82	13	81	14
Pharmaceutical Therapeutics	82	82	80	8	80	9
Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies	82	82	80	9	79	9

UI PA Program scored at or above the National Mean in all subsections of the PANCE

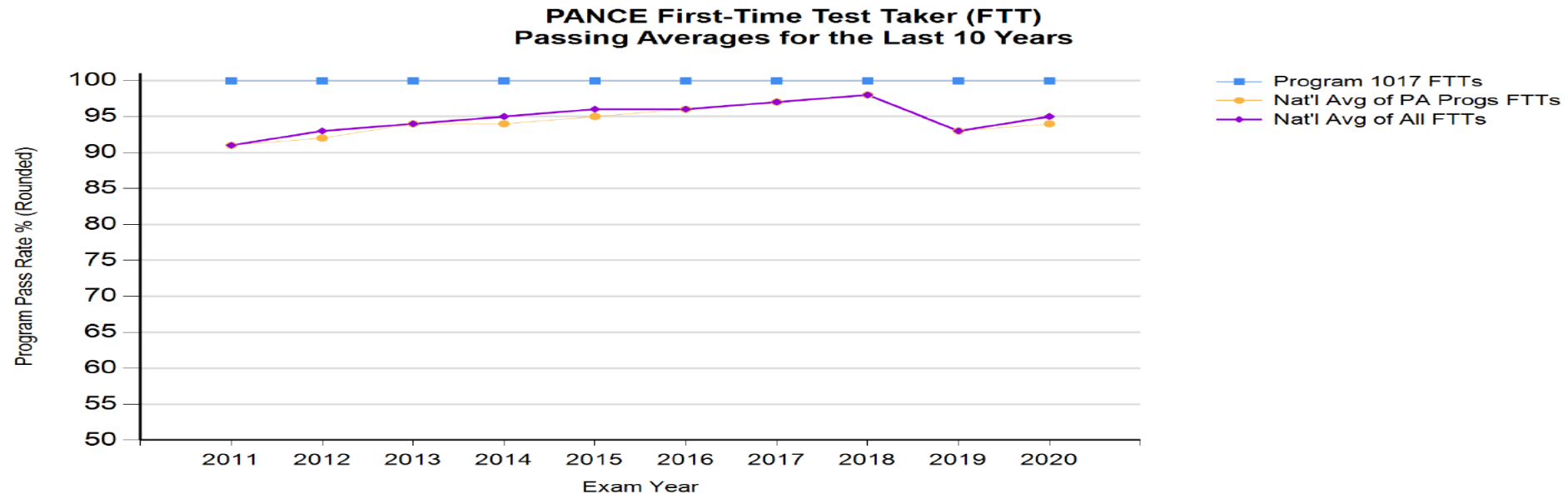
# UI PA Program PANCE Results – Overall Report



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## Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination Program Performance Report for 2020 Program 1017: University of Iowa



# US News & World Report Ranking Info (Every 4 Years)

## Physician Assistant Programs - Masters Degree (2018)

<u>Rank/School</u>	<u>Average Reputation Score (5 = highest)</u>
1. University of Iowa	4.2
1. Duke University Medical Center (NC)	4.2
3. Baylor College of Medicine	4.1
4. University of Utah	4.0
5. Emory University	3.9

U.S. News & World Report

# UI PA Program Accreditation Results

- In March of 2013 ARC-PA granted the maximum length accreditation (10 years) to the University of Iowa PA Program.
- Next ARC-PA Accreditation is 2023
  - August 2019 – 3 Year Out Self-Study Report Submitted
  - May 2022 Application for Self-Study is Due
  - August 2022 will be Site Visit
  - Accreditation Decision in 2023

# UI PA Program Student Comments

- *“I believe that I received an excellent education at U of I and many other intangible aspects such as good ethical training as well.”*
- *“It is easy to see why the program regularly rates at the top of the country. The faculty are extremely helpful and the learning environment is second to none. The support that this program has from the medical school makes it very special.”*

# UI PA Program Student Comments

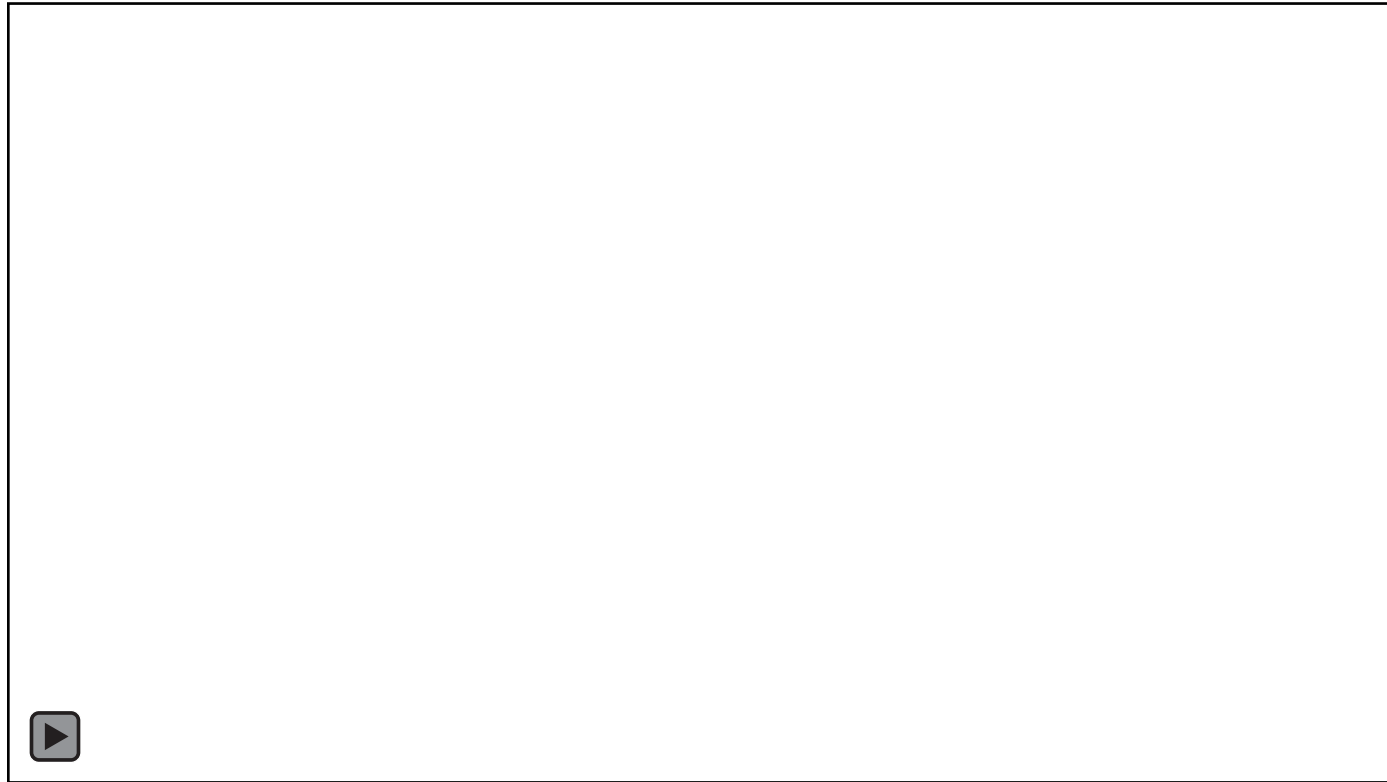
- *“Overall the program is extremely comprehensive. Iowa is ranked at the top for a reason; students are challenged and prepared appropriately.*
- *The University of Iowa program was stellar and exceeded my expectations! I had a great experience with the program and had a lot of support to help me succeed. Additionally, I feel prepared to transition into the real world as a PA.*


# Why Choose Iowa for PA School?

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- You will receive an exceptional education as a PA with a focus on Inter-Professional Education (IPE)
- A School with a Tradition of Excellence (very helpful when seeking employment)
- You will be extremely well prepared to pass the National Certification Examination
- You will join a group of outstanding students
- Excellent faculty and staff
- First-rate medical and education facilities
- Ranked #1 by US News & World Report for value/cost of the education
- Interesting yet safe community to live in

# The University of Iowa PA Program From the Student Perspective





# A Sunset in the State of Iowa 😊!

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