Q: Can I apply before I have my bachelor’s degree?
A: Yes, you can apply prior to completing your undergraduate degree. Your graduation date must be before the start of the program in January. Degree verification will be required if this is the case. You cannot start a master’s program without first completing a bachelor’s degree, with no exceptions.

Q: What kind of bachelor’s degree is most beneficial?
A: We do not require a specific undergraduate degree and there is not a “best” degree. Most programs are more interested in the overall academic performance of a student, rather than the title of their degree.

Q: Does Indiana State University accept community college credits?
A: Yes, but you want to be sure the course you intend to take will meet the requirements of the program here at ISU. If a lab is to coincide with a course, verify a lab exists and that you are enrolled in a section of that lab.

Q: Do you accept online degrees and/or courses?
A: Only online degrees and courses from regionally accredited colleges and universities will be considered.

Q: When do I have to complete perquisite courses?
A: Prerequisite courses must be completed no later than the summer semester prior to the start of the program. All prerequisite courses must be successfully completed, with a grade of C+ or better, in order to officially matriculate into the program.

Q: Do I need to submit updated transcripts to ISU if prerequisites are taken after my CASPA application is completed?
A: Yes, we do require official transcripts for all pending coursework as CASPA does not verify these grades. Official transcripts can be sent to:

Indiana State University PA Program
Department of Applied Medicine and Rehabilitation
567 N 5th Street
Terre Haute, IN 47809

Q: My undergraduate GPA is not strong. Can I still be a competitive applicant?
A: ISU recommends that applicants have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA to enter the PA program. Candidates with lower GPA’s may be able to offset with strengths in other areas to become competitive. However, we cannot assure all competitive factors for applicants. Candidates with a GPA lower than 2.7 (as calculated by CASPA) will not be considered.

Q: Can I retake courses to bring my GPA up?
A: It is difficult to significantly raise one’s GPA. CASPA includes the lesser grade on repeated courses taken with better performance. Please feel free to contact us if you are concerned about your academic background.
Q: How are GPA and academics evaluated?
A: Review scores can go up or down based on other circumstances around the applicants academic history. For example, a score can go up if recent coursework is stronger than old coursework or down if evidence of poor academic history is shown, such as excessive withdrawals, or poor recent performance.

Q: Can I work and be in Indiana State University’s PA Program?
A: Our program is considered to be full-time. We cannot force you not to work, but it is highly recommended, due to the intensity of the coursework, that you do not work. In addition to classes, you will be required to attend meetings, hospital seminars, continuing education, etc., all of which may fall outside the normal class times.

Q: What kind of healthcare experience is preferred for entrance into the program?
A: While healthcare experience is not required, we do highly recommend that applicants obtain direct patient experience prior to applying to the ISU PA Program. Direct patient contact can be defined as, but not limited to: shadowing with mid-level physicians, phlebotomy, nurse aide, medical assistant.

Q: How many students will be admitted to the PA Program at ISU?
A: Every January, thirty students are admitted.

Q: Do you give preference to in-state students or ISU graduates?
A: Yes, an applicant’s score may go up if one or both of these factors occur.

Q: Is the PA program at Indiana State University accredited?
A: At its September 2015 meeting, the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) placed the Indiana State University Physician Assistant program sponsored by Indiana State University on Accreditation-Probation status.

Probation is a temporary status of accreditation conferred when a program does not meet the Standards and when the capability of the program to provide an acceptable educational experience for its students is threatened. Once placed on probation, programs that still fail to comply with accreditation requirements in a timely manner, as specified by the ARC-PA, may be scheduled for a probation site visit and/or risk having their accreditation withdrawn. The Physician Assistant Program at ISU had their focused site visit in June 2017. The ARC-PA will meet in September 2017 to discuss the findings.

Specific questions regarding the Program and its plans should be directed to the Program Director and/or the appropriate institutional official(s).

Q: Where can the PA student complete clinical rotations?
A: Clinical rotation locations can be determined by the student. All clinical sites must be approved by the ISU PA program and have a signed affiliation agreement. Regardless of the clinical site, all PA students will be required to report back to the ISU campus for class at the end of the clinical year, so students should expect to travel.

Q: How much is tuition?
A: Tuition costs may vary according to the academic year. All tuition information can be found at: 2017-2018 Graduate Tuition Fees. Please note that additional costs may apply:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Textbooks:</td>
<td>approximately $1500 for the entire program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Fee:</td>
<td>$1000 per semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background Check:</td>
<td>approximately $60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Equipment:</td>
<td>approximately $900 (this includes items such as stethoscopes, rulers, pen lights, reflex hammer, etc.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lodging and travel costs may apply during clinical rotations. These are estimated costs. Prices may fluctuate.