

Become a Physician Assistant Program Preceptor

Keck Graduate Institute's (KGI) Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (MSPA) program— slated to enroll its first cohort in fall 2022—will prepare students to become integral members of the healthcare team and practice in a number of clinical settings. Graduates who become Physician Assistants (PAs) will enter the workforce with a better understanding of personalized medicine and emerging technologies so they are fully prepared to play a leadership role in community and public health. **We are looking to partner with trusted members of the local health community to prepare the next generation of quality healthcare providers!**



How You Can Help: Become a Preceptor for the KGI PA Program's Clinical Phase

The clinical phase of KGI's PA program consists of 12 months of clinical rotations, referred to as supervised clinical practice experiences (SCPEs). SCPEs typically range between 4-6 weeks in duration and are designed to provide the student with hands-on clinical experiences that will reinforce knowledge and skills gained in the didactic phase of the program. SCPEs enable students to apply their clinical reasoning and problem-solving skills to the evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of patients in a supervised clinical setting.

During SCPEs, students will obtain patient histories, perform physical examinations, interpret diagnostic studies, formulate differential diagnoses, develop management plans, and perform medical/surgical procedures.

The SCPEs also provide a transition for students into the professional role of a PA by allowing them to demonstrate professionalism and advanced interpersonal communication skills with diverse patients and members of the healthcare team.

Accreditation for the MSPA Program

The KGI School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences has applied for Accreditation – Provisional from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). The School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences anticipates matriculating its first class in September 2022, pending achieving Accreditation – Provisional status at the March 2022 ARC-PA meeting. Students would begin their clinical year no earlier than fall 2023. 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.

More Details About the Clinical Phase

How long are the clinical rotations?

SCPEs typically range from 4-6 weeks in duration.

When will the first cohort of students start the clinical year?

KGI's PA program will be 27 months in length. Students will begin their first rotations in spring 2024.

What types of clinical rotations are PA students required to complete?

KGI students must complete SCPEs in one elective and the following required disciplines: family medicine, emergency medicine, internal medicine, surgery, pediatrics, women's health, and behavioral and mental health care.

What types of clinical experiences are PA students required to have during their clinical year?

Throughout the course of the clinical year, students must have clinical experience with different settings, encounter types, and patient populations:

- Settings: emergency department, inpatient, outpatient, and operating room
- Encounter types: preventative, emergent, acute, and chronic encounters
- Patient populations: infants, children, adolescents, adults, and the elderly

What benefits do you offer to preceptors?

As a clinical preceptor, you will be involved in a pivotal and exciting time in a student's academic career. Serving as a clinical preceptor will connect you to the next generation of clinicians and allow you to shape the future of medical practice. Working with students will provide stimulating discussions and help you stay current with best practices and evidence-based medical knowledge. In addition, KGI wants to show appreciation for your contributions by offering eligible preceptors Adjunct Clinical Faculty status, access to library resources/training programs, and AAPA Category 1 CMEs for PAs.

How to Get Involved

I'm interested in being a preceptor. What's next?

We're excited to have you join us! To start, we'll work together to complete your clinical site/preceptor profile. From there, we will work with you and your facility to formalize an Affiliation Agreement.

This seems like a big commitment. What if I change my mind or take time off during the rotations?

You can change your mind at any time if this is not the right fit for you. If you need to take a break from accepting students, we will also work with you to ensure you get the balance you want.

I'm excited about KGI's PA program! How can I get involved now?

In addition to becoming a future preceptor and/or adjunct faculty in the future, we would love for you to be a part of the process now. We are creating a Program Advisory Board that will meet twice yearly to talk about the development of KGI's PA program. We would be honored to have your input as we create this exciting, innovative program.

For more information about KGI's PA program and how to get involved, please contact:



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If your employer is interested, there are also opportunities to build corporate partnerships with KGI. Contact tmp@kgi.edu to learn more.

About KGI

In 1997, Founding President Henry E. Riggs conceived the idea of KGI, and through a \$50 million grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation, KGI was born as a member of The Claremont Colleges. Since 2003, under the leadership of President Sheldon Schuster, KGI continues to grow both in terms of its number of enrolled students and in its reputation for excellence.

KGI offers innovative postgraduate degrees and certificates that integrate life and health sciences, business, engineering, pharmacy, and genetics. With a focus on team projects and hands-on industry experiences, KGI provides pathways for students to become leaders within healthcare and the applied life sciences. KGI consists of four schools: Henry E. Riggs School of Applied Life Sciences, School of Medicine, School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the Minerva Schools at KGI.