

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

# Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies

## MSPA

The **Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies** (MSPA) will prepare students to become integral members of the healthcare team and provide compassionate care for their communities. In alignment with KGI's mission and values, this 27-month program integrates leadership skills, innovative/entrepreneurial approaches to problem-solving, and interprofessional collaboration with other KGI programs. MSPA program graduates will enter the workforce with a better understanding of the social determinants of health and patient-centered medicine, so they are fully prepared to play a leadership role in the community and public health.



### CLINICAL EXPERIENCES

Gain rich clinical experiences across multiple specialties and settings in some of Southern California's top medical facilities.



### CONTINUOUS COLLABORATION

Obtain a well-rounded perspective of medicine through collaboration with interdisciplinary teams, such as KGI's pharmacy, genetics, occupational therapy, and medical device engineering programs.



### LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Develop valuable leadership and entrepreneurial skills to create a unique career path ideal for you.

## About the Program

### Innovative Learning

The MSPA program will redefine traditional physician assistant (PA) education through the use of innovative teaching methods. Students will benefit from an active learning classroom model that emphasizes student engagement, critical thinking skills, and teamwork. Unlike the traditional approach, KGI students will also have access to early clinical experiences during the didactic phase. These early real patient interactions will strengthen interpersonal, technical, and clinical reasoning skills far before starting clinical rotations.

### Community Roots: Providing Compassionate Care to Diverse Populations

Through countless volunteering opportunities, KGI MSPA students will be heavily involved in the care and education of the local community. These opportunities will provide students with a true

understanding of the community's healthcare needs. As a result of these crucial experiences, graduates will be prepared to provide compassionate care to patients of diverse ethnicity/race, gender identity, religion, sexual orientation, age, and socioeconomic status. These experiences will also allow our graduates to recognize health disparities and work towards achieving health equity.

### Leadership and Entrepreneurship

The healthcare landscape is rapidly changing, and you can be a key part of this change. KGI MSPA students will receive didactic instruction in leadership and entrepreneurship in order to prepare them to take on leadership roles, be involved in advocacy, solve real-world problems through innovation, and create their own career path.

## Where can your MSPA degree take you?

The demand for PAs continues to grow and is expected to increase 31% by 2028. KGI MSPA program graduates will be qualified to serve in a wide range of exciting roles:

- Physician Assistant in a variety of fields including primary care, surgical specialties, and emergency medicine
- Healthcare Administrator
- Educator
- Clinical Researcher



### Accreditation Status

The ARC-PA has granted **Accreditation-Provisional** status to the **Keck Graduate Institute Physician Assistant Program** sponsored by **Keck Graduate Institute**.

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 [www.arc-pa.org/accreditation-history-keck-graduate-institute/](http://www.arc-pa.org/accreditation-history-keck-graduate-institute/).

## Admissions Details

### Dates and Deadlines

- **Start Term:** Fall 2023
- **Application Opens:** April 28, 2022
- **Priority Deadline:** September 1, 2022
- **Application Deadline:** December 1, 2022

### Admissions Requirements

The MSPA program accepts all applications via CASPA. Requirements for admission include:

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Seven prerequisites (see below)
- Minimum cumulative and science GPA of 3.0
- Minimum of 1,000 hours of direct patient care experience
- Personal statement and supplemental application in CASPA
- Three letters of reference

No standardized tests (e.g., GRE, MCAT, PA-CAT) are required for admissions. Visit [kgi.edu/mspa](http://kgi.edu/mspa) for full details.

### Prerequisites

The following courses are required for admission:

- Human Anatomy and Physiology with Lab (2 courses)
- Microbiology
- Additional biological/health science course in one of the following: genetics, pathophysiology, pharmacology, immunology, cellular and molecular biology, health psychology, or biopsychology
- Chemistry with Lab
- Additional chemistry course in one of the following: biochemistry, medicinal chemistry, or organic chemistry
- Statistics

Visit [kgi.edu/mspa](http://kgi.edu/mspa) for credit hour requirements.

## Contact Us

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