

Rush University
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES PROGRAM

Program Performance on Goals
Update 2018

Mission Statement

The mission of the Rush University Physician Assistant Program is to train qualified general and advanced practice physician assistants to practice medicine with competence, professionalism and compassion driven by academic excellence in scholarship, research and a spirit of service to the community.

PA Program Goals

The goals of the program are:

- Prepare PAs to practice interprofessional, patient-centered care in diverse communities
- Promote leadership, service, and advocacy to the profession
- Provide enhanced training opportunities to students in various areas of clinical practice
- Prepare PAs who use evidence-based methods to plan, develop, and deliver high quality, cost-effective health care services
- Promote an environment of inclusion and cultural humility

The Rush University PA Program uses its Mission as the foundation for its goals. In turn, these goals serve as the basis upon which we assess our program's performance. The following is a review of the program's goals, the assessment mechanism used to assess the program's achievement in attaining its goals, and performance outcome data to support our program's success at attaining its goals, from 2015 to the class graduating in December 2017:

- Goal 1 – Prepare PAs to practice interprofessional, patient-centered care in diverse communities

Mechanism Of Assessment: Evaluation of student performance in program courses and rotations, and community service and professional activities; evaluation of post graduate employment data.

Performance Outcomes:

- 1) Preceptor performance reports indicate high satisfaction regarding students' knowledge, preparedness, and performance on rotation
- 2) Rotation placements throughout the greater Chicagoland area which encompasses diverse and medically underserved communities
- 3) All students participate in the University Interprofessional team learning course and work in interprofessional team through clinical rotations and community service volunteer activities
- 4) Graduates met all curricular requirements for graduation and demonstrated acquisition of increasing skills and knowledge as they progressed through the program
- 5) Graduates are employed throughout the country in a variety of clinical settings. 30% of all graduates work in HRSA designated medically underserved communities

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- Goal 2 – Promote leadership, service, and advocacy to the profession

Mechanism Of Assessment: Evaluation of student engagement in leadership, service, and advocacy activities; review student participation in Rush community-service learning activities

Performance Outcomes:

- 1) Students average 1025 hours of community service activities per class and volunteer in various Rush University student-based community service and medical mission projects
- 2) All students meets Rush’s mandatory minimum service activity requirement and greater than 60% of students exceed the University’s minimum service activity requirement.
- 3) Students are members of the Illinois Academy of Physician Assistants and American Academy of Physician Assistants Student Academy, and actively participate in legislative decision-making and professional promotion activities

- Goal 3 – Provide enhanced training opportunities to students in various areas of clinical practice

Mechanism of Assessment: Evaluation of the program’s advanced clinical rotation training performance outcomes

Performance Outcomes:

- 1) Students are consistently placed in their top choice for advanced rotations
- 2) Steady growth of advanced rotation placement options in medicine and surgical practice
- 3) Excellent feedback from preceptors regarding student performance on advanced rotations
- 4) Excellent feedback from students regarding the learning opportunity and benefits of advanced rotations

- Goal 4 – Prepare PAs who use evidence-based methods to plan, develop, and deliver high quality, cost-effective health care services

Mechanism of Assessment: Evaluation of student performance regarding practice methods and quality of care; assessment of research activities; evaluation of post graduate employment data.

Performance Outcomes:

- 1) Students are trained by clinicians using best practice methods that promote both quality and cost of care
- 2) Positive feedback on preceptor evaluations regarding the student’s ability to use best practice methods to deliver high quality, cost-effective healthcare service
- 3) Student participation in journal review and research activities evidence ability to synthesize and integrate best practice data into clinical decision making

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- Goal 5 – Promote an environment of inclusion and cultural humility

Mechanism of Assessment: Evaluation of program adherence to Rush’s diversity and inclusion standards.

Performance Outcomes:

- 1) The PA Program is committed to promoting Rush’s core ICARE values – innovation, collaboration, accountability, respect and excellence – in all aspects of our interaction with our students, colleagues, patients and their families
- 2) The program has committed to increasing its diversity profile by 10% each class through 2022
- 3) Program faculty and students demonstrate commitment to diversity and inclusion through participation in Rush’s community service activities and engagement with the newly formed Office of Diversity and Inclusion
- 4) 30% of all graduates work in HRSA designated medically underserved communities (MUAs).