

# THREE INSTITUTIONS, ONE UNIQUE PA PROGRAM

UW-L

Gundersen  
Lutheran



Our PA program is a tri-partnership between the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, Gundersen Lutheran Health System (one of the nation's largest multispecialty medical practices) and the world-renowned Mayo Clinic.

Following one year on the picturesque campus of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, this partnership gives second year students exposure to cutting-edge, high quality specialty care practices on Gundersen Lutheran and Mayo main campuses, and rural primary care settings through their satellite clinics.

# PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE  
GUNDERSEN LUTHERAN • MAYO CLINIC

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## PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

“After working as a nursing assistant, I realized I have a passion for working with patients. PAs often have more opportunities for face time with patients. If you add versatility, job demand, and a challenging environment — you’ve got a great career.”

**Collin Arnett, '11**

“Upon entry into our program, our students are already extremely talented and driven. Our program provides the learning environment to foster and develop competent, compassionate physician assistants who will assume increasingly important leadership roles in the healthcare of tomorrow.”

**Dr. Edward J. Malone III, MD**  
PA Program Director

## ABOUT THE PA PROGRAM

The first class of students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science degree program in 1995. The program transitioned to a Master of Science degree in Physician Assistant Studies with the matriculating class of 2004. Our rigorous 24-month program includes a 12-month preclinical phase at the UW-La Crosse, followed by a 12-month clinical phase during which rotations are completed largely in our two partnering health care systems in Wisconsin,

Minnesota and Northern Iowa. Rotations are completed in both primary care as well as the medical and surgical specialties. The small size of our program ensures individualized attention from PA program faculty, and placement in well-established clinical rotation sites.

Our graduates are well-equipped to practice in any medical specialty. In keeping with the mission of our program, the majority of our students acquire jobs in the upper Midwest following program completion.

“I love having such a small class. It offers the individual attention I need to get through such a rigorous program.”

**Danielle VandeBerg, '11**

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Admission to the UW-La Crosse, Gundersen, Mayo PA Program is competitive. Prerequisites include the following:

- A baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution
- Health-related upper division biological science (1 semester)
- Psychology
  - General, Introductory, Developmental or Abnormal (1 semester)
- Prior direct patient care experience is expected, but we have no minimum requirement
- Chemistry requirements (a minimum of 11 credits; 2 courses must have labs)
  - General Chemistry (1 semester)
  - Organic Chemistry at the sophomore level or higher (1 semester)
  - Biochemistry at the junior level or higher (1 semester)
- GRE general test
- Biology requirements: a minimum of 14 credits; at least two of these courses must have a lab
  - Anatomy and Physiology at the sophomore level or higher (2 semesters)
  - Microbiology at the sophomore level or higher (1 semester)
- Mathematics requirements
  - Precalculus or College Algebra with Trigonometry (1 semester)
  - Statistics (1 semester)