

School of Health Sciences – Physician Assistant Program Mission, Vision, Core Values and Goals

MISSION

The mission of Quinnipiac's physician assistant program is to increase access to quality health care through the education and development of caring, knowledgeable and competent physician assistants who are dedicated to:

- **Clinical Competence:** Developing highly qualified health care providers who demonstrate an investigative and analytic approach to clinical situations and provide care that is effective, safe, high quality and equitable.
- **Professionalism:** Providing care with respect, compassion and integrity with a commitment to excellence and ongoing professional development.
- **Interprofessionalism:** Preparing students for a team-based care system through inter-professional education.
- **Leadership:** Working effectively with health care professionals as a member or leader of a health care team or other professional/community group. Mentoring and developing future leaders within the profession and the community.
- **Community Engagement:** Demonstrating responsibility and accountability to patients, society and the profession through active community involvement and volunteerism.
- **Cultural Humility:** A state of openness toward understanding and respecting important aspects of other people's cultural identities. This requires an awareness of one's personal and professional beliefs, biases, attitudes and actions that affect patient care and a commitment to ongoing professional development.
- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:** Demonstrating awareness, acceptance and accountability in creating a diverse, inclusive, equitable and just community, built upon awareness, acceptance, respect and compassion towards others.

VISION

Graduate physician assistants who are dedicated to providing quality healthcare by fostering teamwork, critical thinking skills, high ethical standards, and respect for diverse patient populations.

CORE VALUES

- **Excellence**: A commitment to teaching excellence and championing quality, evidence-based health care in an innovative and supportive learning environment that fosters the student's personal effectiveness.
- **Accountability**: Demonstrating responsibility to students, the University, patients, society and the PA profession utilizing a continuous process improvement system.
- **Integrity**: Honesty and adherence to the highest standards of professional behavior and ethical conduct.
- **Teamwork and Collaboration**: Building respectful partnerships within the University and the community to transform the health care system.
- **Advocacy and Equity**: Seeking to eliminate disparities and barriers to effective, quality health care through patient advocacy and advocacy of the PA profession.
- **Intellectual Curiosity**: Exhibiting self-reflection, intellectual curiosity and initiative, critical thinking and the enthusiastic pursuit of lifelong learning within a supportive environment that encourages research and scholarly work.
- **Wellness**: Promoting an environment of personal health and wellness and mindfulness in the care of self and others.

GOALS

Goal 1: Matriculate and retain qualified applicants from a variety of backgrounds and experiences.

Benchmarks		Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
> 33% of each matriculated cohort do not come from the ELMPA track (instead via CASPA application)	Cohort	52% CASPA 48% ELMPA *Goal met	39% CASPA 61% ELMPA *Goal met	35% CASPA 65% ELMPA * Goal met
At least 25% of the class come from diverse backgrounds*	Background diversity	37% of the class come from diverse backgrounds# *Goal met	35% of the class come from diverse backgrounds# *Goal met	26% of the class come from diverse backgrounds# *Goal met
There will be representation from at least 5 distinct direct patient care experience backgrounds for ELMPA and CASPA matriculants	Healthcare experiences	CASPA: 8 distinct health care experience backgrounds ELMPA: 10 distinct health care experience backgrounds *Goal met	CASPA: 9 distinct health care experience backgrounds ELMPA: 10 distinct health care experience backgrounds *Goal met	CASPA: 7 distinct health care experience backgrounds ELMPA: 10 distinct health care experience backgrounds *Goal met

*Variety of backgrounds reported as male gender, coming from a medically underserved community, first-generation college student, military veterans/reservists (#Data regarding ELMPA variety backgrounds was unavailable except for gender; all other categories will be tracked for future cohorts)

The program defines student attrition as the permanent loss of a matriculated student from the course of study in a physician assistant program. For privacy reasons the program will only report average attrition rates for the last 3 cohorts (Class of 2022-2024).

Benchmarks	≤3 students per cohort	0 students per cohort	≤1 students per cohort
	Academic dismissal	Non-academic dismissal	Withdrawal
Average attrition (Class of 2022, 2023, and 2024)	Avg. 0.33 student/cohort (with no cohort >3 students) *Goal met	Avg. 0.33 students/cohort *Goal not met for 1 cohort	Avg. 1.33 students/cohort *Goal not met for 1 cohort

To promote retention, the program assigns advisors in the didactic and clinical phases of the program to promote student support and provide mentorship and guidance. The University offers student support services to promote retention including academic counseling services (Learning Commons) and mental health counselling services. In addition, the program is taking a student-centered approach with the development of a student success coaching model.

The program recognizes that some students who matriculate experience academic and personal challenges that require additional time to overcome and be successful. Therefore, the program offers a one-time deceleration opportunity to promote the long-term retention of students.

Goal 2: Engage all students in community, professional or experiential learning opportunities.

Benchmark		Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
Each student will complete and log ≥ 50 hours in community/professional/experiential learning opportunities prior to graduation.	Minimum Service Hours Logged	50 *Goal met	50 *Goal met	50 *Goal met
	Maximum Service Hours Logged	94.2	107.3	174.8
	Average Service Hours Logged	56.3	56.3	61.3
	Cohort Sum of Service Hours Logged	2925	2869	2820
Each student will complete a reflection after completing their service requirements; the reflection will assess the impact service has on them as a developing provider	Service Reflections	N/A - new goal in 2024		100% completion and pass rate *Goal met

Goal 3: Graduate physician assistants who have the knowledge and skills for entry-level practice.

Benchmarks		Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
QU first-time taker PANCE pass rate \geq national average first-time taker PANCE pass rate	First-time taker PANCE pass rate	QU: 94% National: 92% *Goal not met	QU: 96% National: 92% *Goal met	QU: 98% National: 92% *Goal met
100% overall pass rate of PY676 Comprehensive	PY676 Comprehensive Examination overall pass	100% *Goal met	100% *Goal met	100% *Goal met
$\geq 90\%$ of respondents of the “Recent Graduate Survey” agree/strongly agree that “As a result of attending the QU PA Program I have the knowledge and skills for entry-level clinical practice”	Recent Graduate Survey evaluation of entry-level clinical readiness	N/A – new goal in 2024	N/A – new goal in 2024	100% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed *Goal met

Goal 4: Promote student and graduate involvement in activities that enrich the PA profession.

Benchmarks		Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
≥5 students in each cohort will present/publish peer-reviewed posters/literature at a professional level	Number of poster presentations and/or publications	8 students presented at AAPA, 3 students presented at ConnAPA, 3 students published *Goal met	12 students presented at AAPA, 5 students presented at ConnAPA, 2 students published *Goal met	16 students Presented at AAPA, 1 Student Presented at ConnAPA, 6 Students Published *Goal met
≥ 4 students per cohort apply for a state or national level leadership role	Number of leadership role applications	1 student elected as AAPA HOD representative; 1 student elected as AAPA AOR representative; 2 students served as ConnAPA representatives; and 2 students served as ConnPAF representatives *Goal met	1 student elected as AAPA AOR representative; 2 students served as ConnAPA representatives; and 2 students served as ConnPAF representatives *Goal met	1 student elected as AAPA AOR representative, 2 students served as ConnAPA representatives and 2 students served as ConnPAE representatives *Goal met

Benchmarks		2022	2023	2024
≥25 students participate in PA Day activities	Number of student Participants in PA Day activities	N/A – new goal in 2024	N/A – new goal in 2024	29 students *Goal met

Benchmarks		Graduate Survey 2022	Graduate Survey 2023	Graduate Survey 2024
≥20% of alumni (responding to the survey) are involved in activities that enrich the PA Profession	Percent of alumni involved in activities that enrich the PA Profession	61.7% *Goal met	63.9% *Goal met	64.1% *Goal met

Contact Us:

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