

Pre-Physician Assistant

DIVISION OF
NATURAL
SCIENCES

PROGRAMS OF STUDY:

- B.A. in Biology
- B.A. or B.S. in Biochemistry
- B.S. in Neuroscience

Most PA schools require applicants to have hands-on patient care, which would include working as a CNA, EMT, phlebotomist or paramedic. However, some schools allow shadowing a physician's assistant to count for clinical experience hours. Some schools prefer students to have a combination of these experiences.

PLACES FOR SHADOWING/VOLUNTEERING INCLUDE

- American Red Cross
- Asbury Place
- Blount Memorial Hospital
- Clover Hill Senior Living
- Maryville Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center

PA SCHOOL PLACEMENTS

South College
Trevecca Nazarene University

Will Maryville College prepare me for a physician's assistant (PA) program?

Maryville College students have stellar placement into PA schools due to the rigorous academic program, the emphasis on undergraduate research and the personal reference letters made by their faculty. During their tenure at MC, students are advised to gain hands-on healthcare experience. This hands-on experience combined with the rigorous academic coursework and undergraduate research provides Maryville College students ideal preparation for PA school. Letters of recommendation – written by faculty members who have gotten to know students personally throughout their academic career – also help strengthen PA school applications.

MEET A CURRENT SCOT



Diya Patel

Hometown: Knoxville, Tennessee

Diya chose MC for its welcoming, tight-knit atmosphere and the opportunities for engaging with professors and forming strong connections within the campus community. She is involved with Global Citizenship Organization and Tri-Beta, the College's biology honors society.

As a biology major on the pre-physician assistant track, Diya enjoys gaining hands-on experience with a variety of lab techniques, adding "the rigorous academic environment challenges me and is helping me build a strong foundation for

my future in healthcare." Her goal is to become a physician assistant and deliver compassionate and effective care to patients. "I wouldn't be where I am today without the constant support of my professors and family," she said.

MEET A RECENT GRAD



Alex Smith '24

Currently: Physician Assistant Student at South College in Knoxville, Tennessee

When she started at MC, Alex knew she wanted to pursue medicine and declared a Biology major. But as she was studying for the MCAT in her junior year, Alex reconsidered her plans. "I was working as a medical assistant at Knoxville Orthopedic Clinic and worked closely with Physician Assistants (PAs) and liked how much autonomy and lateral movement the profession has," she said. Consultations with MC professors and PAs led her to decide to apply to PA programs.

Alex credits rigorous STEM coursework, labs and hands-on learning experiences with preparing her for PA school. "The faculty is so important in a MC education, as well. All of my professors were amazing – they were always willing to answer questions, set up mock interviews, and help with applications!"

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

visit maryvillecollege.edu/pre-pa or call 865.981.8092



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