

## Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies

Santa Maria, California | [atsu.edu/ccpa-admissions](https://atsu.edu/ccpa-admissions)



### 2024 ENTERING CLASS

**3.27**

Average GPA

**3.16**

Average science GPA

**27**

Average age



### CENTRAL COAST PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

A.T. Still University's (ATSU) Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies program based in Santa Maria, California, is a 24-month, entry-level program.



### PROGRAM MISSION

ATSU's Central Coast Physician Assistant (CCPA) program educates culturally humble, diverse physician assistants to serve the primary care needs of medically underserved communities. The program prefers applications from:

- » First-generation college students.
- » Hometown Scholars.
- » Central Coast residents *(or those who have ties to the area)*.
- » Economically disadvantaged students.



### COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER PARTNERS

ATSU has collaborated with the National Association of Community Health Centers to integrate student clinical experiences in community health centers. Students in the CCPA program will be embedded at community health center partner locations and/or clinics that care for the underserved for a significant portion of their clinical experiences.

## CURRICULUM

### DIDACTIC YEAR (12 MONTHS)

- » Students spend their first year at the Santa Maria location.
- » Facilitated learning with case studies, interactive learning, and assignments.

### CLINICAL YEAR (12 MONTHS)

- » Supervised clinical practice experiences occur at partner community health centers located in various parts of the U.S.
- » Clinical practice experience areas include family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, emergency medicine, women's health, surgery, and behavioral health.

## PREREQUISITES

- » Human Anatomy & Physiology\* (*min. 6 semester credits*)
- » Microbiology\* (*min. 3 semester credits*)
- » Chemistry\* (*min. 6 semester credits*)
- » College Statistics\* (*min. 3 semester credits*)
- » Medical Terminology\* (*min. 1 semester credit*)
- » No GRE required\*
- » Baccalaureate degree from regionally accredited institution\*\* (*min. 2.5 cumulative overall GPA*)

\*Due at time of application

\*\*Two weeks prior to matriculation

To view complete, detailed admissions requirements and prerequisites, please visit:

[atsu.edu/ccpa-reqs](https://atsu.edu/ccpa-reqs)

## RECOMMENDED EXPERIENCE

Patient care experience: Experience in healthcare delivery sufficient to be able to recognize the physical and psychological demands of dealing with patients and to appreciate the challenges and rewards of being a healthcare professional.

Volunteering and/or community service: Providing social services to underserved or disadvantaged communities and/or persons.

## APPLICATION INFORMATION

For requirements and application information, please visit:

[atsu.edu/ccpa-apply](https://atsu.edu/ccpa-apply)

### ACCREDITATION

The ARC-PA has granted Accreditation-Provisional status to the Central Coast Physician Assistant Program sponsored by A.T. Still University of Health Sciences. 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 may be viewed on the ARC-PA website: [www.arc-pa.org/accreditation-history-at-still-university-central-coast/](http://www.arc-pa.org/accreditation-history-at-still-university-central-coast/)

## CONTACT ATSU ADMISSIONS

866.626.2878

[admissions@atsu.edu](mailto:admissions@atsu.edu)

[atsuinfo.com](https://atsuinfo.com)

[atsu.edu/admissions](https://atsu.edu/admissions)

[/atstilluniversity](https://atstilluniversity)

[@ATSU\\_news](https://twitter.com/ATSU_news)

[@atstilluniversity](https://instagram.com/atstilluniversity)



ATSU offers programs in athletic training, audiology, biomedical sciences, dental medicine, health administration, health education, health sciences, kinesiology, medical science, nursing, occupational therapy, orthodontics, osteopathic medicine, physical therapy, physician assistant studies, public health, and speech-language pathology.

## ATSU MISSION

A.T. Still University of Health Sciences serves as a learning-centered university dedicated to preparing highly competent professionals through innovative academic programs. The University is committed to continuing its osteopathic heritage and focus on whole person healthcare, scholarship, community health, interprofessional education, diversity, and underserved populations.

### ATSU NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

A.T. Still University (ATSU) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ethnicity, national origin, sex (including pregnancy), gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, veteran status, or any other status protected by applicable law. Dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, harassment, and retaliation are forms of discrimination prohibited by ATSU. Any person with questions concerning ATSU's nondiscrimination policies is directed to contact:

- » Arizona campus – Michael Zajac, MA, associate vice chancellor for student affairs, deputy Title IX coordinator  
5845 E. Still Circle, Mesa, AZ 85206, 480.219.6026, michaelzajac@atsu.edu
- » Missouri campus – Lori Haxton, MA, vice chancellor for student affairs, deputy Title IX coordinator  
800 W. Jefferson St., Kirksville, MO 63501, 660.626.2236, lhaxton@atsu.edu
- » California campus – Dianne Korth, MA, director of student affairs, deputy Title IX coordinator  
1075 E. Betteravia Rd., Ste. 201, Santa Maria, CA 93454, 805.621.7681, diannekorth@atsu.edu

Any person with questions concerning ATSU's Title IX compliance is directed to contact:

- » John Gardner, PhD, MEd, Title IX coordinator  
800 W. Jefferson St., Kirksville, MO 63501, 660.626.2113, johngardner@atsu.edu

More information, including ATSU Policy No. 90-210: Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation, may be found at [atsu.edu/titleix](https://atsu.edu/titleix).

In compliance with the Clery Act and Section 86 of Department of Education regulations, the University makes available to all prospective students, admitted students, and current students: ATSU's Annual Security and Fire Safety Report (ASR) and Drug and Alcohol Misuse Prevention Program (DAMPP). The ASR may be found online at [atsu.edu/security](https://atsu.edu/security). The DAMPP may be found online at [atsu.edu/dampp](https://atsu.edu/dampp). Printed copies of each report may be requested from [studentaffairs@atsu.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@atsu.edu).