



MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY

Department of Physician Assistant Studies Success in meeting program goals

The Misericordia University PA Program was granted *Accreditation-Continued status* by ARC-PA in October 2022. Accreditation remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the Standards. The approximate date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA will be September 2032.

PA Program Mission Statement:

"The Misericordia University Physician Assistant Program strives to attract intellectually talented and caring students who will be educationally transformed and mentored to become competent and compassionate Physician Assistants."

Driven by our Mission, the following Goals were created as the end toward which our Programs effort is directed.

Goal I

Recruit qualified applicants who have experience with diversity and inclusion.

Measure:

- Diversity Interview Question Score for Enrolled PA Student

Target:

- Average score of 6 or higher out of a possible score of 9

Scoring for 3 = Excellent Response; 2 = Acceptable Response; 1 = Poor Response; 0 = Inappropriate Response

Data: Diversity Interview Question Score	Cohort 2020 Cycle 2017-2018	Cohort 2021 Cycle 2018-2019	Cohort 2022 Cycle 2019-2020	Cohort 2023 Cycle 2020-2021	Cohort 2024 Cycle 2021-2022
Overall Final Diversity Interview Question Score	Average Score 8.5	Average Score 8.3	Average Score 8.1	Average Score 8.2	Average Score 8.2

Program Effectiveness:

- Cohort 2020 exceeded the target.
- Cohort 2021 exceeded the target.
- Cohort 2022 exceeded the target.
- Cohort 2023 exceeded the target.
- Cohort 2024 exceeded the target.
- Overall the MUPA Program is meeting the goal of recruiting qualified applicants who have experience with diversity and inclusion.

Goal II

Develop and advance a curriculum that ensures each graduate possesses the knowledge and skills necessary for entry into clinical practice.

Measure 1:

- Preceptor Survey of Student Preparedness

Target:

- 80% or more of items on the survey will score 3 or higher on a 4-point Likert scale: 4 exceeds expectations, 3 meets expectations, 2 needs improvement, 1 unsatisfactory

Data: Areas of PA-S Rotation preparedness Assessed by Preceptor	Cohort 2020	Cohort 2021	Cohort 2022
Medical Interview	3.57	3.95	3.56
Physical Examination	3.38	3.95	3.50
Oral Case Presentation	3.33	3.95	3.38
Written Patient Record	3.69	3.94	3.67
Knowledge of Diagnostic Studies	3.33	3.74	3.33
Ability to Perform Clinical Procedures	3.67	3.81	3.36
Problem-solving/Critical Thinking	3.47	3.89	3.50
Factual Knowledge and Concepts	3.47	3.89	3.50
Assessment/Differential Diagnosis	3.40	3.79	3.44
Ability to Form Management Plan	3.36	3.84	3.31
Ability to Implement Management Plan	3.46	3.72	3.40
Relating to Colleagues	4.00	3.95	3.81
Relating to Patients	4.00	3.95	3.81
Understanding Role of PA	3.87	3.94	3.75
Self-Confidence	3.67	3.74	3.63
Reliability and Dependability	4.00	3.95	3.88
Professionalism	4.00	3.95	3.88
Overall First Rotation	3.63	3.88	3.57

Program Effectiveness:

- Cohort 2020 exceeded the target
- Cohort 2021 exceeded the target
- Cohort 2022 exceeded the target
- Overall this measure meets the target for showing the didactic curriculum is preparing students for clinical rotations

Measure 2:

- Summative Assessment

Target:

- 85% or higher first attempt pass rate on each summative assessment evaluation and overall summative assessment evaluations

Data: Summative Assessment Evaluation Tools	Cohort 2020	Cohort 2021	Cohort 2022
Summative OSCE	87%	100%	100%
Summative Examination	93%	95%	100%
Summative H&P (conducted virtually 2020)	73%	89.5%	100%
Masters Project	100%	100%	100%
Overall Final Summative Assessment Evaluations	88%	96%	100%

Program Effectiveness:

- Cohort 2020 met the overall pass rate and the pass rate for 3 out of 4 individual summative assessment evaluations.
- Cohort 2021 met the overall pass rate and the pass rate for 4 out of 4 individual summative assessment evaluations.
- Cohort 2022 met the overall pass rate and the pass rate for 4 out of 4 individual summative assessment evaluations.
- Overall the program meets the Summative Assessment target and shows an improvement from cohort 2020 to cohort 2021 and from cohort 2021 to cohort 2022.

Measure 3:

- Graduate Program Assessment Survey: Curriculum Items

Target:

- Score 3 or greater on a 5-point Likert Scale: 5 strongly agree; 4 agree; 3 neutral; 2 disagree; 1 strongly disagree

Data: Graduate Program Assessment by Section	Cohort 2020	Cohort 2021	Cohort 2022
Evaluation of Courses & Curriculum	4.37	4.46	4.66
Effectiveness of Didactic Curriculum (self-assessment of student preparedness for Rotations)	4.28	4.48	4.64
Evaluation of Clinical Sites	4.64	4.51	4.68
Graduate Learning Outcomes	4.56	4.66	4.65
Overall Curriculum Content Graduate Survey	4.46	4.53	4.66

Program Effectiveness:

- Cohort 2020 exceeded the target across all four curriculum content areas and overall average of curriculum content.
- Cohort 2021 exceeded the target across all four curriculum content areas and overall average of curriculum content.
- Cohort 2022 exceeded the target across all four curriculum content areas and overall average of curriculum content.
- Overall the program meets the target for the Graduate Program Assessment Survey: Curriculum Items and shows an increase of scores across cohorts.
- Based on the 3 outcome measures above, the MUPA Program has been effective in developing and advancing a curriculum that ensures each graduate possesses the knowledge and skills necessary for entry into clinical practice.

Goal III

Retain and graduate at least 92% of all matriculated students (3-year average total retention rates).

Measure:

- Retention and graduation rate

Target:

- Average 3 Year graduation rate of 92% or greater

Cohort	Matriculated Students	Successful Progression from Clinical to Graduation	Total Retention Rate	3-year average of Total Retention Rates
Cohort 2020	16	15	93.75%	
Cohort 2021	20	19	94.44%	
Cohort 2022	18	16	88.89%	92.59%

Program Effectiveness:

- Based on the average 3-year graduation rate, the MUPA Program is meeting goal #3 to retain and graduate at least 92% of all matriculated students.

Goal IV

Achieve a first-time-taker PANCE passage rate of 90%, or better.

Measure:

- PANCE Pass Rate

Target:

- Annual First Time Pass Rate of 90% or greater

Cohort	Class Graduation Year	Number of First Time Takers	Program First Time Taker Pass Rate	National First Time Taker Pass Rate for the Class Graduation Year
2020	2020	15	53%	95%
2021	2021	19	79%	93%
2022	2022	16	100%	92%
2023	2023			
2024	2024			

See <https://www.misericordia.edu/physician-assistant/additional-program-info/nccpa-pance-pass-rate> for most current NCCPA report.

Goal IV

Program Effectiveness:

- Based on the first year, PANCE first time pass rate, the MUPA Program conducted a critical analysis of the following data: admissions criteria as predictors of success, individual course performance, course and instructor evaluations by students, program instructional objectives, learning outcomes, and breadth and depth of the curriculum, student summative evaluation results, remediation practices and results, attrition criteria and data for cohort 2020, feedback from students who were unsuccessful on the PANCE, preceptor feedback and graduate survey data . Analysis of this data led to the following implemented changes: Cumulative assessment of student performance in Clinical Medicine courses, specifically the cardiovascular system, the pulmonology system, the neurologic system, and the reproductive system; increased assessment on formulating the most likely diagnosis; additional medical documentation assignments; and increased PANCE style testing.
- Based on the second year, PANCE first time pass rate, the MUPA Program conducted a critical analysis of the following data: admissions criteria as predictors of success, individual course performance, course and instructor evaluations by students, program instructional objectives, learning outcomes, and breadth and depth of the curriculum, student summative evaluation results, remediation practices and results, attrition criteria and data for cohort 2021, feedback from students who were unsuccessful on the PANCE, preceptor feedback and graduate survey data . Analysis of this data led to monitoring the following implemented changes: Cumulative assessment of student performance in Clinical Medicine courses, specifically the cardiovascular system, the pulmonology system, the neurologic system, and the reproductive system; increased assessment on formulating the most likely diagnosis; additional medical documentation assignments; and increased PANCE style testing.
- Changes made to the curriculum have had a positive impact as evidenced by the data listed in Goal II that shows improvement from cohort 2020 to cohort 2021 in all three measures evaluating the program curriculum effectiveness as well as an increase in the PANCE first time pass rate from cohort 2020 to cohort 2021 and from cohort 2021 to cohort 2022.

Goal V

Demonstration of institutional commitment for continuing professional development of the principal faculty, medical director, and program director.

Measure:

- Conference attendance and professional development supported by Misericordia

Target:

- Each faculty member is allocated 100% funding and non-vacation days by Misericordia University to attend at least one conference annually or complete professional development

Faculty Conference Attendance Most Recent Listed First:

Faculty Member	Dates of Attendance	Conference	Location	Funding and release time by MU
Program Director:				
	Jan 13-16, 2023	University of Arizona AWCIM Andrew Weil Center for Integrative Medicine	Tucson, Arizona	100%
	Oct 12-15 2022	PAEA Education Forum	San Diego, CA	100%
	July 13-16 2022	CME Resources PANCE Prep	Virtual	100%
	April 28-May 1 2022	POMA Clinical Assembly	Valley Forge, PA	100%
	October 12-15 2021	PAEA Education Forum	Virtual	100%
	April 8-15-22-29 2021	2021 New Program Directors Jump Start Workshop	Virtual	100%
	October 19-23 2020	PAEA Education Forum	Virtual	100%
	July 28-30 2020	ARC-PA Self-Study Workshop	Virtual	100%
	October 8-12 2019	PAEA Education Forum	Washington, DC	100%
	July 21-23 2019	ARC-PA Accreditation and You Workshop	Cleveland, Ohio	100%
	April 10-12 2019	PAEA Workshop: Competency- Based Education Teaching in the 21st Century	Washington, DC	100%
	October 24-27 2018	PAEA 2018 Forum	Anaheim, CA	100%
	May 7-9 2018	CIC-18 Department Chairs Workshop	Pittsburgh, PA	100%
	April 9-11 2018	eMedley User Conference	Lawrence, KS	100%
	December 4-8 2017	CME Resources/PANCE Prep.	Chicago, IL	100%
Clinical Director:				
	July 13-16 2022	CME Resources PANCE Prep	Virtual	100%
	August 5-8 2021	CME Resources PANCE Prep	Virtual	100%
	October 19-23 2020	PAEA Education Forum	Virtual	100%
	May 19-23 2018	AAPA annual Conference	New Orleans, Louisiana	100%
	November 2017	Center for EM Ed. - EM boot camp	Online	100%
	June 11-13 2017	ARC-PA Accreditation and You Workshop in	Cleveland, Ohio	100%
Didactic Director:				
	Dec 7, 2022	PAEA Didactic Faculty Virtual Retreat	Virtual	100%
	Oct 12-15, 2022	PAEA Education Forum	San Diego, CA	100%
	June 22, 2022	PAEA Equity by Design	Virtual	100%
	Nov 15 – Dec 10 2021	PAEA New Faculty Jump Start	Virtual	100%

	July 15-18 2021	CME Resources PANCE Prep	Virtual	100%
	October 19-23 2020	PAEA Education Forum	Virtual	100%
	July 21-23 2019	ARC-PA Accreditation and You Workshop	Cleveland, Ohio	100%
	October 24-27 2018	PAEA 2018 Forum	Anaheim, CA	100%
	May 2-5 2018	POMA Clinical Assembly	Valley Forge, PA	100%
	December 5-7 2017	Pri-Med Conference	Baltimore, MD	100%
Principal Faculty				
	July 22-24 2021	ARC-PA Accreditation and You Workshop	Virtual	100%
	July 15-18 2021	CME Resources PANCE Prep	Virtual	100%
	October 19-23 2020	PAEA Education Forum	Virtual	100%
	April 10-12 2019	PAEA learning workshop/Faculty Skills 101	Washington, DC	100%
	October 17-20 2018	PSPA annual conference	Pocono Manor,	100%
	June 4-6 2018	NCCPA PANRE Critique/Writing Meeting	Johns Creek, GA	Funded by NCCPA
	March 12-14 2018	NCCPA meeting RE: The Standard setting process for the PANCE examination	Johns Creek, GA	Funded by NCCPA
	April 25-27 2018	PAEA learning workshop/Faculty Skills 101	Washington, DC	100%
Principal Faculty				
	July 13-16 2022	CME Resources PANCE Prep	Virtual	100%
	August 5-8 2021	CME Resources PANCE Prep	Virtual	100%
	October 19-23 2020	PAEA Education Forum	Virtual	100%
		Dermatology Conference	Virtual	100%
Medical Director:				
	Jan 2021 – July 2022	Continuing Medical Education in Anesthesiology, Diabetes, Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Gastroenterology, Internal Medicine, Neurology, OBGYN, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Urology	Online Course	100%
	August 5-8 2021	CME Resources PANCE Prep	Virtual	100%
	October 19-23 2020	PAEA Education Forum	Virtual	100%
	January 2019- March 2019	Continuing Medical Education in EM, FM, IM, Neurology, Gastroenterology, OB/GYN, Otolaryngology, Peds, Infectious Disease, ABIM, Trauma	Online Course	100%

Program Effectiveness:

- 2017 – 2022: All faculty including the program director and the medical director were allocated 100% funding to attend one conference or complete professional development using non-vacation days. Non- vacation days were used for all conference attendance and professional development.
- Overall the MUPA Program is meeting the goal of demonstration of institutional commitment for continuing professional development of the principal faculty, medical director, and program director.