



## COMPLEMENTARY PROFESSIONS FOR THE MODERN WORLD

In 33 months, our students earn two degrees: a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies, and a Master of Public Health. This unique combination prepares our future alumni to appreciate the ways in which the wellness of the individual is linked to the wellness of the community.

Physician Assistants (PAs) are medical professionals who are nationally certified and state-licensed to practice medicine. All PAs are graduates of an accredited PA educational program. PAs are licensed to practice and authorized to prescribe medication in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and all U.S. territories with the exception of Puerto Rico. PAs practice medicine in all settings and specialties.

Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities through promotion of healthy lifestyles, research for disease and injury prevention and detection and control of infectious diseases. Public health professionals try to prevent problems from happening or recurring through implementing educational programs, recommending policies, administering services and conducting research.

# JOINT MSPAS/MPH PROGRAM

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- PANCE Pass Rate**  
*Our alumni have passed the national certifying exam for PAs on the first try at a higher rate than the national average for each of the past nine years.*
- Meeting The Mission**  
*Over fifty percent of our graduates are working in medically underserved communities, expanding access to quality medical care both in California and nationally.*
- Student, Alumni, and Faculty Professional Involvement**  
*Locally, statewide, and nationally, our students, alumni, and faculty are deeply involved in professional organizations, as committee members, board members, conference presenters, and more.*
- More on our Website!**  
*Please visit our website to find out more about our program:*  
[cehs.tu.edu/paprogram/achievements/](http://cehs.tu.edu/paprogram/achievements/)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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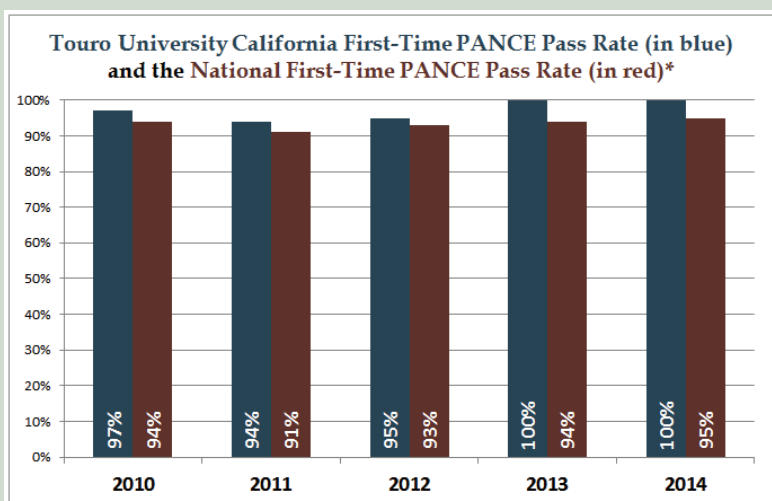
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# PANCE First-Time Pass Rates

The PANCE is the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination. Successful completion of the PANCE is a requirement to practice clinically as a PA in the United States, although individual states may apply further criteria before granting a license.

After passing the PANCE, PAs become NCCPA-certified, which entitles them to use the PA-C designation. To maintain NCCPA certification and retain the right to use the PA-C designation, PAs must log 100 hours of continuing medical education every two years and sit for recertification every ten years.



## Meeting the Mission

The **mission** of the Joint MSPAS/MPH Program is:

*Through the integration of the Physician Assistant & Public Health disciplines, the mission of the Joint MSPAS/MPH Program is to:*

- 1) train quality PAs to work with underserved populations,
- 2) recruit applicants from these communities or individuals with a demonstrated interest in serving these communities, and
- 3) increase access to care for underserved populations.

### **Train quality PAs to work with underserved populations:**

Between 2005 and 2015, 385 students have graduated from the Joint Program, 382 of whom have taken the PANCE. 99.2% of those students have passed the PANCE, including 366 (95.8%) who passed on the first try. Coursework includes education on health disparities and the health issues faced by medically underserved communities. During their clinical year, our students rotate through clinics in medically underserved areas, preferentially primary care clinics that provide care to uninsured populations.

### **Recruit applicants from these communities or individuals with a demonstrated interest in serving these communities:**

For three recent classes (2015-2017) 72.7% either have experience serving medically underserved populations, are themselves from a underserved population, or are from a population that is under-represented in the PA profession.

### **Increase access to care for underserved populations:**

Of the 335 alumni whose work information we have, 51.5% work in a medically underserved area. One fifth (20.8%) work at a site that specifically serves medically underserved populations. Over half (51.6%) of our alumni work in primary care, and nearly a third work in primary care in medically underserved areas.

## Professional Involvement

### **California Academy of Physician Assistants**

Board of Directors:

- Secretary, 2012-2015 – Joy Dugan, '12
- Vice President, 2014-2015; Director-at-Large, 2013-2014 – Ana Maldonado, PA-C, DHSc, MPH, Associate Professor

Student Ambassadors - Annual Conference:  
2012: 3 students; 2011: 4 students; 2010: 4 students; 2009: 1 student; 2008: 4 students

### **American Academy of Physician Assistants**

2012 Student Academy PA Student Mentor Award: Grace Landel, PA-C, MEd, Program Director

House of Delegates Representatives: Joy Dugan, '12; Grace Landel, Program Director; Ana Maldonado, Associate Professor

### **Regional Associations**

- Contra Costa Clinician's Association – Julia DeRenzi, '08 – Co-founder

### **Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the PA (ARC-PA)**

Commissioner, 2010-2015; Chair, 2014-2015: Grace Landel, Program Director

### **Academics:**

Mike deRosa, '08 – Program Chair, Samuel Merritt Physician Assistant Program  
Michael Wells, '12 – Faculty, University of Colorado School of Medicine