URI-Johnson & Wales University Physician Assistant Studies Program Linkage – Early Contingent Admission

JWU will consider exceptionally qualified applicants from URI for early contingent admission to their Master of Physician Assistant Studies program. This admission route is open to URI sophomores who have already demonstrated their readiness for the physician assistant profession by virtue of (a) exceptional academic performance, and (b) significant direct patient care experience.

Candidates must first apply for nomination to the program through the Health Professions Advisory Committee (HPAC) at URI. Students nominated by HPAC are then reviewed by the JWU admission committee, which will invite those they deem qualified for an interview. If admitted after interview, students must complete all remaining requirements as noted below.

To qualify for nomination for the JWU early contingent admission route, students must meet the following academic and experiential requirements along with all application deadlines noted below.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

The program requires a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 and a minimum biology, chemistry, and physics (BCP) GPA of 3.5 based upon Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) formulas. The following courses are also required (minimum of 28 credits) with a grade of B OR HIGHER prior to application. Advanced Placement (AP) credits cannot be used to fulfill these requirements:

- BIO 121: Human Anatomy (4 credits w/lab)
- BIO 242 & 244 Human Physiology (3 credits with 1 credit lab)
- 3 additional credits of biology (BIO or CMB): Typically this can be fulfilled with BIO 101/103 (General Biology I), or 4 credits of higher-level human or mammalian biology.
- 8 credits in chemistry (with labs) from at least two of the following three area:
  1. General Chemistry
     Either CHM 103/105 (4 cr) OR CHM 101/102 (4 credits) and CHM 112/114 (4 credits)
  2. Organic Chemistry
     CHM 124/126 (4 credits) OR CHM 227 (3 cr), CHM 228 (3 credits) and CHM 226 (2 credits)
  3. Biochemistry
     CMB 311 (3 credits) and EITHER CMB 312 (2 credits) OR CMB 412 (3 credits)
- Either 3 credits of mathematics at the pre-calculus level (MTH 103 or 111) or higher, OR a 3 credit statistics course such as STA 307.
- PSY 113: General Psychology (3 credits).
- 3 credits of writing intensive English coursework (selected from ENG, WRT and certain HPR courses as pre-approved by the Pre-Health Professions Advising Program).
EXPERIENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

To be considered, applicants must have:

- A minimum of **25 documentable hours** of shadowing a physician assistant.

- At least **200 hours of direct patient care experience** (paid or volunteer) in an allopathic or osteopathic medical setting are required prior to application. Qualifying experiences are specified on the JWU website; experiences not indicated should be verified as acceptable by the Director of Admissions in advance of participation.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

1. **By December 1, 2017**—meet with the HPAC Chair to determine eligibility for the program.

2. **February 1, 2018**—submit URI’s internal application to be nominated for early contingent admission by HPAC.

3. **By March 23, 2018**—interview with HPAC.

4. **April 1, 2018**—HPAC forwards nominations to JWU’s admission committee for consideration for early contingent admission.

5. **Summer-Fall 2018**—The JWU PA admission office makes the final determination of each applicant’s eligibility and determines when qualified candidates will interview with the JWU PA admission committee.

CONTINGENCIES FOR FINAL ADMISSION

Students granted early contingent admission to the JWU PA program must:

- Submit the CASPA application by June 1st of the relevant cycle (about a year before matriculation to the program) as an Early Decision candidate to JWU.

- Complete all remaining required courses prior to submitting the CASPA application: 5 additional credits of biology (BIO or CMB), and 3 additional credits of writing intensive English.

- Complete at least an additional 50 hours of direct patient care prior to submission of the CASPA application.

- Take the GRE with a score at the 50th percentile or higher on each section by the June 1 CASPA deadline noted above.

- Maintain minimum cumulative and BCP GPAs of 3.3 as calculated by CASPA at the time of CASPA submission.

For further information or to be considered for this admission route, contact Andrew Simmons, Ph.D., Director of Pre-Health Professions Advising; Chair, Health Professions Advisory Committee at ansimmons@uri.edu.