

NU School of PA Medicine: Examples of Direct Patient Care Experience

A minimum of 2000 hours of patient care experience (PCE) is needed at the time of application. A more competitive applicant will have more than the minimum required PCE. Up to a maximum of 20,000 hours may be scored. The quality of the experience(s) and number of hours are weighted during application evaluation.

Qualifying PCE hours are direct hands-on paid positions with the exception of work as a paramedic or EMT when all emergency services are provided on an all-volunteer basis. Internships, clinical time as a student, shadowing, or volunteer experience do not meet this requirement. Additionally, PCE is not synonymous with Health Care Experience (HCE) as HCE is not limited to direct hands-on responsibility by CASPA definition.

The number of qualifying PCE hours is multiplied by the quality modifier and becomes the applicants PCE score. For positions not listed below or on the website, the PCE must be approved by the NU School of PA Medicine program prior to submitting the application on CASPA in order to ensure that the experience will qualify. If the experience is not prior-approved, the application risks not meeting the minimum requirements for admission.

The following is a list of patient-care experiences with approximate quality values and is intended as a guide only and is not all-inclusive. **It is extremely important to supply a detailed description of your responsibilities on your CASPA application to ensure that you are given proper credit.**

PCE hours are multiplied by respective modifiers and divided by 1000. Examples of positions include, but are not limited to, the following:

Possible Points Awarded: Minimum of 0.2 points, Maximum of 4 points

High Quality (Modifier 0.2)

- ▶ Dentist
- ▶ RN, APRN
- ▶ Chiropractor
- ▶ Foreign Medical Doctor
- ▶ Psychologist
- ▶ Military Medic/Corpsman
- ▶ Paramedic
- ▶ Advanced EMT AEMT
- ▶ Ophthalmic Technician
- ▶ Occupational Therapist OT
- ▶ Respiratory Therapist RT
- ▶ Sonographer
- ▶ Substance Dependency Counselor
- ▶ Medical Lab Specialist
- ▶ Physical Therapist PT
- ▶ Radiology Technologist

Moderate Quality (Modifier 0.15)

- ▶ Dental Hygienist
- ▶ Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA)
- ▶ Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA)
- ▶ Medical Assistant (MA)
- ▶ EMT
- ▶ Exercise Physiology
- ▶ Medical Research w. Human Subjects
- ▶ LPN/LVN
- ▶ Mental Health Assistant
- ▶ LCSW - Licensed Clinical Social Worker
- ▶ Surgical/OR Tech

Low Quality (Modifier 0.10)

- ▶ Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA)
- ▶ Dental Assistant
- ▶ Home Health Aide
- ▶ Patient Care Technician
- ▶ Medical Scribe
- ▶ Ophthalmic Assistant
- ▶ Nerve Conduction Technologist
- ▶ Phlebotomist
- ▶ Pharmacy Technician
- ▶ ECG/EKG Technician
- ▶ Speech Language Therapist

Questions ?

Email: PA-admissions@northwestu.edu



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