

Northwest University School of PA Medicine Program Goals and Outcomes

1. The NU School of PA Medicine will have an annual NCCPA PANCE pass rate at or above the national average.

Benchmark: Achieve a PANCE first-time test-taker pass rate at or above the national average.

Outcomes will be published in Spring 2027 at <https://www.northwestu.edu/school-pa-medicine/nccpa-pance-accreditation>

2. Recruit and admit PA applicants from diverse backgrounds and experiences.

Benchmark: At least 50% of matriculants in each cohort will meet the criteria below or self-identify as having a diverse background. The PA program considers many aspects of diversity, including economically disadvantaged, first-generation college students, non-native English speakers, and military affiliation. Comparison to the PAEA Program Annual Report will be $\geq$ the national mean of the Male Gender (%) and Age.

Measure	Benchmark	Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028	3-Year Average
Percentage of matriculants meeting at least one program-defined background diversity criterion.	Meet or exceed 50% of cohort	35%	45%	45%	41.67%
Percentage of male matriculants	Meet or exceed average (Mean 25.4%*)	33%	30%	15%	26%
Age at time of submission	Meet or exceed average (Mean 24.9 years*)	25.1	25.7	26.3	25.7

*[PAEA Program Report 36](https://paeaonline.org) (paeaonline.org)

Summary of Effectiveness: Across the Classes of 2026–2028, the percentage of cohort that met at least one program-defined background diversity criterion remained below program benchmark of 50%, with a three-year average of 41.67%. The Class of 2027 and 2028 each reached 45%, demonstrating improvement from the Class of 2026 and movement toward benchmark attainment. Male student representation varied across cohorts, exceeding the national benchmark of 25.4% in the Class of 2026 (33%) and Class of 2027 (30%) but falling below in the Class of 2028 (15%). The three-year average was 26%, slightly above the national benchmark. The average age of matriculants for each cohort exceeded the benchmark of 24.9 years in all three cohorts with averages of 25.1, 25.7, and 26.3 years. Overall, the program met two out of three benchmarks based on the three-year averages.

3. Prepare and deliver a comprehensive curriculum that properly equips students to provide competent, patient-centered care upon graduation.

Benchmarks: Average score on the graduate exit survey item regarding preparedness for entry into clinical practice will be above 4.5 (on a Likert scale of 6). First time pass rate of >90% of the cohort on the overall summative evaluation.

Outcomes will be published in Spring 2027.

4. Acquire the knowledge and skills to provide cross-cultural medical care.

Benchmark:

The average score on the graduate exit survey is 4.5 (Likert scale of 6) for the following items:

- Their education improved their ability to recognize healthcare disparities
- The program supported participation in caring for underserved populations.
- Annual faculty survey ratings on supporting cross-cultural medical care are greater than 4.5 (on a Likert scale of 6)

Outcomes will be published in Spring 2027.