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| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: I'm very excited about this chat. |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(AdvisorJen): go ahead with your questions |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: I'm still working on my bach degree, but I'm looking ahead to the requirements |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: the biggest question I have is about the direct patient care requirement |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: is volunteer work counted? |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: is there more preferred patient care over other? |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: such as working in a hospital better than working in a nursing home |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): the admissions committee greatly prefers paid employment, hospital employment is preferred, if you can get it, nursing home is OK |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: can you tell me how many people applied for your PA program last year? |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: how many were interviewed and how many were accepted? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): Angela, approx 300 applied, about 120 were interviewed and 50 were accepted |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: Is the program limited to 50? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): yes |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: The other programs in this area that I know of are: U of DM and Toledo. I need to stay in the Metro Detroit area. Do you know if there are plans to add PA programs to other universities? |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: such as U of M? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): not that I know of, there are programs at CMU, Western and Grand Valley |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: yes, those are quite a distance |

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| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: I hate to limit myself since the admission is so competitive, but I need to stay around the Ann Arbor area |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: do you have any advice or suggestions on how to best position myself? |
| Physician Assistant | AdrKzoo | AdrKzoo: For pre-requisite courses how much weight is put on completing a few (~2) courses at a four-year university as opposed to a community college? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): grades, especially in the prerequisites, test scores (GRE) and relevant experience, don't forget the volunteer work, it's given credit and every point counts |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): doesn't matter where prerequisites are taken |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: my grades are good, I've already picked up a study guide for the GRE |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: it's the direct care experience that I need more of |
| Physician Assistant | AdrKzoo | AdrKzoo: Oh! Is there consideration of the college the courses are taken at for GPA purposes? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): no consideration |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: So does that mean it does not make a difference if you get your bach degree from lets say U of M or Eastern? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): makes no difference where you got your degree or what it's in, as long as you complete all required prereqs |
| Physician Assistant | AdrKzoo | AdrKzoo: This may be too specific of a question but are study abroad courses calculated into GPA? My current college does not factor this into our final transcript GPA however the courses are still counted for credit. |

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| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): the classes will be considered if they were taken for a grade and the grade appears on your transcript |
| Physician Assistant | AdrKzoo | AdrKzoo: Okay that makes sense thank you |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: The letters of recommendation - these are preferred from employers correct? What about academic letters? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): academic letters are ok, if you have letters from supervisors of work experience |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): and hopefully, letters from your hands-on medical experience |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: Will the completion of your program allow us to be a general practice PA? |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: What if you are interested in a specialty? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): yes, assuming you pass the certifying exam |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): there are a limited number of post graduate programs in specialty areas, most PA specialize thru on the job training |
| Physician Assistant | Jmlouca | Jmlouca: Are the info sessions still taking place each month/ |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): yes |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: What is TOEFL |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): Test of English as a Foreign Language |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: Does Wayne state accept transfers directly from a community college |
| Physician Assistant | Jmlouca | Jmlouca: Is it important to have continuous health care employment or volunteer hours for the application? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): Wayne State accepts transfers, the PA program acceptance is seperate. |

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| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): no, experience does not have to be continuous, but they look back 2 years for volunteer and 4 to 5 years for work exp |
| Physician Assistant | Jmlouca | Jmlouca: Thank You advisorcarol for answering my questions |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): You're welcome! |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: Completion of the program and passing the certifying exam will earn a Master's of Science degree correct? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): You don't need to pass the exam to get the degree, only to practice |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: and the second year of the program is all clinicals |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): yes, from May 1 to end of April the following year |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: This information is so wonderful! Thank you for taking the time. I know I have a couple of years before even applying but I want to be as prepared as possible. (sorry for the delay in my replys - I work a full time job) |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): We understand and you're very welcome! |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: I look forward to questions from others |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: What is the difference between a PA and an NP? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): NP is in independent practice, a PA must practice under the supervision of an MD |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: Ok, I was talking with an acquaintance that is an administrator at a small hospital and she mentioned they deal mainly with NP's |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): depends on the institution, some prefer PAs some prefer NPs |

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| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: Well... I hope some others will post some questions. Although I feel like I'm having my own personal conversation. |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): here to help, one or all |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: Hello my name is Tuan Le, how is everyone doing today |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): any questions? |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: yes |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): and? |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: not sure if i should ask this here or not but I would be transferring over to wayne from a community college |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: for the classes that they pick to transfer in..can i choose which class or is there sort of like a ranking for that? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): they will us 64 credits toward your WSU degree |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: I understand...I will be transferring with about 75 credits |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: do you know whether or not i can choose which class not to transfer in? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): they will transfer all coursework, they will use 64 credits toward your degree |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: hmm okay. |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: As for the community service hours for the PA program |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: can you recommend some position at a hospital for that volunteer work? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): positions must include hands on patient contact, so something like a nurse's aide as opposed to something like a ward clerk or patient transport |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: alright |

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| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: and then any bachelors would fulfill the requirement for applying correct? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): yes, as long as you have completed all the required prerequisite coursework |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: good to know about nurse aide work. I'll get my CNA this spring |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: Also for the volunteer work..does it still count if they are paying you to do it? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): if they are paying you to do it, it's not volunteer |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: alright i misunderstood the requirement |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: i thought i read volunteer somewhere |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: so for instance i can be a nurse's aide and get paid for doing the job and still count towards the 500 hrs of patient care experience correct? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): there is an opportunity to gain admission points by submitting proof of volunteer work, this is separate from the required 500 hours of medical experience |
| Physician Assistant | AdrKzoo | AdrKzoo: when is the first date the school is accepting applications? And approximately when do requests for an interview go out? |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: Oh alright |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): Caspa opens on May 1. Interviews are scheduled starting at the end of September. |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: @carol do you know if the GRE is similar to the PCATs? |
| Physician Assistant | AdrKzoo | AdrKzoo: so if you were to interview in September and are accepted when does that school year start? |

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| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): school year starts beginning of May |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): PCATs are far more science based |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): GRE is reasoning, math and reading comprehension |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: any recommendations on how to study for the GRE? |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: I understand the math pre-req is Statistics. Is there any of the math requirement? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): there are prep classes thru Kaplan, on line prep sites, public libraries has books, DVS's etc. If you are a Wayne State student try our Testing and Evaluation Office at 313/577-3400 |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): no other math requirement |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: okay good to know as i will try to take advantage of the testing and evaluation |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: also can i ask how many applicants are accepted per year for PA? |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): 48 to 50 students |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: how often do the program requirements change? or should i check up on them to prior semesters before applying? |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: like courses |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): requirements do not change frequently, but it does happen. We recommend students check the PA website regularly, at least once a semester and attend information meetings at least once a year |
| Physician Assistant | AdrKzoo | AdrKzoo: is the second year of the program completely devoted to being assigned to a clinic in MI? |

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| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): The second year is clinical rotations, they can be in a hospital, clinic or private practice |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): our rotation sites are primarily in the tri county area |
| Physician Assistant | AdrKzoo | AdrKzoo: How are rotation sites assigned? Randomly? |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: Thank you carol for answering the questions |
| Physician Assistant | VstyLe09 | VstyLe09: and have a nice day as i need to get to class |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): everyone has to complete rotations in certain medical specialties, e.g. internal medicine, ob-gyn, etc. so the rotation sites are assigned based on the availability and requirements of the student |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): if you have anymore questions, you've got just a few minutes |
| Physician Assistant | Angela721 | Angela721: Thank you so much. This is great and I hope they have more in the future |
| Physician Assistant | wayneadmin | wayneadmin(advisorcarol): There will be more chats, keep an eye on our website, cphs.wayne.edu |