

Program Required Competencies

NSU Fort Myers PA Program

Medical Knowledge- Upon completion of the program, PA students will be able to integrate their knowledge of human anatomy and physiology, diagnostic and laboratory studies, treatment plans, and behavioral health to provide effective patient care. Students will understand their patients' acute, chronic, and preventative healthcare needs and use evidence-based medical literature to support their management plans.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills- Upon completion of the program, PA students will communicate effectively in a professional, culturally responsive, and inclusive manner. Students will collect and document complete medical histories, examinations, assessments, and plans. Students will educate patients in an effective manner consistent with patients' needs, abilities, and socioeconomic circumstances.

Clinical Skills- Upon completion of the program, PA students will be able to perform the appropriate physical exams necessary to develop an accurate differential diagnosis. Students will recognize normal and abnormal signs, symptoms, and examination findings and choose a diagnostic workup based on these findings.

Technical Skills- Upon completion of the program, PA students will safely and correctly perform appropriate diagnostic tests and procedures essential to patient care and clinical practice.

Professional Behavior and Practice- Upon completion of the program, PA students will demonstrate professional behavior consistent with the values of the PA profession. Students will recognize medical ethical issues and their role in addressing them.

Clinical Reasoning and Problem-Solving- Upon completion of the program, PA students will apply analytical and clinical reasoning skills to evaluate patient conditions and develop appropriate management plans using physical exam and diagnostic findings. Students will recognize the acuity of the patient's condition and when to refer to other providers.