At Anderson University, undergraduates who plan to pursue a physician’s assistant degree will be prepared for the demands and challenges of PA school. The College of Arts and Sciences recommends students major in Biology or Biochemistry, both of which provide students a strong foundation for a future in medicine.
Biology or Biochemistry
Students who desire to pursue PA degrees must first understand the root of human healthcare, which begins with comprehensive knowledge of living things.

Anderson prepares biology students with an overview of all areas of living things on the genetic, cellular and organismal levels. The university’s biochemistry students study the areas of chemistry most relevant to living systems on a cellular and molecular level in order to understand biological concepts.

The foundation for human health
Core classes lay the groundwork for both for Biology and Biochemistry majors to study human health in PA school. These students must take courses in general biology and chemistry along with cellular biology, genetics and organic chemistry during the first two years at Anderson.

Additional upper-level Biology and Biochemistry courses and electives further prepare students for their career path. For example, courses in immunology and microbiology will help students better understand disease-causing organisms and how the body fights off these pathogens. Courses in human anatomy and physiology provide invaluable knowledge about the organ systems.

Physician’s assistants often interact closely with patients and see them even more frequently than an overseeing physician. Classes in psychology and sociology at Anderson help students develop the skills needed to build better relationships with the patients in their care. Anderson also encourages students to gain hands-on patient care experience through shadowing or volunteer work.
Research opportunities
As a requirement for their degree, Anderson’s Biology and Biochemistry students work closely with a selected faculty member to design and complete a research project. A variety of research fields are available, and projects conducted at the university’s Center for Cancer Research are especially relevant for students planning for graduate work in medicine. Our students have been honored with some of the highest undergraduate awards for their work at the center.

The on-campus human cadaver laboratory located in the School of Nursing provides a rare undergraduate opportunity for preparation in medical fields. All anatomy and physiology labs include several experiences in this facility, and some students choose to complete research projects involving the cadaver lab.

Choosing Anderson
Professors at Anderson prepare students with the appropriate vocabulary and academic concepts needed in the medical world, but also emphasize the importance of developing critical-thinking skills to evaluate the underlying principles of science. Our students are prepared to problem-solve and consider new approaches for treatment.

Anderson’s small student-teacher ratio provides deeper relationships between professors and undergraduates. Students find these relationships helpful for one-on-one advising and, later, for recommendation letters as they near the completion of their degrees.

Medical professions provide excellent venues for Anderson students to exhibit Christian service. The knowledge that every person is created in the image of God influences how Christian physician’s assistants serve their patients through medical treatment. Anderson students understand the inherent value of every human life, inspiring them to excel in their field and build strong relationships with their patients.

Always check the current course catalog found on the Anderson University website for the most up-to-date program information.
TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID, PLEASE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING:
For consideration of federal and state funds, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). FAFSA information is listed below. All online students receive a tuition discount, which makes them ineligible for institutional scholarships. The information below shows the various types of funds available to online students. For information visit andersonuniversity.edu/admission/freshmen/financial-aid.

FAFSA INFORMATION

- PIN website: www.pin.ed.gov
- FAFSA website: http://www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Anderson school code: 003418

VETERANS BENEFITS:
Anderson University is proud to partner with the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs in assisting our military veterans in obtaining their education. Check out our Veterans Benefits flier to learn how the process works. You can also contact our VA Certifying Official at: veteranaffairs@andersonuniversity.edu or 864-231-5742.
HISTORY
Anderson University traces its origins back to 1911, when it was chartered as a four-year college for women. Public-minded citizens of Anderson, South Carolina, wanted a college to be established in the growing area since a previous institution, The Johnson Female University had closed during the Civil War. With a donation of land and money from area citizens, the South Carolina Baptist Convention agreed to partner with those who wanted an institution of higher learning in Anderson, and the school opened its doors in 1912.

What we know as Anderson University has throughout its history adapted to the educational needs of South Carolinians and those outside the State seeking a great education in a Christian environment. In 2005, the school officially became Anderson University as it added graduate programs and reorganized into colleges. The University is in the midst of the biggest period of growth in its history, having nearly doubled in enrollment over the past 7 years. Today, 2,908 students enjoy a high-quality education in some 53 fields of study. AU’s scenic campus, located in the historic district of Anderson, South Carolina, benefits from its proximity to the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and the vibrant city of Greenville, South Carolina. Anderson’s campus has recently grown from its original 68 acres to more than 270 acres, including four new major building projects which have been completed within the past four years.
Anderson University has received numerous accolades and national recognition as an intentionally Christian university offering exceptional academics.

Recent recognitions include:

- Top Tier University #20 on 2014 ranking of Regional Colleges (South) - *U.S. News & World Report*
- One of “America’s 100 Best College Buys”
- One of “49 Up-and-Coming” universities to watch, for progress and innovation, for the past five years in a row - *U.S. News & World Report*
- 138 Best Southeastern Colleges - The Princeton Review
- The #2 Regional College in the South for “Excellence in Teaching” - *U.S. News & World Report*
- A Best Christian College - Institutional Research & Evaluation