



*Accreditation Review Commission on Education
for the Physician Assistant, Inc.*

March 28, 2025

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Paula M. Crone, DO
Provost
Western University of Health Sciences
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Dear Dr. Crone:

The **Western University of Health Sciences Physician Assistant Program** has been granted **Accreditation-Continued** status by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. ("ARC-PA" or the "commission"). This decision is based on the program reports, the report of the site visit team, program's response to site visit team's observations and the program's accreditation history.

The ARC-PA noted **one (1)** area of noncompliance with the *Accreditation Standards for Physician Assistant Education* (5th edition) (the "*Standards*"). Please see the companion Word document for the complete commission report and requested response. Failure to submit a response may result in reconsideration of the program's accreditation status.

The date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA will be **March 2033**, as the program's last review was in 2023. The review date is contingent upon continued compliance with the *Standards* and ARC-PA policy. The ARC-PA reserves the right to adjust the date or schedule.

The next validation review comes with accreditation requirements along the way, including periodic compliance reporting to the ARC-PA. Failure to remain in compliance with the *Standards* at any time may be cause for an adverse accreditation action to be taken by the commission.

The program will be contacted by the ARC-PA in advance of the validation visit review regarding details of the application and site visit.

Collaborating Organizations: American Academy of Family Physicians • American Academy of Pediatrics • American Academy of Physician Associates • American Academy of Surgical Physician Assistants • American Medical Association • Association of Physician Associates in Obstetrics and Gynecology • Physician Assistant Education Association
Member: Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA)
Recognized by: Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)

Please note that the approved maximum entering class size is **98**. The program is not to exceed that maximum entering class size number for any reason during its next and subsequent admission cycles without prior approval from the ARC-PA for a class size increase.

The ARC-PA will not consider a request for an increase in maximum entering class size from a program until the program has maintained five consecutive years of Accreditation-Continued status. If such a request is approved by the commission, the commission will not consider an application to increase class size for four years after the most recent increase, and unless the program has maintained Accreditation-Continued status without an adverse accreditation action throughout the entire period.

The ARC-PA will not consider an application for expansion to a distant campus from a program holding the status of Accreditation-Continued until the program has maintained five consecutive years of that status. A program must have outcomes from the first cohort of students at any distant campus before applying to expand to another distant campus.

To communicate the program's accreditation status in all printed and electronic media, the program and institution must use the following statement **exactly** as written. Any accreditation statements used in the past must be replaced with this language.

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA) has granted **Accreditation-Continued** status to the **Western University of Health Sciences Physician Assistant Program** sponsored by **Western University of Health Sciences**. Accreditation-Continued is an accreditation status granted when a currently accredited program is in compliance with the ARC-PA *Standards*.

Accreditation remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the *Standards*. The approximate date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA will be **March 2033**. The review date is contingent upon continued compliance with the Accreditation *Standards* and ARC-PA policy.

The program's accreditation history can be viewed on the ARC-PA website at <https://www.arc-pa.org/accreditation-history-western-university-of-health-sciences/>.

As a reminder, programs are required to adhere to all ARC-PA *Standards* and requirements for maintenance of accreditation as outlined in Section 3 of the ARC-PA Accreditation Handbook (<https://www.arc-pa.org/entry-level-accreditation/accreditation-manual/>).

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The ARC-PA appreciates the commitment and dedication to quality PA education demonstrated by your participation in the accreditation process. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharon Luke', written in a cursive style.

Sharon Luke, EdD, PA-C
President and CEO

c: Gail Evans Grayson, EdD, MA; Acting Dean of the College of Health Sciences; gevans@westernu.edu
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