Mission
The mission of Quinnipiac's physician assistant program is to increase access to quality health care through the education and development of caring, knowledgeable and competent physician assistants who are dedicated to:

1. Clinical Competence—Developing highly qualified health care providers who demonstrate an investigative and analytic approach to clinical situations and provide care that is effective, safe, high quality and equitable.
2. Professionalism—Providing care with respect, compassion and integrity with a commitment to excellence and ongoing professional development.
3. Leadership—Working effectively with health care professionals as a member or leader of a health care team or other professional/community group. Mentoring and developing future leaders within the profession and the community.
4. Community Outreach—Demonstrating responsibility and accountability to patients, society and the profession through active community involvement and volunteerism.
5. Cultural Competence—Enhancing sensitivity and developing the ability to function effectively to meet the needs of a diverse patient population.

Vision
To create a PA workforce that provides high-quality, affordable health care that is accessible to all people in all settings by fostering teamwork, critical-thinking skills, high ethical standards, and respect for diverse populations.

Core Values
- Excellence—A commitment to teaching excellence and championing quality, evidence-based health care in an innovative and supportive learning environment that fosters the student's personal effectiveness.
- Accountability—Demonstrating responsibility to students, the University, patients, society and the PA profession utilizing a continuous process improvement system.
- Integrity—Honesty and adherence to the highest standards of professional behavior and ethical conduct.
- Teamwork and Collaboration—Building respectful partnerships within the University and the community to transform the health care system.
- Advocacy and Equity—Seeking to eliminate disparities and barriers to effective, quality health care through patient advocacy and advocacy of the PA profession.
- Intellectual Curiosity—Exhibiting self reflection, intellectual curiosity and initiative, critical thinking and the enthusiastic pursuit of lifelong learning within a supportive environment that encourages research and scholarly work.
Goals

The Goals of the Quinnipiac University Department of Physician Assistant Studies

1. **Community Service:** Engage all students in active and on-going community outreach. Experiences are designed to be integrated into the curriculum and enhance knowledge through experiential learning.
   a. From the class of 2016 all members participated in over the required 50 hours, with a class average of 80 hours (range 56.5 to 137 hours).
   b. Top 5 community service activities for the class that graduated in 2016 were:
      i. Foot Clinic at the Men’s Homeless Shelter
      ii. Liver and Kidney Foundation events
      iii. The various Health Fairs
      iv. Loaves and Fishes soup kitchen
      v. Migrant Farm Worker activities

2. **Accreditation and PANCE Pass Rates:** Maintain an accredited program with a curriculum designed to ensure the requisite knowledge and skills for entry to PA practice.
   a. By completion of all required portal updates, as well as reports due, we maintain ARC-PA accreditation continued status. Our next ARC-PA required self-study will be due in 2020 and site visit in 2023.
   b. For the years 2013-2016 the QU PA program has maintained a 100% first time PANCE pass rate for its classes. The five-year pass rate for the program is 99%. This is due to the rigorous work of our faculty in continuously ensuring the program’s curriculum is at the most up to date standards of care and provides an education that is consistent with professional PA practice.

3. **Leadership:** Support a culture of leadership in the profession and the community, including becoming PA educators.
   a. Faculty hold leadership roles on State association with a past–president, treasurer, secretary, and regional representatives. As well as conference planning committee chairs. The Dean and Professor of PA Studies is the current president of the national Physician Assistant Education Association.
   b. Students hold leadership roles in the Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (as House of Delegate representatives), the Connecticut Academy of PAs, as well as university graduate council.
   c. The annual graduate survey has asked about leadership and about 35% of our alumni have responded yes to being in leadership roles, ranging from State PA association presidents, clinical leads, senior PAs, military officers, to boy scout leader, and fire chief.
4. **Admissions:** Recruit and retain qualified applicants from a variety of backgrounds and experiences.
   
   a. We are drawing students from a variety of professional backgrounds, age and ethnic backgrounds as well as geographic location
   
   b. For the traditionally admitted students for the class years of 2015 through 2017 (based on Application data and CASPA reports)
      
      i. Geographic draw: about 60% are from Northeast, with students enrolling form Alaska, California, Colorado, Utah, and a variety of other states
      
      ii. the average age has been 24-26 years,
      
      iii. there are 40% males to 60% females,
      
      iv. approximately 13% self-identify as a minority ethnicity,
      
      v. health care experience has varied, the top ones are; patient care technician, paramedic/EMT, respiratory therapy, nutritionist, nurses, physical therapists and athletic trainers.

5. **Post Graduate Practice:** Graduate physician assistants who practice in a variety of healthcare settings to meet workforce needs.
   
   a. The 2011 through 2016 program distributed graduate survey reports indicate that we have graduates working in almost every field and specialty of medicine, with about 30% in a primary care specialty. Although the number for each specialty varies from year to year, the distribution is comparable to the workforce needs for PAs.

**Contact Us:**
For additional information or questions not answered, please feel free to contact Kristin Parent, Senior Associate Director of Graduate Health Sciences Admission 203-582-3639 or via e-mail at PAadmissions@quinnipiac.edu.