



Physician Assistant Program

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Diversity is essential to the mission of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Physician Assistant (PA) Program. We place specific emphasis on educating culturally-humble professionals who are prepared to deliver comprehensive health care for populations and regions in need. Our Program recognizes that the very institutions established to educate, protect, and serve the people of this country have often adopted inequitable practices centered on whiteness, sexism, and ableism. As a community of faculty, staff, and students, we are committed to dismantling these inequities and establishing a learning environment in which every individual is an integral and valued member, regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, age, or disability. We endorse [the AAPA \(American Academy of PAs\) statement](#) on racism and [the AMA \(American Medical Association\)](#) and the [AAP \(American Academy of Pediatrics\) statements](#) on LGBTQIA (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual or Allied) care.

We also recognize that diversity, equity, and inclusion are not goals to be reached, but represent ideals for which we should always strive through efforts aimed at our continual improvement. In that spirit, the UW-Madison PA Program is committed to the following:

1. We will push students, staff, and faculty to decenter whiteness, sexism, and ableism.
2. We will ensure that our curriculum upholds antiracist values. We will challenge students, staff, and faculty to confront the historical context through which implicit and explicit beliefs, attitudes, and actions continue to perpetuate racial and social injustices.
3. We will create safer, more empowering spaces for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) students, LGBTQIA students, immigrant students, and students with disabilities.
4. We will foster a supportive and equitable learning environment that normalizes and streamlines accommodation processes for students living with conditions that may affect their physical and/or mental health.
5. We will actively recruit, admit, teach, and graduate students who are historically underrepresented in healthcare, including but not limited to: first-generation college students, veterans, and those from medically underserved areas, including rural and urban communities.
6. We will intentionally recruit and retain diverse faculty and staff.
7. We will foster an environment in which to develop humble, empathetic, thoughtful, and compassionate medical providers who can be future leaders in their communities.