

The Doctor of Medical Science (DMSc) is a one-year, fully online doctoral degree tailored for NCCPA-certified physician assistants through SIU School of Medicine. The DMSc prepares you for success in today's dynamic health care landscape, enhancing your readiness, adaptability, competitiveness and marketability.

Our program, developed by experienced, working PAs, offers flexible online learning and the choice of an education or clinical practicum. Gain expertise in health care leadership, education, research and innovation, with a focus on practical applications and ethical considerations. Benefit from a balanced blend of theory, research and hands-on experience in medical practice, education and leadership. We emphasize refinement of clinical skills and the development of advocacy skills, ensuring that when you graduate, you are well-rounded and prepared to make a significant impact in your respective field.

Program Highlights

- Fully online
- Terminal degree for NCCPA-Certified PAs
- Earn up to 37 Category 1 CME credits upon completion of the program
- Fully accredited
- Affordable, competitive tuition
- Average 8-12 hours of dedicated time per week for coursework
- Two practicum options: Clinical or Education
- Two start dates: Spring or Summer
- Choose one-year (full-time) or two-year (part-time) at the same cost
- Access to online resources
- Publication opportunities with *Scholarly Works*
- Dedicated faculty and staff
- PBL-based curriculum
- Goal-based practicum, designed to fit your needs
- Military and Veteran friendly
- Small class sizes



The SIU DMSc program was a great experience that extended my education beyond the clinical role of a PA. The program further refined my clinical practice with in-depth and self-directed topics focused on my current specialty. I am better positioned to advance my career in the clinical environment or transition into non-clinical roles.

Joshua, Reeves, DMSc, PA-C
Excellence in Scholarship Award recipient
Class of 2022



Accepting applications

APPLY TODAY!

siumed.edu/dmsc/apply



siumed.edu/dmsc

Fully online, one year
Earn up-to 37 Category 1 CME credits
Terminal degree for certified PAs

Contact us for more information

Doctor of Medical Science
SIU School of Medicine
300 West Oak Street | Carbondale, IL
DMSc@siu.edu | 618.453.5528

Southern Illinois University School of Medicine

DOCTOR OF MEDICAL SCIENCE



SIU MEDICINE
DOCTOR OF MEDICAL SCIENCE



Application requirements

If you are a graduate from an ARC-PA accredited PA Program, have a current NCCPA certification and hold a position in your field, you are eligible for the online SIU School of Medicine DMSc program. Visit our website for a complete checklist of application materials and requirements. siumed.edu/dmsc

Enrollment opportunities

- Spring starts in January. One-year (*full-time*) track
 - Clinical Practicum only
 - 5 units across three semesters, nine or ten weeks each
- Summer starts in May or June. One-year (*full-time*) track
 - Choice of Clinical or Education Practicum
 - 5 units across three semesters, nine or ten weeks each
- Summer starts in May or June. Two-year (*part-time*) track
 - Choice of Clinical or Education Practicum
 - 10 units across six semesters, nine or ten weeks each

Curriculum

Our courses are designed to enhance your skills and expertise, fostering leadership, advocacy and scholarship. We help bolster clinical skills and confidence in each learner and prioritize professional parity and empowerment, helping you to prepare and compete for administrative, managerial, medical officer, legislative and academic roles in ever-evolving health care industries.

The program includes five core courses, a longitudinal series focusing on scholarly project development and a practicum aligned with your clinical or educational role. Upon completion of all required components of the SIU School of Medicine DMSc degree, you will earn up-to 37 Category 1, AAPA-certified, CME credits. siumed.edu/dmsc-curriculum

Core Courses *(Required)*

510 Organizational Behavior and Leadership
Concentrates on the development, organization and maintenance of effective teams. Topics will include organizational change, roles, conflict, leadership styles and effective implementation strategies, with an emphasis on health care and educational organizations

520 Healthcare Administration
Concentrates on practical approaches to improving health care within an ethical framework and management style. Topics include identifying and reviewing existing literature; critically examining existing programs, policies and structures; addressing the needs of patients, staff, board members, policymakers and other stakeholders.

530 Healthcare Law
Introduction to the study of legal and policy issues in health care. The role of the PA within health care in the United States. Topics may include foundational and complex legal issues, leadership roles and professional relationships in the health care system, access issues, quality of health care and patient protections.

540 Global Health
Concentrates on key infectious diseases, determinants of health, delivery structures and the PA's role in global health strategies. Topics include acute and chronic disease, infectious disease, maternal/child health and the effects of poverty on health and cultural issues, as well as established international models and case studies.

550 Disaster Medicine
Provides an overview of the clinical aspects of disaster medicine and the role of PAs in disaster medicine. Topics include health issues, epidemiology and clinical research within disaster medicine, with emphasis on the leadership roles of PAs.

Scholarly Project *(Required)*

560 Evidence-Based Research and Performance Improvement in Clinical Practice
Concentrates on scientific research and performance improvement in medical practice. Topics include research design, methodology, ethics and critical appraisal of the medical literature, with an emphasis on process improvement and quality performance to achieve patient-centered clinical outcomes. You will develop the proposal of a scholarly project.

561 Evidence-Based Research and Scholarly Project I
Concentrates on evidence-based research as it applies to the scholarly project. Topics include project development, the proposal process, revisions and submission of their scholarly project proposal. Approval of project is accomplished prior to completion of the course. Emphasis of the scholarly project is on clinical practice, the PA profession or PA education.

562 Evidence-Based Research and Scholarly Project II
Concentrates on the application of concepts and methods from previous courses. Topics include synthesis of research, application of knowledge and writing for future publication or presentation at professional conferences as you develop and work on your scholarly project.

563 Evidence-Based Research and Scholarly Project III
Concentrates on finalizing the project for submission to the DMSc program. Topics include the requirements in content, research, format and relevancy of the scholarly project, as well as preparing the project for submission for publication in a professional journal or presentation at a professional conference.

Read samples of our students' published research completed during the program. siumed.edu/scholarlyworks

Practicum

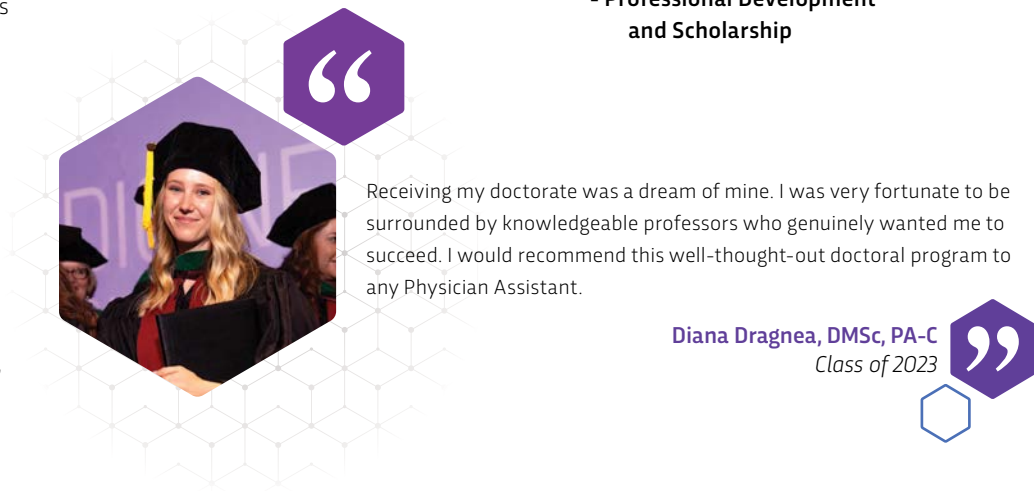
Select Clinical or Education practicum.

Clinical Track
This course series offers intensive clinical exposure in a chosen specialty to enhance clinical practice. You will apply advanced medical knowledge and achieve educational and professional milestones. The goal is to promote lifelong learning, foster a growth mindset, encourage workplace leadership and enhance PA autonomy. Didactic materials align with SIU School of Medicine mission and values and are relevant across all medical specialties.

- 571 Advanced Clinical Practicum I**
- 572 Advanced Clinical Practicum II**
- 573 Advanced Clinical Practicum III**
- 574 Advanced Clinical Practicum IV**

Educational Track *(Summer cohorts only)*
This course series offers faculty and clinical preceptor development. You will explore adult learning theories like problem-based learning, social cognitive theory, reflective practice and transformative learning to enhance student learning outcomes. Upon completion, you will summarize your progress, integrating learning theories, methods, student assessment, program evaluation and personal development as an academian throughout the practicum experiences.

- 581 PA Medical Education Practicum I - Learning Theories and Methodology**
- 582 PA Medical Education Practicum II - Student Assessment Essentials**
- 583 PA Medical Education Practicum III - Program Evaluation**
- 584 PA Medical Education Practicum IV - Professional Development and Scholarship**



Receiving my doctorate was a dream of mine. I was very fortunate to be surrounded by knowledgeable professors who genuinely wanted me to succeed. I would recommend this well-thought-out doctoral program to any Physician Assistant.

Diana Dragnea, DMSc, PA-C
Class of 2023

Tuition and Financial Aid

SIU offers affordable, competitive tuition. Those rates are the same no matter where you live. We accept most forms of financial aid, including external scholarships and military benefits. Find current rates and fees on the SIU DMSc website.

Financial Aid: fao.siu.edu | **Veterans Services:** veterans.siu.edu