



MURPHY DEMING  
COLLEGE OF  
HEALTH SCIENCES

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Owner Sarah Worman  
Area PA  
Sub-Areas PA Clinical  
Education

## Clinical Rotation Information

**Any printed copy of a policy is only valid for 24 hours.**

### Time Commitment

The clinical year is 12-months in length where students participate in seven core (Behavioral and Mental Health Care, Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Surgery, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Women's Health) and one elective rotation. The preceptors are physicians board-certified in their area of instruction, NCCPA board certified PAs, or other licensed health care providers qualified in their area of instruction and possessing a valid license to practice.

Each SCPEs is 6 weeks in length. The student will average, at a minimum, 240 hours across the rotation with hands-on patient care. Some clinical experiences may involve evenings, weekends, holidays and/or on-call responsibilities. The student will be oriented to the clinical site including the preceptor's schedule and student responsibilities at the clinical site. Students must not contact their preceptors greater than 7-10 days prior to the first day of their rotation.

If a minimum of 240 hours cannot be met across the rotation at a clinical site, it is the student's responsibility to notify the CPA and DCE at the beginning of the rotation by Friday, 8am of the first week. The communication should be by email (to CPA and DCE) so that additional arrangements can be made to ensure the student will meet the learning outcomes for that rotation. Students may be required to work during the winter break if the minimum hours cannot be met during any rotation.

### Clinical Rotation Scheduling

Clinical experiences are scheduled and arranged by the DCE and the CPA. Multiple factors are considered in establishing student sites including, but not limited to, the following:

- Quality of the learning experience that meets the program's learning outcomes

- Adherence to the mission, vision and goals of MSPA Program and the University
- Fulfillment of requirements outlined in the ARC-PA accreditation standards
- Preceptor availability
- Requirements of the preceptor and/or clinical site

In order to create a clinical site schedule (matrix), the students will complete a wish list in rank order for a site in Exxat. Once their wish list has been submitted, the DCE and CPA will review the auto-generated results and make it available to the students in Exxat.

There are times when the students' first or second choice may not happen due to multiple variables in creating the clinical year matrix. The Program understands the inconvenience and stresses these schedule changes may cause. We do our best to minimize these types of changes.

Circumstances arise which may necessitate a change in a student's schedule with short notice. There are numerous factors affecting changes such as the requests by the preceptor to change the date, cancel the placement, preceptor vacations, etc. These circumstances may require the rearrangement of a student's schedule to accommodate the site but also to ensure the student receives the experiences required to meet the program's learning outcomes and graduation expectations.

Students are expected to be flexible and professional.

## Student Suggestions

The Program is committed to developing new relationships with quality preceptors and clinical sites. At no time is the student (or their agents) required to solicit clinical sites or preceptors. Students may suggest potential opportunities when requested by the DCE. These suggestions will be reviewed, evaluated and approved for educational suitability. At no time may the student reach out to current preceptors or potential preceptors to arrange a rotation.

Students are permitted external rotations during the clinical year. An external rotation is one that is suggested by the student and not already engaged by the Program. This type of rotation must meet the learning outcomes of the Program. External rotations may be canceled at any point due to not meeting the required learning outcomes.

## Site Visits

It is the goal of the program to monitor the student's progress by visiting the student and/or site while on clinical rotations at least once per clinical year either in person or virtually. Site visits enable the program to assist the student's progress to discuss student progress with the preceptor and to ensure a safe and acceptable learning environment.

Site visits may be scheduled or unscheduled. The DCE may also contact the site at any time by telephone or email to check on a student's progress. Based upon the information gathered the preceptor, the program may take appropriate action when a student is lacking in any area which questions the ability of the student to appropriately function as a PA student.

## Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
ADAA Confirmation	Sue Stevens: Senior Associate Dean	07/2022
Program Faculty Approval (by vote)	Barry Diduch: Faculty - PA Program	06/2022
	Sarah Worman: Faculty - Director of Clinical Education - PA Prog	08/2021

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