

PAS Program Student Criminal Background Screening Policy

1. A criminal background check is required for scheduling clinical placements and by most health systems as defined in the GVSU Health Compliance Policy.
2. Students may be required to obtain require repeat drug testing immediately before or during the clinical year.
3. Criminal background screening results(s) are maintained in the student's health compliance account in Viewpoint.
4. The cost of all screenings is the responsibility of the student.
5. A non-negative criminal background check may affect a student's ability to be placed at clinical sites and successfully meet program requirements. Non-negative criminal background screens will be handled according to the GVSU Health Compliance Policy.
6. A non-negative criminal background check may affect a student's ability to obtain state licensure upon graduation. The application for Michigan State licensure as a PA asks questions about the following: (a) felony conviction, (b) misdemeanor conviction punishable by imprisonment for a maximum term of two years, OR a misdemeanor involving the illegal delivery, possession, or use of alcohol or a controlled substance. If applicants answer "yes" to either of these questions, applicants must submit a written explanation as to what took place, including the date(s) of occurrence(s), court documents, and documentation which shows at the current time you have the ability to and are likely to, serve the public in a fair, honest, and open manner, that you are rehabilitated, or that the substance of the former offense is not reasonably related to the occupation or profession for which you are seeking a license. The State Licensing Board of Physician Assistants may refuse to grant a PA license to the applicant. Before beginning the PAS program at GVSU, a student concerned about licensure may contact the State Licensing Board to clarify the policy and pre-certification of moral fitness.
7. All students are required to notify the Health Compliance Office of any convictions, arrests, charges, or investigations by any law enforcement authorities that occur after the initial criminal background check is completed before entering a hospital or medical facility. If a student does not disclose information, it may result in immediate dismissal from the program. The Health Compliance Office will notify the PAS Program and the Dean of the College of Health Professions if known additional criminal investigations occur. Subsequent criminal background checks may be required.