

ADVANCE

A NOVA | MASON PARTNERSHIP

A.A.S. Physical Therapist Assistant /
B.A.S. Health, Wellness, and Social
Services Pathway
2025-2026

A.A.S. Physical Therapist Assistant

ADVANCE Program Milestones

ADVANCE Milestone Requirements: All ADVANCE students must adhere to the following requirements. For Milestones #1-#3, failure to meet these milestones will prevent a student from matriculating to Mason and/or result in termination from ADVANCE. For Milestones #4-#7, failure to meet these milestones may delay matriculation to Mason.

1. Students must graduate with the NOVA degree aligned with their ADVANCE academic pathway within 4 years of being admitted into ADVANCE. Students are highly encouraged to be continuously enrolled at NOVA/Mason to support progress towards degree completion.
2. Students must maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA at NOVA and must have a minimum 2.5 GPA upon matriculation to Mason.
3. Students who wish to enroll at Mason for the fall semester must apply for NOVA spring graduation by March 1 or summer graduation by June 1. Students who wish to enroll at Mason for the spring semester must apply for NOVA fall graduation by October 1.
4. Students must begin developmental coursework no later than the first semester in ADVANCE at NOVA.
5. Students must take first college-level MTH course and ENG 111 in the semester immediately following the completion of any MDE or EDE courses (excluding summer).
6. In the first 30 credits, students must complete ENG 111 and ENG 112 with a C or better.
7. Students must complete a college level math course with a C or better no later than one semester before NOVA graduation. Refer to your pathway to select the appropriate MTH course(s).

The A.A.S. Physical Therapist Assistant program has additional requirements for admission, including completion of BIO 145 (or BIO 141 & BIO 142, or NAS 150 if previously completed); HLT 141; and ENG 111 with a B or better. Please view the NOVA catalog for completion admission requirements (<http://www.nvcc.edu/catalog/index.html>). Admission into this program is not guaranteed, but is required to complete this pathway. Students should meet with a NOVA advisor before joining ADVANCE to help understand the admissions requirements. Students must be program placed in the A.S. Health Sciences while completing pre-requisites for the A.A.S. Physical Therapist Assistant degree.

ADVANCE Program-Specific Requirements:

BAS degrees are designed for adult learners who have some work experience in their field of choice. Further, BAS degrees are considered terminal degrees, which means they may not lead to advanced study in master's degree or doctoral programs.

General Note: If English is not your first language or you have completed ESL coursework, you must complete ENG 111 and ENG 112 prior to matriculating to George Mason University to meet the English Language Proficiency requirement. Please reach out to ADVANCE Admissions early if you have any questions about this requirement: advance@gmu.edu.

	NOVA DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Courses	MASON TRANSFER EQUIVALENT	MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
1	SDV Course	1	SDV 100 College Success Skills OR SDV 101 Orientation to Healthcare	UNIV 100	General Elective
2	ENG 111	3	ENG 111 College Composition I ¹	ENGH XXX	General Elective
3	HLT 141	1	HLT 141 Introduction to Medical Terminology	BAS XXX	General Elective
4	BIO 145	4	BIO 145 Basic Human Anatomy and Physiology (<i>or</i> BIO 141/142)	BAS XXX	General Elective
5	PTH 105	3	PTH 105 Introduction to Physical Therapy	BAS XXX	General Elective
6	PTH 121	5	PTH 121 Therapeutic Procedures I	BAS XXX	General Elective
7	PTH 151	5	PTH 151 Musculoskeletal Structure and Function	ATEP L300	General Elective
8	PSY 200	3	PSY 200 Principles of Psychology	PSYC 100	Soc/Behav
9	PTH 115	5	PTH 115 Kinesiology for the Physical Therapist Assistant	BAS XXX	General Elective
10	PTH 122	5	PTH 122 Therapeutic Procedures II	BAS XXX	General Elective
11	MTH Course	3	MTH 154 Quantitative Reasoning	MATH 106	Quantitative
12	PTH 131	3	PTH 131 Clinical Education I	BAS XXX	General Elective

13	Humanities/Fine Arts	3	ART 100 Art Appreciation OR ART 101 History of Art: Prehistoric to Gothic OR ART 102 History of Art: Renaissance to Modern OR CST 130 Introduction to Theatre OR CST 151 Film Appreciation I OR MUS 121 Music in Society	ARTH 101 ARTH 200 ARTH 201 THR 101 ENGH L372 MUSI 101	Arts
14	PTH 225	5	PTH 225 Rehabilitation Procedures	BAS XXX	General Elective
15	PTH 231	5	PTH 231 Clinical Education II	BAS XXX	General Elective
16	PTH 210	2	PTH 210 Psychological Aspects of Therapy	BAS XXX	General Elective
17	PTH 227	3	PTH 227 Pathological Conditions	BAS XXX	General Elective
18	PTH 232	5	PTH 232 Clinical Education III	BAS XXX	General Elective
19	PTH 245	3	PTH 245 Professional Issues	BAS XXX	General Elective

A.A.S. P.T.A. DEGREE TOTAL 67

For academic policies and procedures, please see NOVA catalog - <http://www.nvcc.edu/catalog/index.html>

B.A.S. Applied Science - Health, Wellness, and Social Services Concentration

	MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Course	MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
20	Gen Ed: Written Communication (Lower-level)	3	ENGH 101 Composition ¹	Written Comm
21	Core Requirements	3	BAS 300 Building Professional Competencies	Major
22	Core Requirements	3	SOCW 200 Introduction to Social Work	Major
23	Core Requirements and Gen Ed: Global Contexts	3	GCH 205 Global Health	Major & Global Contexts
24	Gen Ed: Literature	3	Approved Literature Course ²	Literature
25	Gen Ed: Oral Communication	3	Approved Oral Communication Course ²	Oral Comm
26	Additional Concentration Requirements	3	Additional Concentration Requirement (Upper-level) ³	Major
27	Core Requirements	3	NURS 434 Vulnerable Populations	Major
28	General Elective	3	Upper-level General Elective ⁴	General Elective
29	Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper Level)	3	ENGH 302 Advanced Composition	Written Comm
30	Gen Ed: Natural Lab Science	4	Approved Natural Lab Science course ²	Nat Science
31	Additional Concentration Requirements	3	Additional Concentration Requirement (Upper-level) ³	Major
32	General Elective	3	Upper-level General Elective ⁴	General Elective
33	Additional Concentration Requirements	3	Additional Concentration Requirement ³	Major
34	Gen Ed: Natural Science (non-lab)	3	Approved Natural Science Non-Lab Course (Upper-level) ²	Nat Science
35	Core Requirements	3	BAS 490 Introduction to Research Methods	Major
36	Gen Ed: Global History	3	Approved Global History Course ²	Global History
37	General Elective	3	Upper-level General Elective ⁴	General Elective
38	Gen Ed: Information Technology	3	Approved Information Technology Course (Upper-level) ²	Info Tech
39	General Elective	3	Upper-level General Elective ⁴	General Elective
40	General Elective	3	Upper-level General Elective ⁴	General Elective
41	General Elective	3	Additional Concentration Requirement/General Elective (Upper-level) ³	Major or General Elective
42	Core Requirements/Apex	3	BAS 491 Applied Sciences Capstone	Apex

Important Academic Information:

¹Students who complete ENG 111 after Spring 2024 will earn ENGH elective for ENG 111 and ENGH 101 for ENG 112. Students completing ENG 111 after Spring 2024 must take ENGH 101 at Mason, unless ENG 112 is completed at NOVA. Students may opt to attempt the ENGH 101 waiver by exam. Students should attempt the exam, if possible, before their first term of enrollment at Mason, and no later than the first term. Please note: exam availability is limited to specific dates and delaying the completion of ENGH 101 can delay students' Mason graduation timeline. For more information, visit:

<https://composition.gmu.edu/waivers/engh-101>

²For approved Mason Core courses, please visit - <https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/> .

³For approved Additional Concentration Requirements, please visit -

<https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/interdisciplinary-programs-courses/applied-science-bas/#requirementstext>

⁴Upper-level electives must be selected in consultation with an advisor.

Additional General Notes & Resources:

- If English is not your first language or you have completed ESL coursework, you must complete ENG 111 and ENG 112 prior to matriculating to George Mason University to meet the English Language Proficiency requirement.
- For academic policies and procedures, please see Mason catalog - <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/>
- Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation.