Course Requirements

Applicants must have completed a baccalaureate degree plus required prerequisite courses and documented shadowing experience as follows:

Prerequisite Courses:
Take the following required courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 111+112+113</td>
<td>Biological Foundations</td>
<td>5+5+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 111+112+113</td>
<td>General Chemistry</td>
<td>5+5+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 371+372+373</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry</td>
<td>4+4+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 481+482+L</td>
<td>Biochemistry I, II, Lab</td>
<td>4+4+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 101+102</td>
<td>College English I, II</td>
<td>4+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 106</td>
<td>College Algebra</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICR 134</td>
<td>General Microbiology</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following course is not required, but it is recommended:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 223</td>
<td>Medical Terminology (2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shadowing:
The student must complete a surgical shadowing experience with a practicing Pathologists’ Assistant or have applicable work experience in Surgical or Autopsy Pathology. An essay regarding this experience is required as part of the application packet. There are no set number of hours in which applicants need to shadow. The student must gain enough knowledge to articulate in writing (on the application) and verbally (if invited for an interview) the shadowing experience and the duties of a Pathologists’ Assistant in a typical working day.

Occupational Information

General Areas of Service
Pathologists’ Assistants (PAs) are mid-level medical providers (analogous to a Physician’s Assistant) working in the surgical and autopsy divisions of the Pathology Department under the supervision of a medical doctor, usually a Pathologist.

In addition to clinical duties, PAs are also trained for management of the laboratory, tissue banking, teaching at the college/university level, and research presentation.

Professional Training
The Pathologists’ Assistant program at Loma Linda University is a full-time, two year Master’s degree. The first year is didactic, with some exposure to the gross room and autopsy suite procedures, and frozen section training. The second year consists of clinical rotations and a comprehensive review course which prepares the student for the national certification examination.

Applicants must have completed a baccalaureate degree plus required prerequisite courses. A baccalaureate degree in any field is acceptable. Applicants should be able to document surgical shadowing experience with a practicing Pathologists’ Assistant or have applicable work experience in Surgical or Autopsy Pathology. A minimum overall and science G.P.A. of 3.0 (Letter Grade of B) is required.

Applicants will be reviewed based on a variety of criteria, including undergraduate GPA, interview summary, references, and essay/shadowing statement.

It is strongly recommended that PUC students contact LLU directly early in their pre-PA program to ensure adequate preparation.
For More Information

Vicki Saunders, Pre-Allied Health Advisor
Nursing and Health Sciences Department
Pacific Union College
One Angwin Avenue, Angwin, CA 94508
Phone: (707) 965-7632
Website: www.puc.edu/nursing
E-mail: vasaunders@puc.edu

Pathologists' Assistant Program
Department of Pathology, School of Medicine
Suite 327 Alumni Hall of Basic Science, 11021 Campus St
Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA 92350
(909) 558-8095
http://www.llu.edu/medicine/pathologists-assistant/

To apply online go to: www.caspaonline.org

Note: Admission requirements are subject to change each year.