**How many students do you accept each year?**

The program is accredited to enroll a total of 56 students. This includes the first year (Didactic) and second year (Clinical). Based upon current enrollment, the program will enroll 24 students fall 2014.

**What is the ARC-PA?**

The Accreditation Review Commission on the Education of Physician Assistants (ARC-PA) is an accrediting agency that protects the interests of the public and physician assistant profession by defining the standards for physician assistant education and evaluating physician assistant educational programs within the territorial United States to ensure their compliance with those standards.

**What is the purpose of the ARC-PA?**

To ensure that excellence and quality are maintained in all PA educational programs.

**Is a program that is on probation—still considered to be accredited?**

Yes. However, probationary status indicates that the program has areas that were not in compliance with the standards. The program is given an opportunity to address the areas of deficiency and will usually be re-visited by ARC-PA in a shorter time span to ensure that the areas of deficiency have been resolved. Once the deficiencies have been resolved, and the Program is in compliance with the standards, the ARC-PA may award “continued accreditation.”

**If I graduate from a program that is on probation, will I still be eligible to take the Physician Assistant National Certification Examination (PANCE)?**

Students who graduate from an accredited program are eligible to apply for the PANCE. Probationary status does not indicate a loss of accreditation or that accreditation has been withdrawn.

**If I graduate from a program that is on probation, will I be able to be licensed in California?**

Yes, you will be eligible for licensing. The minimum qualifications for licensing in the state of California are as follows:

1. Graduate from an accredited program
2. Successfully pass the PANCE
3. Pay all of the required application fees
4. Successfully pass a forensic background check
Can students transfer if their program is on probation?

At this time the majority of PA programs do not accept transfer students. Students would be considered as a “regular” applicant and would have to complete the application process like all other students. There are no special exceptions for students who wish to enter another program.

If I graduate from a program that is on probation, will I still be able to get a job?

Historically, employment has been based on passing the PANCE, gaining state licensure, and demonstrating satisfactory academic and clinical performance in the program. Most credentialing agencies are more concerned with a graduate’s individual, interpersonal and clinical skills, as well as fundamentals of medical knowledge.

What is the Program doing to address the areas of non-compliance?

The College President, Dr. Sandra Mayo, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Robin Steinback, and Program Medical Director, Dr. Daniel Kim and the Physician Assistant Program Director, Dr. Rosslynn Byous and Program faculty and staff take accreditation very seriously. The program has a strong history of preparing highly trained, competent practitioners. They are committed to providing all applicants and enrolled students with the best educational experience. The areas of non-compliance have been reviewed and addressed. A written response was submitted to the ARC-PA July 1, 2013. The response was received favorably.