



South University, Savannah Physician Assistant Program Goals

1. The program aims to foster a culture of inclusivity and equity for students, faculty, and staff by means of education and resources.

Method of Assessment:

- DEIB Survey
- Graduate Exit Survey
- Faculty and Staff Resources Survey

Benchmark:

- 3.5/5.0 or greater on a 5-point Likert scale

2024 Success in Achieving Goal:

The South University Savannah PA Program was not successful in meeting goal #1 in that only three of the four assessment items for culture of inclusivity and equity met the benchmark.

Culture of Inclusivity and Equity by Means of Education and Resources

	Instrument	Score (Overall Mean)
Faculty/Staff Perception	DEIB Survey	4.23/5.00 (RR 88.24%)
	Faculty and Staff Resource Survey	3.94/5.00 (RR 94.12%)
Student Perception	DEIB Survey	3.93/5.00 (RR 26.62%)
	Graduate Exit Survey (CO 2024)	3.25/5.00 (RR 80.00%)

2. The program will strive to adequately prepare graduating students to achieve a first-time pass rate that exceeds the national average upon completion of the Physician Assistant National Certification Examination (PANCE).

Method of Assessment:

- Cohort first-time pass rate compared to the NCCPA published national pass rate
- Evaluation of Curricular Content Survey (faculty perception of effective preparedness for PANCE)
- Graduate Exit Survey (student perception of effective preparedness for PANCE)

Benchmark:

- Pass rate greater than the national average as published by NCCPA
- 3.5/5.0 or greater on a 5-point Likert scale

2024 Success in Achieving Goal:

The program was successful in meeting goal #2.



PANCE First-Time Pass Rate

Cohort	Cohort First-Time Pass Rate	National First-Time Pass Rate
Class of 2024	99%	92%

PANCE Preparedness

	Instrument	Score (Overall Mean)
Faculty Perception	Evaluation of Curricular Content	3.78/5.00 (RR 85.71%)
Student Perception	Graduate Exit Survey (CO 2024)	4.02/5.00 (RR 80.00%)

3. The program will provide opportunities for local community service and outreach that foster a commitment to reducing health disparities.

Method of Assessment:

- Graduate Exit Survey (community service related questions)
- The program will provide a minimum of two community service/outreach opportunities for faculty, staff, and students annually

Benchmark:

- 3.5/5.0 or greater on a 5-point Likert scale
- Two or more community service/outreach events to be detailed by the program

2024 Success in Achieving Goal:

The program was successful in meeting goal #3.

Opportunities for Community Service and Outreach

	Instrument	Score (Overall Mean)
Student Perception	Graduate Exit Survey (CO 2024)	4.09/5.00 (RR 80.00%)
Number of Student Community Service Opportunities in 2024		2

In 2024, the South University Savannah Physician Assistant Program engaged in community service and outreach demonstrating a commitment to reducing health disparities by participating in the following events:

- High School Student Scrubs Camp and Parent Information Session
- Capstone projects with local community partnerships based on Healthy People 2030 initiatives

Scrubs Camp and Parent Information Session

The Scrubs Camp and Parent Information Session allows high school students (sophomores, juniors and seniors) the opportunity to select three 50-minute sessions to further explore potential career options in healthcare. These sessions include hands on



activities in the various campus-based skills and simulation labs. Programs participating in this program include: Undergraduate Nursing (BSN), Medical Assisting (AS), Physical Therapy Assistant (AS), Physician Assistant (MSPA), Anesthesia Science (MMSc) and Pharmacy (PharmD). The Physician Assistant Program faculty and students collaborate to deliver a 50-minute instructional module and demonstration on bedside ultrasound. This includes the opportunity for students attending the scrubs camp to perform basic ultrasound scans.

In addition to student involvement, parents have the opportunity to meet with program and university representatives to learn more about potential careers for their children in the healthcare field.

Capstone: Community Outreach Project

The South University, Savannah Capstone is a multi-component group project aimed at enhancing public health awareness, developing leadership among physician assistants, and advancing evidence-based medicine through mission-driven collaboration. The project is designed to integrate Healthy People 2030 and is intended for students to address real-world health challenges and drive impactful changes in the community. Throughout this project, students build leadership skills for developing high-performance teams through research, design, and establishing a performance improvement initiative addressing their chosen topic. Development of the intervention/project requires research on a health promotion or disease prevention topic in alignment with objectives from Healthy People 2030. This project has enabled students to also interact with local community healthcare partners with initiatives for community outreach that align with our program mission and vision. Some of our local community partners for these projects have included: American Red Cross, Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia, Faith Equestrian Therapeutic Center, Charlton County School System, Safe Haven, Union Mission, Live Oak Libraries, Anderson Cohen Weightlifting Center, Performance Initiatives, Look It Up Savannah, Lazaderm, and Crunch Fitness.