

Division of Physician Assistant Studies

Student Employment Policy

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to outline the program's policy regarding student employment while enrolled in the physician assistant education program at West Virginia University.

Policy Statement:

The WVU physician assistant studies program is a full-time obligation and students are strongly discouraged from seeking outside employment while enrolled. Attendance is mandatory for all scheduled academic activities (classes, labs, clinical experiences, and interprofessional education sessions). Employment responsibilities cannot be used to justify absences or problems with academic performance.

Students in the physician assistant studies program are not permitted to work in any capacity for the program and may not substitute for or function as instructional or clinical faculty or staff.

During supervised clinical practice experiences, students are not permitted to substitute for clinical or administrative staff. **Students who are asked to perform duties which they believe are outside of the clinical learning experience must notify the Director of Clinical Education immediately.**

Students with specific prior knowledge, experiences, and/or skills may volunteer to share their knowledge and skills during classroom or laboratory sessions. No student will be allowed, however, to provide formal instruction or to participate in summative evaluation of students in the physician assistant studies program. Students are not permitted to be the primary instructor or instructor of record for any component of the physician assistant studies curriculum.

Applicable 5th Edition ARC-PA Standards

A3.02 The program must define, publish, make readily available and consistently apply its policies and practices to all students.

A3.04 The program must define, publish, make readily available and consistently apply a policy that PA students must not be required to work for the program.

A3.05 The program must define, publish, make readily available and consistently apply a policy that PA students must not substitute for or function as:

- a) instructional faculty and
- b) clinical or administrative staff.

Approved: November 2019
Revised: October 5, 2021
Next Review: October 2022