

Towson University Physician Assistant Program

Program Goal One & Benchmarks

Goal 1 — The program will develop competent entry-level PAs with strong medical knowledge, clinical skills, and professionalism

Mission Alignment: *Resilient, practice-ready graduates.*

ARC-PA 6th Standards: B1.01; B2.01–B2.11; B4.01–B4.03

BENCHMARKS

MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE

- 100% of each cohort with $\geq 80\%$ average on faculty-developed didactic comprehensive exams.
- 100% of each cohort score ≥ -1.0 z-score on the PAEA End-of-Curriculum (EOC)
- 100% of each cohort End-of-rotation (EOR) exam mean ≥ -1.0 z-score on five of the seven EOR exams.
- Cohort mean preceptor evaluation on Medical Knowledge $\geq 3.5/5$ for all SCPEs.

Didactic Comprehensive Exam Performance (Class of 2023, 2024, 2025 combined)

Total Exams Reviewed	119
Exams with Avg $>80\%$	110
Exams with Avg $\leq 80\%$	9
Percent Meeting Benchmark	92.4%

The program did not meet this medical knowledge benchmark. Although 92.4% of exams met or exceeded the $\geq 80\%$ threshold, the requirement that 100% of exams meet this standard was not achieved. Targeted review of courses with lower performance is warranted to ensure full alignment with program expectations.

Didactic Comprehensive Exam Performance By Cohort

Cohort	Total Exams	Avg >80%	Avg ≤80%	% Meeting Benchmark
Class of 2023	40	37	3	92.5%
Class of 2024	39	36	3	92.3%
Class of 2025	40	37	3	92.5%
Total	119	110	9	92.4%

End Of Curriculum Exam (EOC) Performance Benchmarking

Class of 2023 All cohorts demonstrated strong performance, with over 92% of exams meeting or exceeding the ≥80% threshold. However, each cohort had exams with average scores ≤80%, and therefore none achieved the required 100% benchmark.

Metric	Value
Student Group Count	30
Program Mean Score	1499
Program Standard Deviation	48
National Mean Score	1519
National Standard Deviation	52
% of Students Within –1 Z-score of National Mean	73%

The program did not meet this medical knowledge benchmark. Although 73% of exams met or exceeded the ≥ –1.0 z-score benchmark, the requirement that 100% of exams meet this standard was not achieved. It should be noted that the cohort scored a first time PANCE pass rate of 93%, which exceeded the national average of 92%. Targeted review of courses with lower performance is warranted to ensure full alignment with program expectations.

Class of 2024

Metric	Value
Student Group Count	30
Program Mean Score	1513
Program Standard Deviation	50
National Mean Score	1516
National Standard Deviation	46
% of Students Within -1 Z-score of National Mean	83%

The program did not meet this medical knowledge benchmark. Although 83% of exams met or exceeded the ≥ -1.0 z-score benchmark, the requirement that 100% of exams meet this standard was not achieved. It should be noted that the cohort scored a first time PANCE pass rate of 90%, which was 2% below the national average of 92%. Targeted review of courses with lower performance is warranted to ensure full alignment with program expectations.

Class of 2025

Metric	Value
Student Group Count	20
Program Mean Score	1523
Program Standard Deviation	43
National Mean Score	1516
National Standard Deviation	46
% of Students Within -1 Z-Score of National Mean	85%

The program did not meet this medical knowledge benchmark. Although 85% of exams met or exceeded the ≥ -1.0 z-score benchmark, the requirement that 100% of exams meet this standard was not achieved. It should be noted that the cohort scored a first time PANCE pass rate of 95%, which exceeded the national average of 91%. Targeted review of courses with lower performance is warranted to ensure full alignment with program expectations.

End of Rotation (EOR) Performance

Class of 2024

Exam	Program Mean	National Mean	National SD	-1 SD Cutoff
Emergency Medicine	413	414	24	390
Family Medicine	415	411	27	384
General Surgery	422	414	26	388
Internal Medicine	414	414	25	389
Pediatrics	423	417	26	391
Psychiatry & Behavioral Health	416	413	23	390
Women's Health	415	408	22	386

The program met this medical knowledge benchmark. The cohort met or exceeded the ≥ -1.0 z-score benchmark for 7/7 EORs, exceeding the 5/7 benchmark. It should be noted that the cohort scored a first time PANCE pass rate of 93%, which exceeded the national average of 92%.

Class of 2025

Exam	Program Mean	National Mean	National SD	-1 SD Cutoff
Emergency Medicine	411	414	24	390
Family Medicine	418	411	27	384
General Surgery	411	414	26	388
Internal Medicine	415	414	25	389
Pediatrics	428	417	26	391
Psychiatry & Behavioral Health	418	413	23	390
Women's Health	411	408	22	386

The program met this medical knowledge benchmark. The cohort met or exceeded the ≥ -1.0 z-score benchmark for 7/7 EORs, exceeding the 5/7 benchmark. It should be noted that the cohort scored a first time PANCE pass rate of 90%, which was 2% below the national average of 92%

2026 YTD

Exam	Program Mean	National Mean	National SD	-1 Z-Score Cutoff
Emergency Medicine	409	414	24	390
Family Medicine	395	411	27	384
Internal Medicine	397	414	25	389
Pediatrics	409	417	26	391
Psychiatry & Behavioral Health	402	413	23	390
Surgery	410	411	19	392
Women's Health	419	408	22	386

The program met this medical knowledge benchmark. The cohort met or exceeded the ≥ -1.0 z-score benchmark for 7/7 EORs, exceeding the 5/7 benchmark. At this time, the cohort is currently taking PANCE and the first time PANCE pass rate should be available by October 1, 2026.

Cohort Mean Preceptor Evaluation on Medical Knowledge

Year	Surg	IM	FM	WH	EM	Peds	BH	Elect	% $\geq 3.5/5$ for all SCPEs
2023	4.26	4.45	4.70	4.49	4.69	4.35	4.61	4.60	100%
2024	4.43	4.70	4.77	4.46	4.69	4.86	4.92	4.67	100%
2025	4.58	4.63	4.73	4.65	4.70	4.75	5.00	4.85	100%

The program met the benchmark that each cohort will achieve a mean preceptor evaluation on Medical Knowledge $\geq 3.5/5$ for all SCPEs.

CLINICAL SKILLS

- Summative OSCE first-time pass rate $\geq 80\%$.
- Summative Technical skills first-time pass rate $\geq 80\%$.
- Cohort mean preceptor evaluation on Clinical and Technical Skills for all SCPEs $\geq 3.5/5$.

Summative OSCE First Time Pass Rate Performance

Cohort	Number of Students	First-Time Pass Rate (%)	Benchmark
Class of 2024	30	100%	$\geq 80\%$
Class of 2025	20	95%	$\geq 80\%$
Class of 2026	17	TBD	$\geq 80\%$

The program met the benchmark that each cohort will achieve a Summative OSCE first-time pass rate $\geq 80\%$.

Summative Technical Skills First Time Pass Rate Performance

Cohort	Number of Students	First-Time Pass Rate (%)	Benchmark ($\geq 80\%$)
Class of 2025	20	100%	80%
Class of 2026	17	TBD	80%

The program met the benchmark that each cohort (where data was reported) will achieve a Summative Technical skills first-time pass rate $\geq 80\%$.

Cohort Mean Preceptor Evaluation on Clinical and Technical Skills 5

Year	Surg	IM	FM	WH	EM	Peds	BH	Elect	% $\geq 3./5$ for all SCPEs
2023	4.61	4.53	4.94	4.78	4.86	4.75	4.95	4.51	100%
2024	4.61	4.78	4.89	4.52	4.81	4.84	4.96	4.68	100%
2025	4.48	4.74	4.86	4.70	4.78	4.84	5.00	4.84	100%

The program met the benchmark that each cohort will achieve a Cohort mean preceptor evaluation on Clinical and Technical Skills for all SCPEs $\geq 3.5/5$.

PROFESSIONALISM

- Cohort mean preceptor evaluation for professionalism $\geq 3.5/5$ for all SCPEs.
- $\geq 80\%$ cohort average on professionalism assessments in didactic and clinical courses (the program started collecting this data for the class of 2027 and will be first reported September 2027).

Cohort Mean Preceptor Evaluation on Professionalism

Year	Surg	IM	FM	WH	EM	Peds	BH	Elect	% $\geq 3.5/5$ for all SCPEs
2023	4.76	4.82	5.00	4.98	4.98	4.97	4.97	4.90	100%
2024	4.86	4.94	4.96	4.85	4.97	4.96	4.99	4.94	100%
2025	4.80	4.95	5.00	4.91	4.97	4.99	5.00	4.93	100%

The program met the benchmark that each cohort will achieve a Cohort mean preceptor evaluation for professionalism $\geq 3.5/5$ for all SCPEs.