



*Accreditation Review Commission on Education
for the Physician Assistant, Inc.*

April 7, 2023 – REVISED CLASS SIZE INFORMATION

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David A. Forstein, DO
President
Rocky Vista University
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Dear Dr. Forstein:

The **Rocky Vista University Physician Assistant Program** has been granted **Accreditation-Continued** status by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (“ARC-PA” or the “commission”). This decision is based on the program application and appendices, the report of the site visit team, the program’s response to the site visit team’s observations and the program’s accreditation history.

The ARC-PA noted **one (1)** area of noncompliance with the *Accreditation Standards for Physician Assistant Education* (5th edition) (the “Standards”). Please see the companion Word document for the complete commission report and requested response. Failure to submit a response may result in reconsideration of the program’s accreditation status.

The date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA will be **March 2033**. The review date is contingent upon continued compliance with the *Standards* and ARC-PA policy. The ARC-PA reserves the right to adjust the date or schedule.

The next validation review, although ten years out, comes with accreditation requirements along the way, including periodic compliance reporting to the ARC-PA. Failure to remain in compliance with the *Standards* at any time may be cause for an adverse accreditation action to be taken by the commission.

The program will be contacted by the ARC-PA in advance of the validation visit review regarding details of the application and site visit.

Please note that the approved maximum entering class size is **36**. The program demonstrated its ability to secure sufficient supervised clinical practice experiences for the currently enrolled students and must continue to demonstrate sufficient supervised clinical practice experiences for all enrolled clinical

Collaborating Organizations: American Academy of Family Physicians • American Academy of Pediatrics • American Academy of Physician Associates • American College of Physicians • American College of Surgeons • American Medical Association • Physician Assistant Education Association
Member: Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA)
Recognized by: Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)

students up to the maximum class size. The program is not to exceed that maximum entering class size number for any reason during its next and subsequent admission cycles without prior approval from the ARC-PA for a class size increase.

The ARC-PA will not consider a request for an increase in maximum entering class size until a program has maintained two years of Accreditation-Continued status after completing the provisional process. If such a request is approved by the commission, the commission will not consider an application to increase class size for four years after the most recent increase, and unless the program has maintained Accreditation-Continued status without an adverse accreditation action throughout the entire period.

The ARC-PA will not consider an application for expansion to a distant campus from a program holding the status of Accreditation-Continued until the program has maintained five consecutive years of that status. A program must have outcomes from the first cohort of students at any distant campus before applying to expand to another distant campus.

To communicate the program's accreditation status in all printed and electronic media, the program and institution must use the following statement **exactly** as written. Any accreditation statements used in the past must be replaced with this language.

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA) has granted **Accreditation-Continued** status to the **Rocky Vista University Physician Assistant Program** sponsored by **Rocky Vista University**. Accreditation-Continued is an accreditation status granted when a currently accredited program is in compliance with the ARC-PA *Standards*.

Accreditation remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the *Standards*. The approximate date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA will be **March 2033**. The review date is contingent upon continued compliance with the Accreditation *Standards* and ARC-PA policy.

The program's accreditation history can be viewed on the ARC-PA website at <https://www.arc-pa.org/accreditation-history-rocky-vista-university/>.

As a reminder, any program with a PANCE pass rate percentage of 85% or less must submit an analysis of its PANCE performance to the ARC-PA within six months of providing this data within the Program Management Portal or by July 1 the year following that cohort's completion, whichever is sooner. The form for reporting PANCE results is available at <http://www.arc-pa.org/resources/program-change-forms/>. Additionally, 5th edition standard A3.12c states that programs must post the most current annual NCCPA PANCE Exam Performance Summary Report Last 5 Years no later than April 1 each year.

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The ARC-PA appreciates the commitment and dedication to quality PA education demonstrated by your participation in the accreditation process. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Sharon Luke, EdD, PA-C
Executive Director

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