1. **What does it mean if you are selected for PA Fast Track?**

If you are chosen by the University of Charleston Physician Assistant Program (UCPAP) faculty as a PA Fast Track, you have a seat reserved for you in the UCPAP, provided that you meet the standards set forth in your acceptance letter prior to your chosen matriculation date.

2. **When is the $500 deposit due if selected for the PA Fast Track?**

Your $500 non-refundable deposit is due within 14 days after you activate your PA Fast Track account on the UCPAP portal. The link to activate your account will be provided when you receive your official email acceptance notification. *This deposit is only for graduate PA tuition.*

3. **What is the timeline from the beginning of the undergraduate curriculum to the completion of the Master of PA Studies (MPAS) degree?**

Upon acceptance, you will register on the PA Program online portal and select when you plan to matriculate into the UCPAP. The typical PA Fast Track student will enter the professional program the spring semester of his/her junior year. However, you may choose to enter the program any January during your undergraduate studies as long as:

- you have completed at least 75 credit hours and all prerequisite courses.
- you have taken the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and received a combined Verbal and Quantitative score of 300 or above and 3.0 or higher on Analytical Writing by November 1st of the year prior to matriculation.
- you have completed at least 200 hours of direct patient care each academic year prior to matriculation.
- you have maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above with grades of B or better in all UCPAP prerequisite courses.
- you have successfully completed the required criminal background check.
- you have submitted all health clearances, immunizations, and the provision of proof of health insurance.

4. **What is my undergraduate major as a PA Fast Track?**
You are designated as a PA Fast Track and placed in the Biology Program for advising and guidance as you complete your requirements to matriculate into the UCPAP. You technically do not have an undergraduate major since you are working toward entering the master’s degree level program prior to the completion of an undergraduate degree. Once you successfully complete the UCPAP you will earn a Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) degree.

5. Do I need a bachelor’s degree to matriculate into UCPAP?
No, PA Fast Track students are not required to earn a bachelor’s degree prior to matriculation into the UCPAP. However, you do need to meet all of the requirements outlined in question #3 by your chosen matriculation date.

6. What is the length of the master’s program?
The professional program is seven consecutive semesters spanning 28 months. This includes 16 months of didactic work followed by 12 months of supervised clinical practice experiences.

7. What will happen if I am unable to matriculate into the UCPAP in the year that I have previously chosen?
You will relinquish your seat in the program and must reapply in the next application cycle.

8. Is the $500 deposit refundable if I choose not to continue in the PA Fast Track program?
The deposit is non-refundable. (When you enter the professional program the $500 is deducted from the first semester’s tuition.)

9. Is it possible to be a PA Fast Track and a Welch Colleague?
You cannot participate in both at one time. When a student matriculates into the professional program, he/she is in class Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The rigors of the program will not allow any extra coursework. The student may choose a later matriculation date for the UCPAP in order to complete the Welch Colleague Scholarship program.

10. What is the primary advantage of entering the UCPA Fast Track program?
Earning a seat in any physician assistant program is extremely competitive. Being accepted as a UCPAP Fast Track student will guarantee a seat if post acceptance conditions are met.