**Considering a Career as a Physician or Physician Assistant?**

**Once you’ve attained your High School Diploma or GED, you can pursue:**

**Physician:**

* Baccalaureate (College) Degree (3-4 years)
  + - During degree program take prerequisite courses in biology, chemistry, physics, English, and others
    - Take MCAT entrance exam prior to applying to medical school
* Medical School Degree (4 years)
  + - Two years of classroom and laboratory instruction
      * Take and pass Step 1 exam of U.S. Medical License Exam
    - Two years of clinical rotations
      * Take and pass Step 2 exam of U.S. Medical License Exam
* Residency Training Program (3-7 years)
  + - Length depends on specialty
      * Take and pass Step 3 exam of U.S. Medical License Exam
* Subspecialty Fellowship (1-3 years)
  + - Length depends on subspecialty

**Physician Assistant:**

* Baccalaureate (College) Degree (3-4 years)
  + - During degree program take prerequisite courses in biology, chemistry, statistics, psychology, English, and others
    - Take GRE exam prior to applying (some schools now don’t require it)
* Master’s Degree in Physician Assistant Studies (3 years)
  + - Classroom instruction and clinical rotations
* Take and pass Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE)