



Physician Assistant College Admissions Test (PA-CAT)

Evidence-Based Assessment
of Academic Preparedness

Thank you Julie Kinzel and the PA students at Drexel University's PA program for allowing us to capture their students in action.



Why the PA-CAT

Supporting Holistic Admissions with Objective Data

THE CHALLENGE:

- Variability in Undergraduate GPA
- Variability in Strength and Content of Pre-Req Courses
- Current Admissions Exams Not Targeted to PA Profession
- Large Pool of Similarly Qualified Candidates

THE SOLUTION:

- Assesses 9 Core Science Subjects
- Focused on Most Common Pre-Req Subjects
- Provides Comparative Data on Applicant Performance
- Assesses Readiness for the Didactic Year

Make more informed admissions decisions with PA-CAT outcomes data in core science subjects.

ABOUT THE PA-CAT

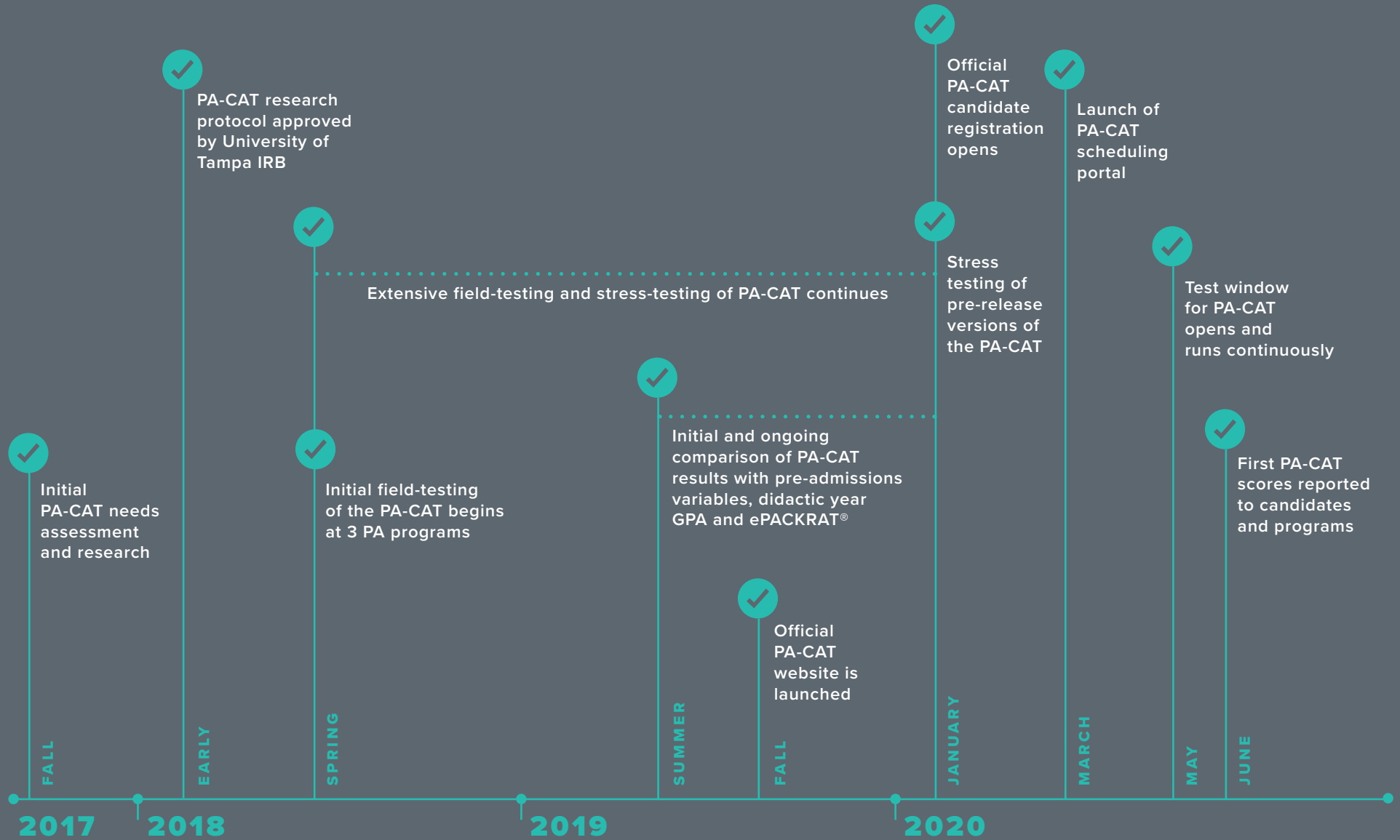
The PA-CAT helps you better determine the academic preparedness of your applicant pool.

- Assessing Knowledge in Core Science Pre-Requisite Subjects
- 240-item assessment covering 9 science subject areas: Anatomy, Physiology, General Biology, Biochemistry, General and Organic Chemistry, Microbiology, Behavioral Sciences, Genetics, and Statistics
- Provides Overall Score and 3 Domain Scores
- Most heavily weighted in anatomy and physiology
- Norm-Based Assessment Providing Comparative Applicant Results

History of the PA-CAT

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT FOR BETTER RESULTS

Development of the Physician Assistant College Admissions Test involved the collaboration of many PA schools, PA educators and their new PA students. Extensive field-testing enabled an iterative and informed development approach.





Getting Started with the PA-CAT

CANDIDATES:

- Visit www.pa-cat.com/ to register and schedule for the PA-CAT
- Take the free 120-item PA-CAT practice exam for an initial readiness assessment
- Review the PA-CAT study guide, sample questions and blueprint
- Practice with free PA-CAT subject practice exams

PROGRAMS:

- Request a copy of the PA-CAT program information booklet
- Decide whether to “Recommend” or “Require” the PA-CAT for the current admissions cycle
- Internal review and approvals to adjust your admissions criteria
- Dissemination of program PA-CAT status in all communications to applicants

Common Questions About the PA-CAT

What is a good score on the PA-CAT?

The PA-CAT is not designed to provide a passing or “cut” score. Rather, it is designed to provide percentile rankings of candidates against a national sample of all candidates.

Is the PA-CAT designed to predict PANCE success?

The PA-CAT is primarily focused on assessing whether candidates are academically prepared for the critical didactic year of PA school. It is not designed to predict the likelihood that a candidate will go on to pass the PANCE or how they will score on the PANCE.

Are there study materials available for candidates?

Exam Master is providing a collection of free preparatory materials for PA-Candidates. These include:

- A 120-item practice exam with detailed explanations and references.
- 8 subject-specific practice exams with explanations and references.
- An online review course covering anatomy and physiology, the two most heavily weighted subjects on the PA-CAT.
- Study guide, sample questions and PA-CAT blueprint.

What is the cost of the PA-CAT?

The candidate cost for the PA-CAT is \$149 and the cost by Prometric for taking the PA-CAT at one of their test centers is \$79.



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Contact Jim Pearson at
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