

Physician Assistant Services of Texas, LLP
Surgical Fellowship in Cardiovascular
Thoracic and Transplant Surgery Description and Syllabus

Mission:

- ❖ Physician Assistant Services of Texas Fellowship Program's mission is to create a Cardiovascular Surgical Physician Assistant through a surgical focused program where the Fellow will gain experience and training in several specialties with various surgeons and surgical techniques.

Vision Statement:

- ❖ We want to share our years of learning and diverse experiences toward providing an opportunity for a surgical physician assistant who wants to advance their intraoperative skills and become independent in the operating room with a focus on adult cardiothoracic, vascular transplant surgery.
- ❖ This is the start of your own career, and we want you to treat it that way. The amount of time, interest and effort you put into this will be apparent. This amount of time invested in yourself will show up in the confidence and respect others show in you knowing you have spent time investing in yourself to gain experience and poise in your personal skills and surgical techniques. Being respectful and reliable to others in your career will be rewarded with high levels of responsibility, trust and later with financial success with the hope you will be someone we would want to work with long into the future. Upon graduation students are well provided with the core skills to further develop and serve in a diverse setting of Cardiothoracic and Vascular surgery.

Overview

- ❖ Physician Assistant Services of Texas LLP, (PAST) is a professional association of independent contractors who have been providing services in the North Texas area since 1997. PAST is created and owned by a physician assistant, well established and received throughout the area. Our professional association of 14+ advanced practice providers work in areas of cardiovascular adult and congenital, thoracic and transplant surgery for many surgeons. Our primary coverage area is several Dallas-Fort Worth hospitals where we assist with more than 350 surgical procedures monthly.
- ❖ This physician assistant Fellowship is 12 months long and will focus primarily on the intra-operative care of the patient focusing on the understanding of assisting the surgeon. Introducing the Fellow to multiple techniques in exposure, cannulation, grafting, valve intervention and tissue resection to make the Fellow well rounded in the skills to adapt in assisting most all surgeon making you versatile and adaptable creating a better outcome for

the patients. We teach how to work efficiently independently to gain a routine and foresee many problems before they happen and then learn to quickly trouble shoot . It will all come together as you begin to pair our classroom lectures with your didactic training in PA school into a “gloves on and scrubbed” in technique driven training program.

- ❖ Clinical curriculum will include the full spectrum of patient care; however, significant focus will be placed on obtaining surgical skills and operative experience. The Fellow is expected to develop competency in endoscopic vein harvest and surgical assisting on a wide range of Cardiothoracic, Vascular, Robotic and Transplant Surgery procedures.
- ❖ For comprehensive training, you will rotate through congenital cardiac surgery, open thoracic and robotic thoracic surgery, transplants including kidney, pancreas, liver, heart, lung. There will also be time spent with the CVICU, Anesthesiologist, Perfusionist, Nursing and Surgical Scrubs along with other training classes to help with your understanding of everyone’s roles and responsibilities within the surgical team.

Rotations:

- **2wks Introduction to Cardiovascular OR**
 - Review Sterile Technique
 - Scrub/Gown and Gloving
 - Patient Positioning
 - Patient Prepping
 - Surgical Instruments
 - Suture Selection
 - Wound Dressing
- **1wk Anesthesiologist, Perfusion, Nursing and Scrub Personnel Shadowing:** time spent in the OR with other team members to learn their role. Areas of focus will include
 - Echocardiogram
 - Arterial Line Placement
 - Central Line
 - Swan Ganz Placement
 - Anticoagulation and Reversal
 - ACT
 - Autotransfusion
 - Platelet Sequestration ? Platelet Gel Therapy
- **6wks Vascular Surgery:** carotid endarterectomy (CEA), femoral - femoral bypass, femoral - popliteal bypass, femoral - tibial bypass, axillary - femoral bypass, AV fistula, AAA repair, TEVAR
- **4wks Thoracic Surgery:** lung biopsy, resections and pneumonectomies, decortication, chest wall resection and reconstruction, VATS procedures, lung transplant
- **4wks Robotic Surgery:** thoracic procedures, kidney procedures, thymectomy
- **12wks Adult Cardiac:** coronary artery bypass surgery (CABG), off pump CABG, endoscopic vein harvest (EVH), endoscopic radial artery harvest (RAH), repair of type A aortic dissection, heart transplant, aortic, mitral and tricuspid valve repair/replacement, mini AVR/MVR, right/left ventricular assist device (RVAD/LVAD), MAZE procedure

- **4wks CVICU:** daily rounding, removal chest tubes, removal pacing wires
- **6wks Transplant Surgeries:** heart, lung, kidney, pancreas, living kidney donors/ recipient
- **4wks Pediatric Congenital Hearts:** PDA ligation, coarctation of the aorta repair, ASD repair, VSD repair, Tetralogy of Fallot repair, transposition of the great vessels repair, Truncus arteriosus repair, Norwood procedure, Glenn procedure, Fontan procedure, total anomalous pulmonary venous return (TAPVR) correction, AV canal repair

Additional Rotations and Training Courses

- **8wks Rotation of choice:** Your option to spend more time in an area you feel you need more practice or experience or want to center your career.
- **Training Classes:**
 - Wound Closure Techniques-Certificate
 - Getinge Endoscopic Vein Harvest Course with Lab and certification,
 - DaVinci Robotic Course with certification
 - Cardiovascular Ultrasound lesson in recognizing anatomy, vessel selection for conduit
 - Cath Lab observation
 - Learn Normal Cardiac Anatomy and Physiology
 - Recognize: Abnormal Anatomy, Cardiac Pathology
- **Research Project and Presentation:** End of Course
Research, Prepare and Present a Cardiovascular Subject of choice

Supervision:

- ❖ Executive Administrator:
 - Lonnie Ginn PA-C
- ❖ Support Staff:
 - Melissa Robinson
 - Majestie Robinson
- ❖ Clinical Directors:
 - Gabriel Schleich PA-C
 - Connie Ngo PA-C
- ❖ Primary Hospitals
 - Baylor Scott and White
 - Medical City
 - Texas Health Resources
 - Methodist
- ❖ Campus or Facilities:
 - UNT-HSC

On-Call Activities:

- ❖ Due to the nature of cardiothoracic surgery, the schedule of cases can be urgent or emergent throughout the evening or weekend. Typically, these cases are more beneficial in learning due to their higher acuity of care and nature of an urgent or emergent case. To expand your experience and knowledge skillset we would like you to try to experience as many of these types of cases as your time allows to build upon your basic understanding of cardiothoracic surgery.
- ❖ You will typically have a morning case and follow the schedule of your preceptor for that day or be directed to a procedure that aligns with your current clinical rotation. Best learning opportunities occur in the after-hour times and on weekends and holidays. The goal of this program is to get the Fellow as much exposure to surgical procedures as possible. To obtain these goals, while on certain rotations after hours availability, “on call” will be every other day.

Completion of Program:

- ❖ Certificate awarded at completion from Physician Assistant Services of Texas LLC

Clinical Performance/Professionalism:

- ❖ We will provide a quarterly performance review with feedback from your PA preceptors and surgeons.

Stipend and Benefits:

- ❖ Stipend: \$65,000
- ❖ Vacation- 10 business days and 4 Weekend
- ❖ Holidays 1 Major Holiday and 2 Standard Holidays
- ❖ Sick leave: up to 5 days
- ❖ Medical and Dental Insurance available
- ❖ Medical Malpractice Insurance Provided
- ❖ Surgical Loupes: Payment Plan Option if needed

Program Requirements:

- ❖ Self-driven and determined personality
- ❖ Graduate of an accredited PA program
 - Eligible for Texas PA Licenseor
- ❖ Graduate of Advance Nurse Practitioner Program
 - Eligible for Texas ANP License
 - Certification from RNFA
- ❖ NCCPA certification
- ❖ Texas TMB license
- ❖ ACLS AND BLS Certification

A Complete Application Includes:

- ❖ CV
- ❖ Completed Texas Standardized Credentialing Application
 - <https://www.tdi.texas.gov/forms/finmcqa/lhl234.pdf>
- ❖ Two Letters of recommendations
- ❖ Personal statement
- ❖ \$100 application fees toward cost of
 - Education Verification
 - NCCPA Verification
 - Background Check
- ❖ Interview
 - #1 Video Microsoft Teams
 - Free App for Computer (recommended), tablet or smart phone
 - #2 in Person in DFW

Deadlines for Applicants

- ❖ Accepting first 30 completed applications
- ❖ Application Deadline: September 30th
 - Personal Statement on why you want to be a CVT PA or CVT ANP
 - Curriculum Vitae
 - Work History in Healthcare
 - Two Letters of Recommendation
 - \$100 Application
 - Background Check

Interview Notification: September 25, 2024 to October 5, 2024

Interview Dates:

- Interview #1: October 1-10, 2024
- Interview #2: October 11-14, 2024
- Selection Notification: October 15, 2024

Commitment to Program: by October 19, 2024

Begin Credentialing: October 21, 2024

Training Program Begins January 20, 2025