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| Physician Assistant Career Plan | | | RVU-PA |
|  | Explore Professional Interests | * Plan questions for networking with PAs, preceptors, rotation sites, and alumni and conduct | Career Counseling meetings offer: \* |
| * Join professional organizations (e.g. [AAPA,](https://www.aapa.org/) [PAEA,](https://paeaonline.org/) [CAPA)](https://www.coloradopas.org/) | * Strategize how to leverage patient encounters to best highlight skills and experiences for future positions * Resume and cover letter assistance * Mock Interview practice with rubric-based feedback * Support in establishing and improving important elements of professionalism, including cultural competency, and interpersonal and communication skills. * General advising about career exploration, including clarifying goals and priorities * Discuss and strategize medical professional social media usage * Discuss media strategies and your digital footprint as a student and future medical professional |
| * Reach out to RVU PA Alumni |
| * Set up a meeting with the Career Counselors\* |
| * Learn to use Career Center sites provided by different professional organizations ([AAPA](https://www.aapa.org/career-central/) Career Center) |
| Networking & Online Presence | * Start and create a LinkedIn Profile and connect with 5 RVU students and join the AAPA page |
| * Attend **one** of the CPD LinkedIn & Networking Workshops |
| * Get involved with the AAPA Student [Academy](https://www.aapa.org/about/aapa-governance-leadership/student-academy/) |
| * Join online interest and support groups for PA Students |
| * Use social media professionally to showcase skills and interests |
| * Read and skim, [*Your Healthcare Job Hunt: How Digital Presence Can Make or Break Your Career*](http://proxy.rvu.edu/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=2438205&site=ehost-live&scope=site) |
|  | Interview Skills | * Schedule a one-on-one mock interview with a Career Counselor | AAPA Career Center Resources: |
| * Prepare and practice answers to common interview questions | * Don’t forget that you have access to this as an RVU student! * Check out the AAPA Career Center Salary Tool * Use organization links for outside of Colorado |
| * Plan your own questions to ask (2-3) |
| * Practice interviews on Zoom and in-Person with peers |
| Resume Building | * Keep a list of all your activities from RVU including volunteering, extracurriculars, research and scholarly activity, previous life experiences |
| * Reach out to a Career Counselor for resume writing support * Track patient encounters to highlight skill sets * Utilize the RVU Writing Center * Collect and retain documentation including: educational information, credentialing, professional education, supporting documents, and financial records |
|  | New Graduate | * Use the PA Jobsource to browse open positions * Apply to positions where you have relationships built * Prepare and gather all documentation you might need (state license, registration, certificate) * Negotiate your contract! * Check out opportunities for Continuing Education |  |

Tips and Links

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|  | Be competitive | * Ensure that your coursework and academic success is your top priority * Reach out to faculty, directors, support advisors, and tutors if you’re struggling with content * Utilize University resources **(Educational Learning Specialists, Writing Center, CPD Team, Disability Services)** * Attend professional development activities **(workshops, speaker series, panel discussion, networking events)** * Be active online—LinkedIn, Interest Groups, Mentor/Mentee Programs. Be visible and present! * Check in with the RVU Career and Professional Development [Library Guide](https://library.rvu.edu/career-and-professional-development) |
|  | Explore the Career Field | * Listen to podcasts directly related to your career interests and healthcare:   + [JAAPA](https://jaapapodcast.libsyn.com/) Podcast: “The podcast for the Journal of the American Academy of Physician Assistants.”   + [Mayo Clinc Talks:](https://ce.mayo.edu/content/mayo-clinic-talks-podcast) “Stay on top of your primary care practice with podcasts from your colleagues at Mayo Clinic. Curated. Portable. Trusted. Offering continuing medical education CME for select episodes. Family medicine, primary care, general internal medicine topics for physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants.”   + [The PA Path](https://www.papathpodcast.com/) Podcast: The PA Path Podcast provides free expert insights on the PA profession from national and international experts in the profession. Highlights include PA programs, PA leaders, and clinicians who have made remarkable impacts in the profession.”   + [The Audio PANCE:](https://podcast.thepalife.com/) “The Audio PANCE and PANRE are an audio Board Review Series that includes 10 Multiple Choice PANCE and PANRE Board Review Questions in Each Episode. This is an excellent way to learn on the go. Now you can study for your PANCE and PANRE, in the gym, in the car, on a run, or while relaxing on the beach.”   + [Physician Assistant Exam Review:](https://www.physicianassistantexamreview.com/category/podcasts/) “We review core medical knowledge on a continuous basis for the physician assistant preparing for the PANRE.”   + [Healthcare Professionalism](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/equity-in-health-professions-schools/id1524699951?i=1000583511914): “Professional Formation in partnership with the Academy on Professionalism in Heath Care launched a monthly podcast, Professional Formation Across Healthcare Disciplines: Professionalism Education, Research & Resources.” |

**TRUST THE PROCESS**