

Physician Assistant

Physician assistants are health care professionals licensed to practice medicine with physician supervision. As part of their comprehensive responsibilities, PAs conduct physical exams, diagnose and treat illnesses, order and interpret tests, counsel on preventive health care, perform procedures, and in virtually all states can write prescriptions. Within the physician-PA relationship, physician assistants exercise autonomy in medical decision making and provide a broad range of diagnostic and therapeutic services.

Because of the close working relationship the PAs have with physicians, PAs are educated in the medical model designed to complement physician training. Upon graduation, physician assistants take a national certification examination developed by the National Commission on Certification of PAs in conjunction with the National Board of Medical Examiners. To maintain their national certification, PAs must log 100 hours of continuing medical education every two years and sit for a recertification every six years. Graduation from an accredited physician assistant program and passage of the national certifying exam are required for state licensure. The "C" in PA-C means that the person who holds the title has met the defined course of study and has undergone testing by the [National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants \(NCCPA\)](#). The NCCPA is an independent organization, and the commissioners represent a number of different medical professions.

Licensed Esthetician

Estheticians in the State of Illinois must be a graduate of a licensed esthetics school where they have completed 750 classroom hours of esthetics training and pass the Illinois state board exam for Estheticians. Esthetician training consists of proper skin analysis, treatments, procedures and product knowledge and machine usage. Students are also trained in professionalism, sanitation and infection control, anatomy and physiology, chemistry, electricity and business practices.