

**OFFICIAL TITLE, SERIES, AND GRADE:
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, GS-0603-11**

Summary of Major Duties

Performs direct medical care when appropriate and assists in the medical triage and treatment of victims at the site of a disaster or major emergency. Diagnoses traumatic and non-traumatic injury, providing treatment when symptoms are clear. Recognizes symptoms that require referrals and make such recommendations to the Medical Officer.

Minimum Qualifications

Education: A broad background of knowledge of the medical environment, practices, and procedures such as would be acquired by a bachelor's degree in a health care occupation such as nursing, medical technology, or physical therapy, or by three years of responsible and progressive health care experience such as medical corpsman, nursing assistant, or medical technician. In addition, and after successful completion of a certificate or diploma program of at least 12 months, including clinical training or preceptorship, specifically designed for professional-caliber physician's assistants that provided the knowledge and ability required to take a detailed medical history, to conduct a physical examination, to follow observation procedures, to order and perform diagnostic and therapeutic tasks, and to exercise a degree of judgment in integrating and interpreting findings on the basis of general medical knowledge; or equivalent education and training; **OR** completion of a full 4-year program for physician assistants leading to a bachelor's degree. The course of study or training must be approved by a nationally recognized professional body such as the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation or the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools, or by a panel of physicians established by a Federal agency for this purpose.

Additional Requirements: One year of specialized experience directly related to the position equivalent to at least the GS-09 level in the Federal service; **OR** applicants who have completed the requirements for the degrees of Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy, but who lack licensure to practice medicine in the United States, may be rated eligible for GS-11.

NOTE: The required experience must have demonstrated the ability to perform professional-caliber medical work as a physician's assistant with minimal supervision, including the exercise of a degree of judgment in integrating and interpreting diagnostic findings and in determining the need for referral to a physician. Applicants qualifying on the basis of specialized experience must have the following:

Ability to identify a medical problem and determine appropriate action to meet the problem, including referral to a physician.

Knowledge and understanding of the environment, principles, ethics, and special human relationships in the field of medicine.

Knowledge of the medical, biological and physical sciences related to the applicable area of medicine.

Knowledge of, and ability to perform, specified diagnostic and therapeutic practices and procedures.

Ability to work responsibly with physicians and other members of the medical team, and to deal effectively with patients.