



Northeastern University Physician Assistant Program Goals Report

2016-2017

Program Goals:

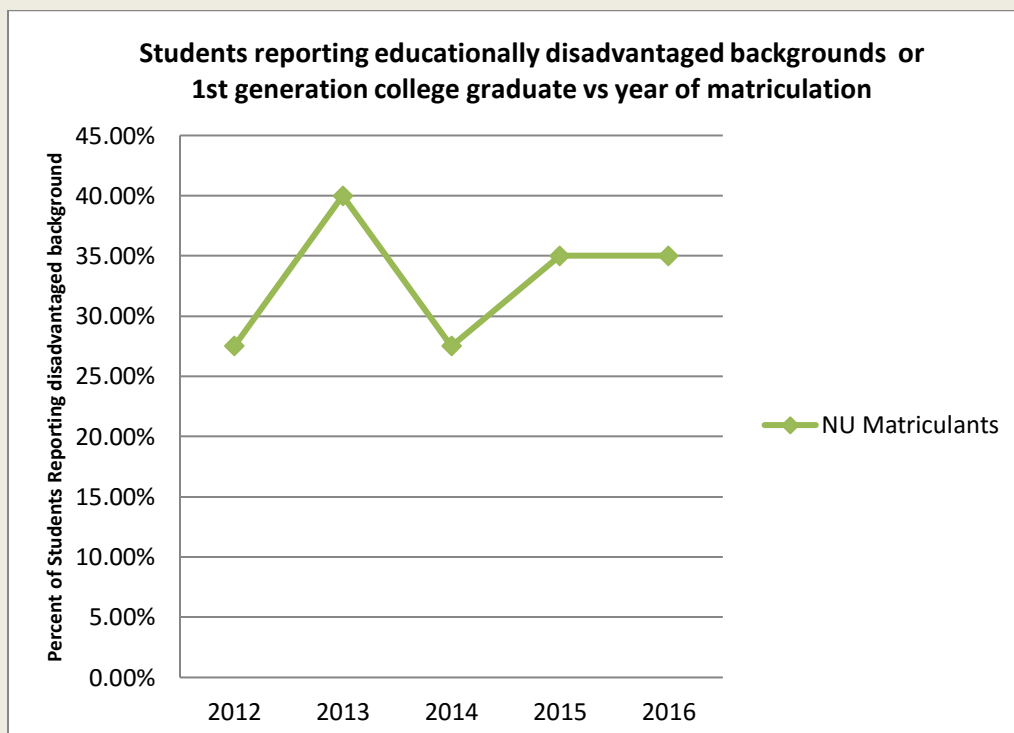
- Attract individuals from diverse backgrounds to the Physician Assistant Program
- Prepare students to become effective members of an interprofessional team and leaders in health care and the community.
- Graduate competent medical practitioners who are in high-demand by employers.
- Prepare students as critical thinkers and lifelong learners.

❖ Attract individuals from diverse backgrounds to the Physician Assistant Program.

There is a great need for diversity within the PA profession. As the United States becomes increasingly diverse, a diverse health care workforce will be ideally situated to deliver high quality, culturally sensitive health care. At Northeastern University, we acknowledge this need and are proud of the progress we have made in admitting individuals from diverse backgrounds. While students from diverse backgrounds must still meet the University's rigorous admission criteria and **are not given any priority** in admission (admissions decisions are made without regard to race, color, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, genetics, nationality, veteran's status, disability or age), we have been successful in admitting diverse classes over the past 5 years.

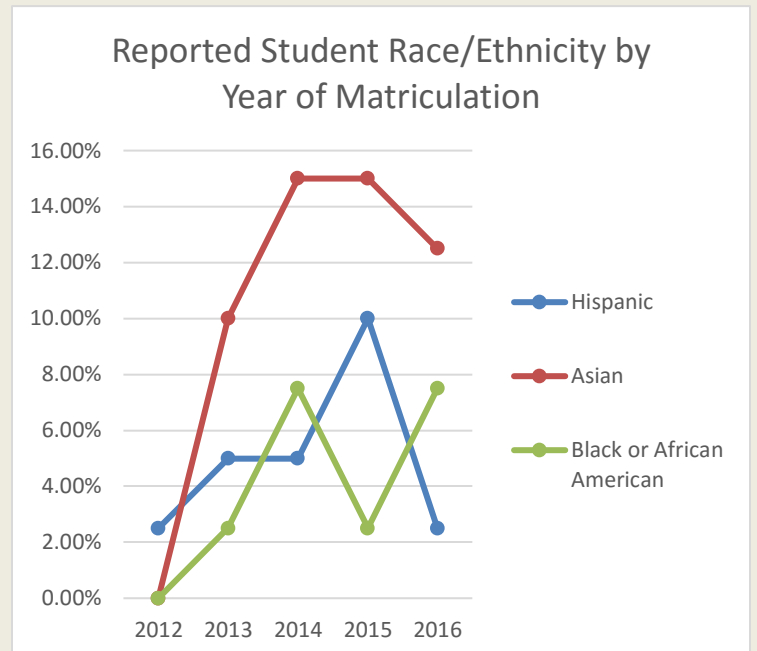
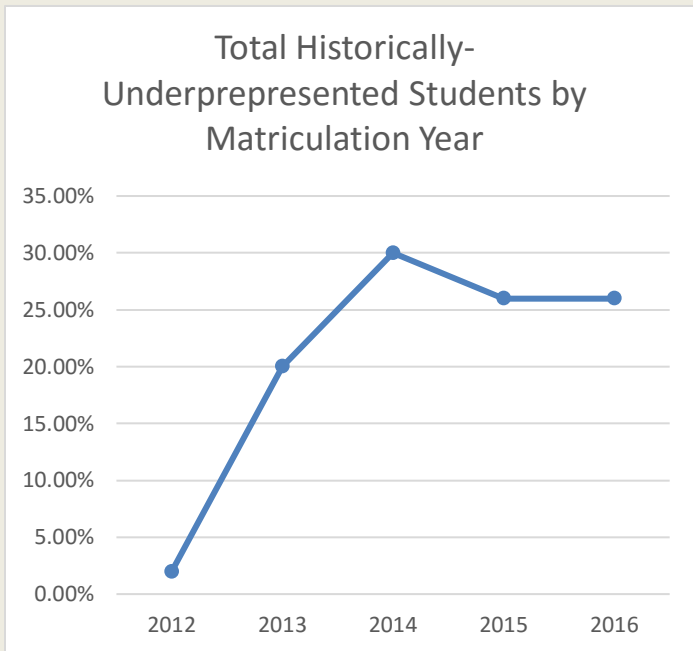
Diversity: Students from Educationally Disadvantaged Backgrounds

At Northeastern University's PA program, the number of matriculated students reporting educationally disadvantaged backgrounds or 1st generation in their family to complete college on their CASPA applications has increased from 5.8% in 2010 to an average of 32.5% over the last three years.



Diversity: Historically Under-represented Populations

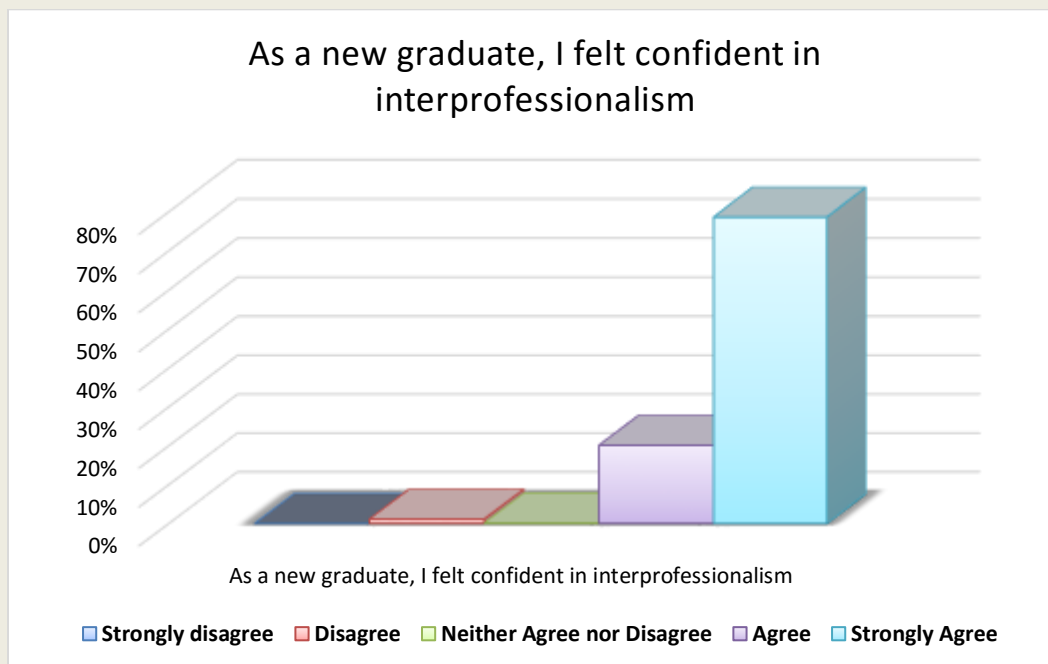
The Northeastern University PA program has maintained a student body with historically under-represented population representation for many years. After identifying diversity as a program goal, the program has seen an increase in historically under-represented population representation in the matriculated class.



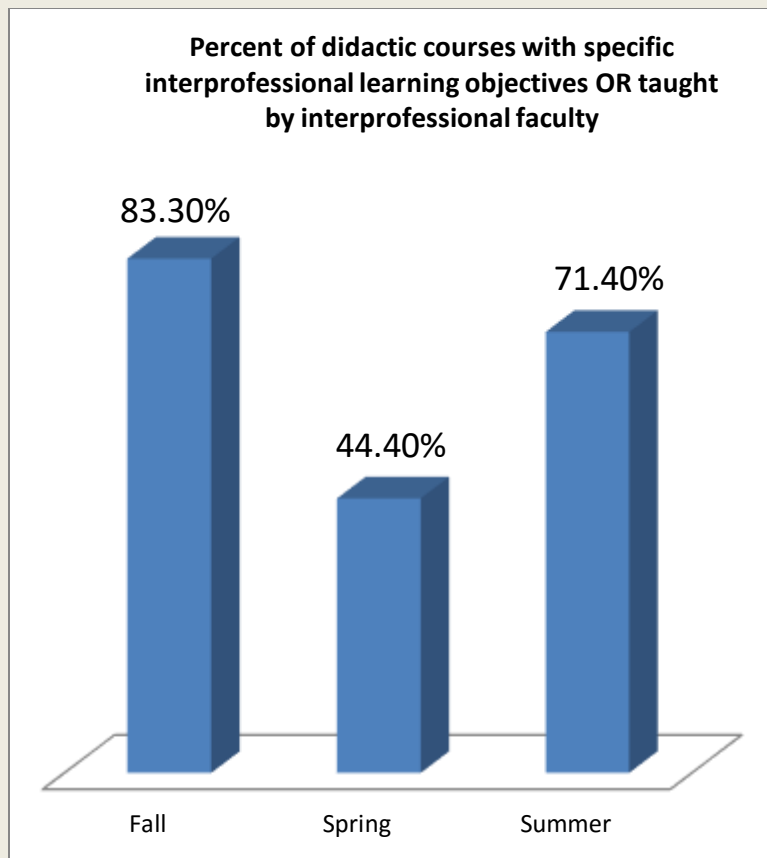
We are proud of our success in admitting physician assistant students from diverse backgrounds. Upon graduation, individuals from diverse and educationally disadvantaged backgrounds should be well situated to provide socially and culturally sensitive healthcare to diverse communities.

❖ Prepare students to become effective members of an interprofessional team and leaders in health care and the community.

Effective interprofessional collaboration is an important part of safe, effective clinical practice. Our graduates report very effective interprofessional collaboration upon graduation. In fact, 98% of graduates over the last 5 years report feeling confident in interprofessional practice.



To continuously improve the interprofessional competence of our graduates going forward, it is necessary to promote interprofessional competence as an integral component of the curriculum. The vast majority of our didactic year courses (14 of the 22 courses or 64%) either include specific learning objectives pertaining to interprofessional practice or are taught by interprofessional faculty.

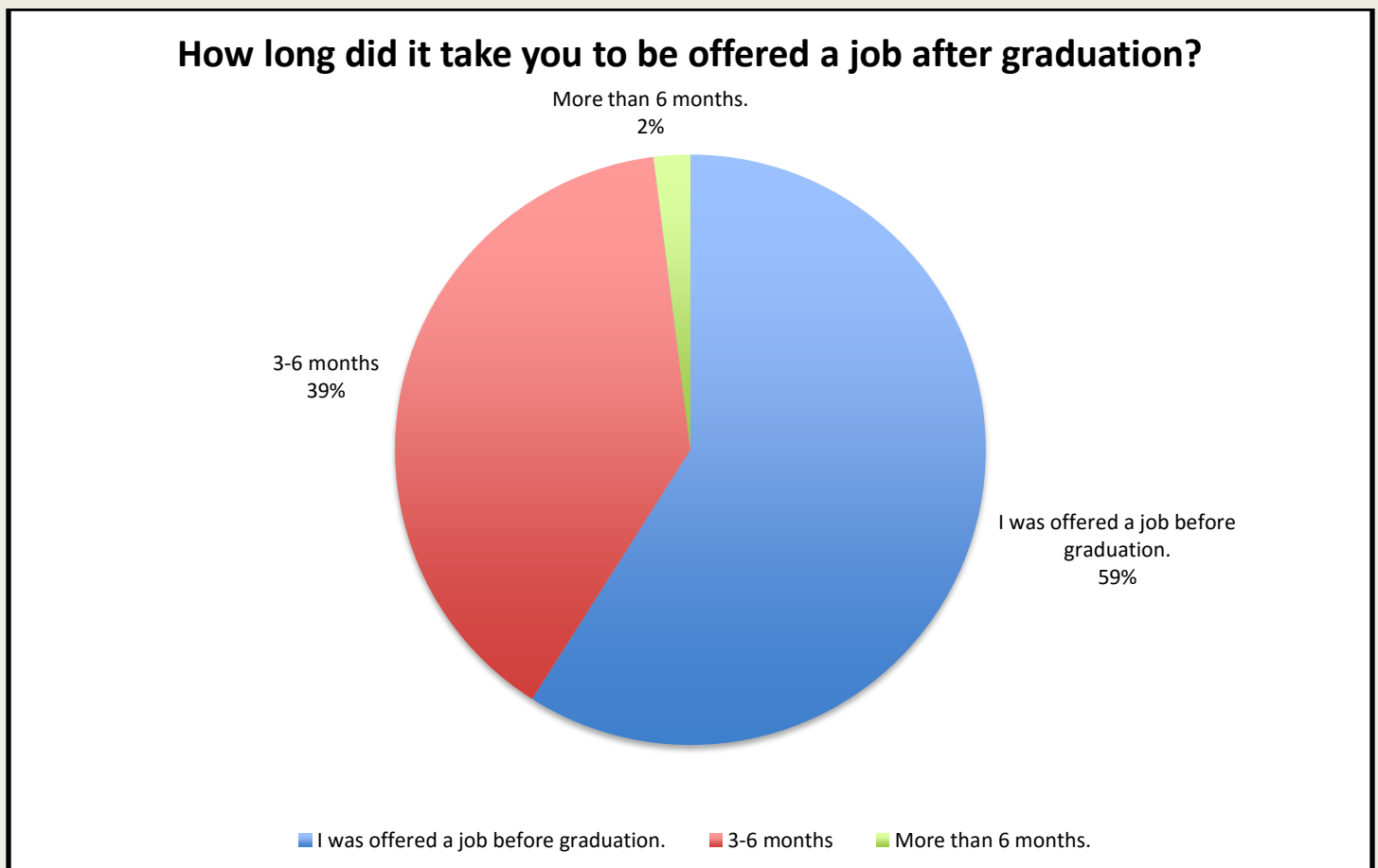


New interprofessional curricular components are added on a regular basis to increase the interprofessional competence of our graduates. In recent years, the Physical Diagnosis course sequence has incorporated a longitudinal, interprofessional SIM curriculum. In this unit, PA students work with students in other health professions to manage medical, ethical and procedural cases in a simulated clinical environments.

These changes in our interprofessional curriculum are designed to make Northeastern Physician Assistant graduates competent, effective members of interprofessional healthcare teams.

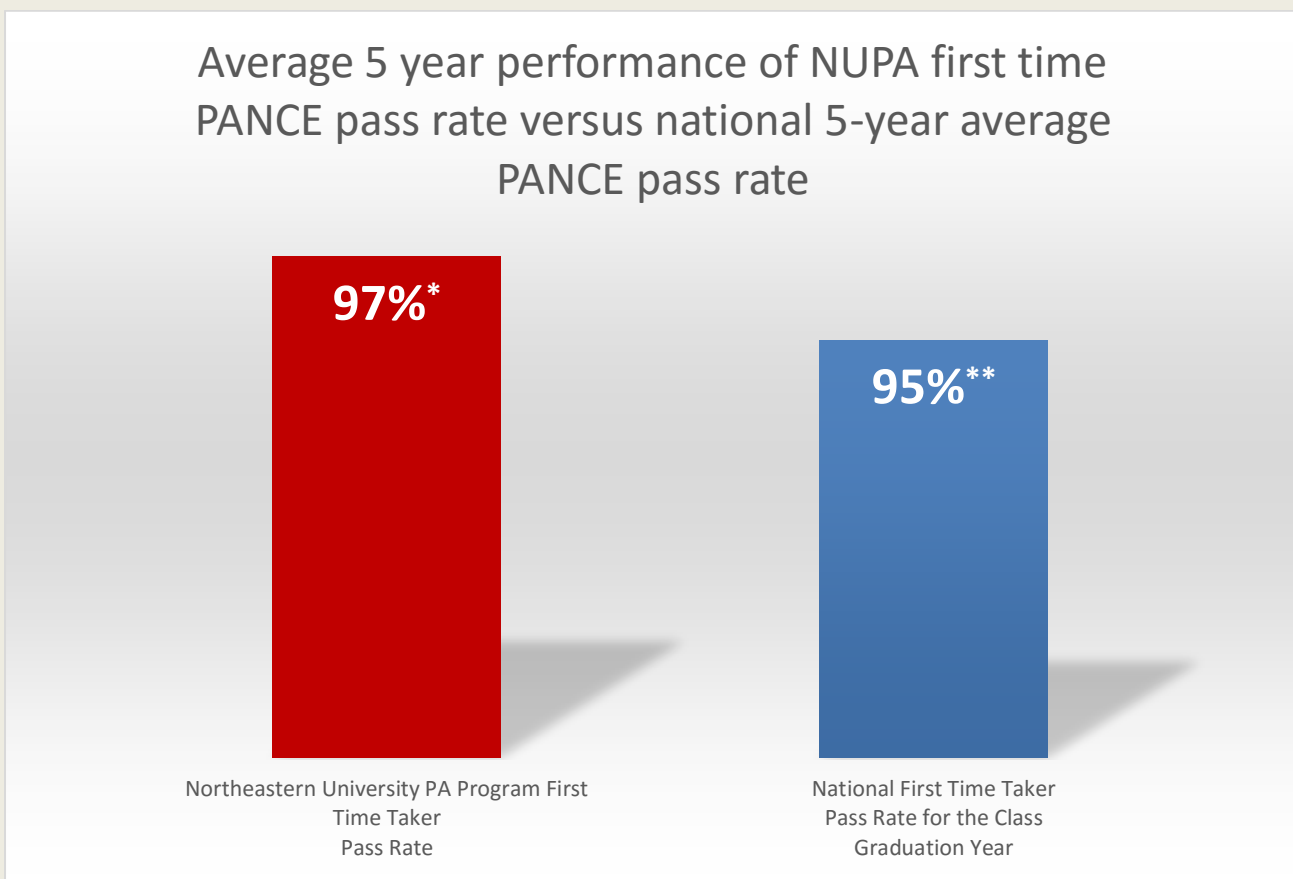
❖ Graduate competent medical practitioners who are in high-demand by employers.

Northeastern University Physician Assistant graduates are highly regarded for their medical and professional competence. Perhaps the best measure of the competence of our graduates is reflected in their ease in finding employment after graduation. Over the past 3 years, 100% of our graduates report employment within 1 year of graduation, and the majority report being offered a job prior to graduation.* This high graduation employment rate demonstrates the confidence employers have in the competence of our graduates.



❖ Prepare students as critical thinkers and lifelong learners.

The standard measure of proficiency in medical and professional education and critical thinking for Physician Assistant students is their performance on the Physician Assistant National Certification Exam (PANCE). Northeastern PA students consistently earn high scores on the PANCE, and our average first time pass rate over the last five years exceeds the national 5-year average pass rate.



*Calculated as the mean of the Program First Time Taker Pass Rate for the NUPA program for the class of 2012-2016.

** Calculated as the mean of the National First Time Taker Pass Rate for the class of 2012-2016.