



## NEWS FROM ROCKY VISTA UNIVERSITY

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Rocky Vista University's New Physician Assistant Program Receives Accreditation-Provisional**

[April 25, 2018 – Parker, CO] Rocky Vista University (RVU) is proud to announce that its new Physician Assistant (PA) program has received accreditation-provisional from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). With this designation, the agency has concluded that RVU's PA program meets its standards for curriculum, admissions processes, and quality measurements. The program will offer the Master of Physician Assistant Studies degree in one of the country's fastest growing medical disciplines.

Physician assistants are academically and clinically prepared to practice medicine under the supervision of a physician. Their shared team relationship is fundamental to the profession and enhances the delivery of high-quality health care. They also make clinical decisions and provide a broad range of diagnostic, therapeutic, preventive, and health maintenance services. Employed in virtually every health care setting, physician assistants can be found in communities of all sizes. Presently, many communities are medically underserved throughout the United States and PAs are able to provide necessary health care services. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the demand for PAs is expected to grow at a rate of 37% between now and 2026, with nearly 40,000 new jobs being created.

“We are very excited to have the new Physician Assistant program join our RVU family,” said Thomas N. Told, DO, FACOFP-dist, Vice President for Academic Affairs of RVU and Dean of RVU's College of Osteopathic Medicine. “It has required a lot of work, along with the vision and dedication of our Board and faculty to make this dream a reality. Working in concert with RVU's highly acclaimed physician education program, the program will produce outstanding graduates that will benefit Colorado and the Mountain West region well into the future.”

RVU's Physician Assistant program will begin in September of 2018, and anticipates 36 students in its inaugural class. It will be a 27-month-long degree program.

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**About Rocky Vista University (RVU)**

RVU is a health-sciences university based in Parker, Colorado and Ivins, Utah. RVU was founded in 2006 and opened its doors in August of 2008, enrolling students in its four-year program of study leading to the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) degree in the University's College of Osteopathic Medicine (RVUCOM). The Ivins Campus matriculated its first class in 2017. RVU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), a commission of the North Central Association. RVUCOM is accredited by the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA). In 2016, RVU added a Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences (MSBS) degree program and is adding a Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) in 2018 (pending accreditation). Rocky Vista University provides quality healthcare education while inspiring students to serve with compassion, integrity and excellence. For more information, visit [www.rvu.edu](http://www.rvu.edu).

*The ARC-PA has granted Accreditation - Provisional status to the Rocky Vista University Physician Assistant Program sponsored by Rocky Vista University. Accreditation-Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when a program holding Accreditation-Provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students. Accreditation-Provisional does not ensure any subsequent accreditation status. It is limited to no more than five years from matriculation of the first class.*