FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
Physician Assistant Program

**Question #1: What does “provisional accreditation” mean for the Physician Assistant (PA) Program?**

**Answer #1:** When a University establishes a new Physician Assistant (PA) program the accrediting agency, which is the Accreditation Review Commission for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA), requires that the program is developed in its entirety prior to being evaluated for accreditation. In spring 2016, a comprehensive accreditation review will be conducted at CSM and if all requirements have been met, the PA program will be accredited. College of Saint Mary (CSM) has applied for “provisional accreditation status” and anticipates matriculating its first PA class in fall 2016 pending this provisional accreditation. Should the CSM’s PA program not receive accreditation in fall 2016, the University will continue to work with the accrediting agency to seek accreditation and CSM would assist students in applying to other PA programs around the country.

**Question #2: Since there is a limit of 24 students at each level accepted into the PA program, are there any options for students who do not get accepted initially?**

**Answer #2:** Once the 24 student limited is reached, a student may enroll at CSM as a human biology major and request that their name be added to a waiting list for PA slots that become available in subsequent years.

**Question #3: How will admission requirements and progression in the PA program be administered?**

**Answer #3:** The Acceptance and Progression Committee will review applications to the PA program and make final decisions about admissions and dismissals if a student does not maintain the program requirements.

**Question #4: Does the PA program accept men?**

**Answer #4:** CSM is a woman’s only institution at the undergraduate level. Given that some of the requirements for the PA program are delivered at the undergraduate level, CSM cannot accept men into the PA program.