

HEALTH CARE (NURSE) ASSISTANT

The Health Care Assistant Program prepares the individual to assist in providing health care as a member of the health care team under the direction of a health care professional.

Programs are conducted at Greenville Higher Education Center in Greenville, at Golden Age Nursing Home in Greenwood, and Drew Center in Drew.

Graduates of this program will be awarded the Certificate of Health Care Assistant. Students who complete the program may qualify for employment as Homemakers, Nurse Assistants, Long-Term Care Aides or Home Health Aides in the Mississippi health care industry.

Legal Limitations for Employment as a Health Care Assistant:

According to Mississippi State Law, an individual may not be eligible for employment in a health care agency if the person has ever been convicted of a felony , or plead guilty to , or plead nolo contendere to a felony of possession or sale of drugs, murder, manslaughter, armed robbery, rape, sexual battery, sex offense listed in Section 45-33-23 (f), child abuse, arson, grand larceny, burglary, gratification of lust or aggravated assault, of felonious abuse and/or battery of a vulnerable adult.

MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants must:

- meet general admission requirements for vocational students.
- be a high school graduate or have a satisfactory GED score.
- score minimum of 10th grade level on TABE or Compass testing.
- submit a signed, notarized Healthcare Criminal History Background Affidavit.
- take COMPASS test

PROCEDURE:

Applicants must have the following documents on file in the Health Sciences office by June 1 to be considered for admission to the fall class and by November 1 for the spring class.

- MDCC application for admission or readmission
- MDCC application to the CNA Program (Health Sciences Application packet).
- An official high school transcript from an approved high school or GED equivalency score
- An official college transcript, if college work has been completed
- Signed, notarized Healthcare Criminal History Background Affidavit.
- COMPASS test score

Students are encouraged to submit all parts of the application well in advance of the deadline. **Incomplete applications will not be reviewed for admission.**

SELECTION:

No applicant will be considered unless the minimum admission requirements are met. Requirements are based on the application and transcript. All applicants are considered on a competitive basis. Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission into the program. The number of applicants accepted is limited due to the nature of the program. Applicants will be notified by letter of their acceptance or non-acceptance to the program.

Admission is tentative based on:

- satisfactory background check (see Policy on Admission to Health Science Program)
- acceptable pre-admission drug screen
- health evaluation form completed by a physician or nurse practitioner indicating no restriction for lifting or transfer
- proof of Hepatitis B vaccination, MMR vaccination and TB skin test.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Students who are accepted into the program must:

- attend a health care assistant orientation
- be aware that, in addition to the regular college fees, Health Care Assistant students will incur expenses for such items as uniforms, books, supplies, liability insurance, physical examination, Hepatitis B vaccine series, background check, CPR certification and certification examination fees.

PROGRESSION:

- Students must maintain a “C” average (grade of 75) in each component of the course of study in order to complete the program
- A minimum of 368 hours including class and clinical time is required to complete the program

READMISSION OR TRANSFER:

Students seeking readmission to the program are considered on an individual basis according to health sciences readmission policies.

Due to the nature of the semester program, students are not eligible to transfer into the health care assistant program.

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT:

“Mississippi Delta Community College complies with all applicable laws regarding affirmative action and equal opportunity in all its activities and programs and does not discriminate against anyone protected by law because of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex, handicap, or status as a veteran or disabled veteran.” The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Dr. Lynda Steele, Vice President of Administrative Services, Stauffer-Wood Administration Building, P. O. Box 668, Moorhead, MS 38761, 662-246-6558. The students’ contact is: The Center of Learning at 662-246-6251.

MISSISSIPPI DELTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAMS

Performance Standards for Admission and Progression

The following performance standards provide descriptions of basic cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor requirements for successful health care assistant program completion. Applicants and students who cannot meet one or more of the standards will be considered on an individual basis in terms of whether reasonable modification/accommodation can be made. Reasonable accommodations will be examined in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as well as the Performance Standards for Admission and Progression.

In order to successfully complete the health care assistant program, an applicant/student must be able to do the following:

1. **Demonstrate critical thinking sufficient for clinical judgment.**

Examples

- a. identify cause-effect relationships in the clinical setting
- b. recognize changes in client's condition

2. **Display interpersonal skills sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups in a variety of settings in the community.**

Examples

- respect differences among clients and exhibit an attitude accepting of clients as individuals
- establish rapport in order to communicate effectively with clients, families, significant others, and health team members
- work effectively in small groups as a team member

3. **Demonstrate appropriate verbal and written communication skills.**

Examples

- speak English coherently to clients, families, and other staff members
- clearly explain procedures for clients, families, or groups based on age, lifestyle, and cultural considerations
- provide clear, understandable client documentation based upon proper use of the English language
- convey information to other caregivers

4. **Exhibit physical ability sufficient to assist clients to meet health care needs in a variety of settings, including moving from room-to-room, to maneuver in small spaces, and to negotiate stairwells when necessary.**

Examples

- physical mobility and strength sufficient to propel wheelchairs, etc. through doorways and close fitting areas alone or with assistance
- stand, walk up to 75% of 6 to 12 hour shifts

- stoop, bend, squat, reach overhead as required to reach equipment and provide care
- lift a minimum of 20 pounds of weight
- perform CPR satisfactorily and respond quickly in an emergency situation

5. **Demonstrate gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective care.**

Examples

- demonstrate physical dexterity and coordination in delivery of care
- perform procedures requiring the use of 2 hands
- pick up, grasp, and effectively manipulate small objects
- calibrate and use equipment

6. **Display auditory, visual, and tactile ability sufficient to safely assess and care for clients.**

Examples

- hear monitors, alarms, emergency signals, and cries for help, telephone, intercom interactions, and public address systems (codes)
- perceive and receive verbal communications from clients, families, and health team members
- read written words and information on paper and computer screens, small print, gauges, measuring cups, and other equipment
- discriminate colors; changes in color, size and continuity of body parts
- discriminate alterations in normal body activities such as breathing patterns and level of consciousness
- observe hazards in environment (water spills, safety rails, restraints) and harmful situations

HEALTH CARE (NURSE) ASSISTANT

One Semester Program

REQUIRED COURSES:	Prev. Taken	FALL ____	OR	SPRING __
Health Care (Nurse) Assistant				
HCA 1115 Basic Health Care Assisting				
HCA 1125 Special Care Procedures				
HCA 1214 Body Structure and Function				
HCA 1312 Home Health Aide and Homemaker Services				
Total Hours:				
Advisor Initials:				
Date:				

Courses for respective programs must be completed in one semester in order to get credit.

Upon successful completion of the course, students are eligible to take the national certification test.

Students should consult the catalog of the university to which they plan to transfer for specific degree requirements.