

MEDICAL ASSISTANT - ONE-YEAR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION (CC1)

Description

The Medical Assistant One-Year Certificate of Completion is a four-term program that trains individuals to assist with clinical and administrative procedures in outpatient medical settings under the direction of a health care provider. Program courses begin once per year in Fall term. All program courses offered each term must be taken together and in sequence. Upon successful completion of the program, students receive a one-year certificate of completion and are eligible to submit an application to sit for the American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA) Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) certification examination. Upon passing the AAMA exam, medical assistants earn the CMA.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, students will be able to:

1. Apply foundations of clinical practice to provide evidence-based, quality care for patients.
2. Implement concepts of applied communication to optimize patient care and promote positive interactions in the professional environment.
3. Apply medical business practices in the provision of patient care and services.
4. Demonstrate medical law and ethics in the application of medical assisting practice.
5. Implement safety and emergency practices in the course of patient care delivery and outpatient practice.
6. Display characteristics key to the provision of safe, quality patient care.

Entrance Requirements

Academic Entrance Requirements

Required:

- A high school diploma, GED, or a high school transcript noting successful graduation
- Completion of all prerequisite classes with a grade of C or better

Recommended:

- Students expected to be computer literate and utilize different computer programs in their courses; CIS 120 Computer Concepts is recommended to enhance computer skills and usage if needed.

Other Entrance Requirements

Required:

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Criminal history check and 10-panel drug screen with vendor chosen by the College; see the [program page](#) for more information
- Documentation of current immunizations: TB blood titer, MMR, hepatitis B, varicella, Tdap, flu. While the COVID-19 vaccine is not required for entry into the Medical Assistant program, clinical sites for practicum courses may require the COVID-19 vaccine. Please contact the program director if you have any questions.

- American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers CPR and first aid training will need to be completed prior to entrance into practicum.
- Additional immunizations, tracking fees, or background checks may be required by practicum sites at the student's expense
- Refer to [program technical standards](#) (physical, medical, safety, and other requirements that an individual must meet in order to be eligible for admission) for more information

Reentry

Students who leave or are dropped from the program may reenter the next Fall term with program director permission. In rare cases, a student may reenter at a different point in the program on a space available basis and with program director permission. Students may be required to repeat demonstrations of previous competencies to ensure they retained the required skills and knowledge to progress in the program.

Additional Program Costs (Beyond Standard Tuition/Fees and Textbooks)

Material Costs

Due to the rapidly changing nature of health care and associated costs, the following are only estimates and are subject to change.

- Stethoscope: \$30
- Blood pressure cuff: \$20
- Uniform and watch with second hand: \$75
- Immunizations and titers: \$0 to \$685 (some may be covered by insurance or subsidized by other funding sources)
- Immunizations tracking: \$10
- Criminal background check: \$65
- Urine drug screen: \$45
- Tracking fee for students rotating through St. Charles: \$20
- Cengage Learning Management System and online textbooks: \$179

Enrollment Fees

- Lab fees: \$665 to \$765

Course Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Prerequisite Courses		
Choose one course from the following:		3-4
AH 105	Calculations for Allied Health	
MTH 105	Math in Society	
Or choose one course from the foundational requirements math list		
AH 114	Introduction to Pathophysiology ¹	5
BI 105	Essentials of Human Biology ²	3
BA 214	Business Communications	3-4
or WR 121	Academic Composition	
Core Courses		
MA 110	Introduction to Clinical Medical Assisting	7

MA 111	Introduction to Professional Medical Assisting	4
MA 120	Clinical Medical Assisting II	7
MA 121	Administrative Medical Assisting	5
MA 137	Application of Professional Medical Assisting	4
MA 147	Medical Assistant Practicum I	5
MA 150	Pharmacology for Medical Assistants	3

Other Required Courses

Choose one course from the following:		3-4
AH 115	Cultural Responsiveness in Allied Health	
COMM 115	Introduction to Intercultural Communication	
COMM 218	Interpersonal Communication	
COMM 219	Small Group Communication	

Total Credits **52-55**

¹ Will accept (AH 111 Medical Terminology I and AH 112 Medical Terminology II and AH 113 Introduction Study of Disease).

² Will accept (BI 231 Human Anatomy and Physiology I and BI 232 Human Anatomy and Physiology II and BI 233 Human Anatomy and Physiology III) or (BI 121 Anatomy and Function I and BI 122 Anatomy and Function II).

Advising Notes

Program courses begin once per year in Fall term. Students wishing to register in the Fall term cohort must meet the basic prerequisite competencies and may register according to seat availability on a first-come, first-served basis determined by the priority registration schedule.

This certificate is designed for students planning to enter their chosen career upon graduation. Often only selected credits are considered transferable to public or private baccalaureate institutions.

Students are encouraged to choose the prerequisite pathway that best meets their goals from the following three options:

- A rapid pathway for direct entry into the field. Prerequisites are condensed and focused on the needs of the students seeking career and technical education coursework. Total prerequisite credits: 14-18.
 - AH 114 Introduction to Pathophysiology
 - AH 105 Calculations for Allied Health
 - BA 214 Business Communications
 - BI 105 Essentials of Human Biology
- A pathway with more transferable credits for those pursuing advanced degrees. Total prerequisite credits: 25-29.
 - AH 114 Introduction to Pathophysiology
 - MTH 105 Math in Society or higher
 - WR 121 Academic Composition
 - BI 231 Human Anatomy and Physiology I, BI 232 Human Anatomy and Physiology II, and BI 233 Human Anatomy and Physiology III
- A single-course option for students who have completed the COCC Nursing AAS prerequisites (BI 231 Human Anatomy and Physiology I, BI 232 Human Anatomy and Physiology II, BI 233 Human Anatomy and Physiology III, MTH 105 Math in Society, and WR 121 Academic Composition).
 - AH 114 Introduction to Pathophysiology

When possible, students opting for the rapid prerequisite pathway are encouraged to start prerequisite classes by Spring term versus trying to complete all prerequisites during Summer term.

Students who have time to complete the human relations requirement (AH 115 Cultural Responsiveness in Allied Health or COMM 115 Introduction to Intercultural Communication or COMM 218 Interpersonal Communication or COMM 219 Small Group Communication) before entering core program classes are encouraged to do so. The human relations requirement can technically be completed any time before completion of the certificate.

Students can substitute:

- Math classes higher than MTH 105 Math in Society to meet the math requirement.
- AH 111 Medical Terminology I, AH 112 Medical Terminology II, and AH 113 Introduction Study of Disease for AH 114 Introduction to Pathophysiology.
- BI 231 Human Anatomy and Physiology I, BI 232 Human Anatomy and Physiology II, and BI 233 Human Anatomy and Physiology III OR BI 121 Anatomy and Function I and BI 122 Anatomy and Function II for BI 105 Essentials of Human Biology.

Performance Standards

- Academic Requirements:
 - Students must have a 2.0 cumulative GPA to earn a COCC certificate or degree.
 - All courses in the program must be completed with a grade of C or higher.
- Additional Requirements:
 - Students must maintain an average of 75% on tests and 75% overall in each class to progress to subsequent core program classes. Students must pass 75% of lab skills check-offs on the first attempt to progress to subsequent core program classes. Students must demonstrate medication administration proficiency through a high score on a drug calculation exam prior to entering practicum. Students must complete 100% of psychomotor and affective competencies as identified by the program's accrediting body and complete a minimum of 160 hours of practicum to complete the program.

Sample Plan

First Year		
Summer		Credits
Choose one course from the following:		3-4
AH 105	Calculations for Allied Health	
MTH 105	Math in Society	
Or choose one course from the foundational requirements math list		
AH 114	Introduction to Pathophysiology	5
BA 214 or WR 121	Business Communications or Academic Composition	3-4
BI 105	Essentials of Human Biology	3
Credits		14-16
Second Year		
Fall		
MA 110	Introduction to Clinical Medical Assisting	7

MA 111	Introduction to Professional Medical Assisting	4
MA 150	Pharmacology for Medical Assistants	3
Credits		14
Winter		
MA 120	Clinical Medical Assisting II	7
MA 121	Administrative Medical Assisting	5
Credits		12
Spring		
MA 137	Application of Professional Medical Assisting	4
MA 147	Medical Assistant Practicum I	5
Choose one course from the following:		3-4
AH 115	Cultural Responsiveness in Allied Health	
COMM 115	Introduction to Intercultural Communication	
COMM 218	Interpersonal Communication	
COMM 219	Small Group Communication	
Credits		12-13
Total Credits		52-55