



**Good Samaritan College
of Nursing & Health Science**



Catalog Addendum 2024-2025

Medical Assistant, Certificate (CERT)

The Medical Assistant Certificate program is taught over three (3) semesters to prepare students for entry-level positions in ambulatory health care settings such as physician offices and outpatient clinics. This focus of this program is knowledge, skills, and affective behaviors to perform competently in both the clinical and the administrative areas of an ambulatory setting. Content areas include medical law and ethics, medical terminology, basic clinical techniques (vital signs, preparing and administering medications, performing laboratory procedures), administrative functions (the electronic medical record, scheduling appointments, performing diagnostic and procedural medical coding), and adhering to safety and emergency procedures. The courses are taught in a hybrid format---there are weekly face-to-face meetings and outside assignments utilizing the Learning Management System (LMS) between class meetings. NO LAB hours are obtained via distance education. This program includes a 160-hour practicum in a physician office and requires taking a national certification examination to obtain a credential for employment.

Program Rationale

The Medical Assistant (MA) technical certificate program is designed to prepare students for employment in healthcare. The United States Bureau of labor statistics predicts strong growth for medical assistants nationally through 2024. The demand for well-trained and credentialed Medical Assistants who work closely with providers (physicians, advanced practice nurses, and physician assistants) has increased over the previous decade and employment opportunities upon completing a program are high. The MA program also is designed to give options to students who want to grow beyond the initial technical certificate as the curriculum of study is embedded in the Associate of Applied Science in Health Science program.

Program Curriculum

The Medical Assistant Certificate consists of 30 credit hours including a 160-hour practicum (Note: students must be available during the daytime hours to participate in the practicum as these are the hours when most ambulatory offices are open for patient care). Upon completion of the program, the student is prepared to seek certification through nationally recognized organizations including the one recommended, the American Association of Medical

Assistants (AAMA). The certification examination offered by the AAMA is the Certified Medical Assistant (AAMA) and will be required during the last semester of the program.

Successful completion of this academic short-term technical certificate does not qualify as a certification; however, completing the short-term technical certificate prepares students for passing a national certification examination including the CMA(AAMA).

Program Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the Certificate in Medical Assistant will be able to do the following:

- To prepare medical assistants who are competent in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and (affective behavior) learning domains to enter the profession.
- Demonstrate administrative competence in the ambulatory setting.
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills based on professional standards.
- Exhibit professionalism in the ambulatory setting.
- Provide culturally sensitive patient care in an ambulatory setting.

Degree Requirements

Required Courses

ALH 105	Medical Office Procedures	3
ALH 106	Medical Office Proc II	3
ALH 110	Medical Terminology	3
ALH 150	Clinical Procedures I	3
ALH 151	Clinical Procedures II	3
ALH 152	Clinical Procedures III	3
COM101	Interpersonal Comm	3
ALH 199	Medical Assisting Practicum	3
BIO 101	Human Biology	3
MTH 107	Math for Health Science	3

Total : 30