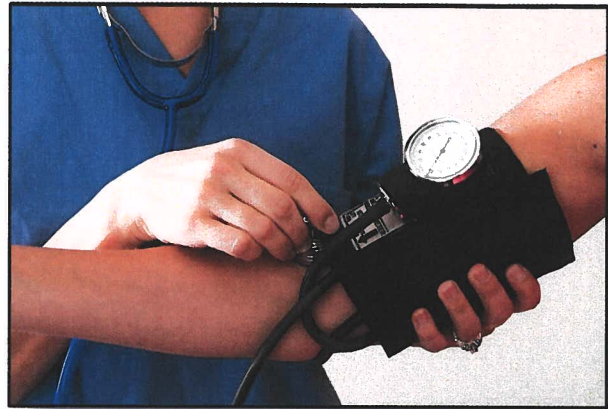


HEALTH ASSISTANT

Instructor	Michele L. Eaborn, RN, B.S.N.
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CIP Code	51.9999



COURSE OBJECTIVE

The Health Assistant program provides students with career-specific instruction necessary to take the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services certification exam and earn the credential of Personal Care Home Direct Care staff at the end of their junior year. In addition, students are given the opportunity to earn the Patient Care Technician (PCT) credential from the American Medical Association near the end of their senior year.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides students with the entry-level knowledge and clinical skills necessary to enter the healthcare field in hospitals, surgical centers, rehabilitation facilities and a wide range of other healthcare settings. Students are provided with clinical experiences to enhance the learning experience and assist in the transition to employment. Core curriculum includes an Overview of Health Careers, Basic Anatomy and Physiology, Medical Terminology, Basic Nursing Skills, Infection Control Practices, Legal and Ethical Aspects of Health Care, Patient Care and Communication Skills. The program combines lectures, discussions and hands-on training in a state-of-the-industry lab and in clinical settings to develop the knowledge and skills necessary for a career in healthcare.

COURSE TOPICS

Care Team Members | Demonstrating Knowledge and Use of Safety Practices
Functioning as a Member of the Health Care Team | Identifying First Aid Concepts
Mastering Medical Language | Medical Math | Meeting Nutritional Needs | Obtaining Employment
OSHA | Performing Basic Nursing Skills and Procedures | Providing Basic Care Needs
Understanding Body Systems and Disorders | Understanding Life Span Development

REQUIRED SUPPLIES

Scrub Set(s), Pants and Top (Any Color/Print)
Sneakers (White or Black Leather) or Nurse's Shoes (White or Black) | Watch with Second Hand

TEXTBOOKS/WORKBOOKS

Dean Vaughn Medical Terminology 350, 2nd Edition; Workbook & Videotape Series
Diversified Health Occupations Textbook, 8th Edition; Louise Simmers; 2014
Diversified Health Occupations Workbook, 8th Edition; Louise Simmers; 2014

COOPERATING COMPANIES

Cornerstone Community Care
Country Meadows Retirement Community–Bridgeville, PA
Presbyterian Senior Care Network
St. Clair Hospital–Pittsburgh, PA

SPECIALIZED SHOP EQUIPMENT

Hill-Rom Electrical Beds | Knowbody Torso | Patient Care Mannequins

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Seniors are given shadowing opportunities to observe healthcare professionals in a variety of settings and gain knowledge of the day-to-day tasks of Personal Care Home Direct Care staff and Patient Care Technicians.

CERTIFICATIONS

American Heart Association: BLS Healthcare Provider; Heartsaver Blood-borne Pathogens Certification
American Medical Association: Patient Care Technician; EKG Technician
Department of Human Services: Personal Care Home Direct Care Staff

ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS

Career Training Academy
Penn Commercial, Inc.
Pittsburgh Technical College
Western Area CTC (PN Program, \$500 Scholarship)

POST-SECONDARY TRAINING OPTIONS

California University of Pennsylvania–Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program
Community College of Allegheny County–Medical Assistant; Medical Laboratory Technician; Medical Transcription; Registered Nurse
Penn Commercial, Inc.–Massage Therapy; Medical Assistant; Practical Nurse
Pittsburgh Technical College–Practical Nurse; Registered Nurse, Medical Assisting; Surgical Technician
Washington Hospital School of Nursing–Registered Nurse Program
Western Area CTC–Practical Nursing Program

POTENTIAL CAREERS

Home Health Aide | Medical Assistant | Nursing Assistant | Patient Care Technician
Personal Care Assistant | Physical Therapy Aide | Practical Nurse | Registered Nurse | Respiratory Therapist
Surgical Technician | Veterinary Technician

NURSING SKILLS

Active Listening — Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate and not interrupting at inappropriate times.

Reading Comprehension — Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents.

Critical Thinking — Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.

Instructing — Teaching others how to do something.

Speaking — Talking to others to convey information effectively.

Time Management — Managing ones' own time and the time of others.

Service Orientation — Actively looking for ways to help people.

Monitoring — Monitoring/Assessing performance of yourself, other individuals, or organizations to make improvements or take corrective action.

Social Perceptiveness — Being aware of others' reactions and understanding why they react as they do.

Writing — Communicating effectively in writing as appropriate for the needs of the audience.

WAGES AND EMPLOYMENT TRENDS FOR NURSING ASSISTANTS

Median Wages (2020)	\$14.82 Hourly, \$30,830 Annually
Number of Jobs (2019)	1,579,100 Employees
Job Outlook (2019-2029)	8% (Much Faster Than Average)
Employment Change (2019-2029)	119,500

WESTERN AREA CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER
HEALTH ASSISTANT
2021-2022 Shop Requirements

Shop Uniform/Accessories

- Lab Jacket (Optional)
- Scrub Sets, Pants and Top (Any Color, Any Print)
- Sneakers (White or Black Leather) or Nurse's Shoes (White or Black)
- Watch with Second Hand

APPROXIMATE COST: \$125

Scrub pants, tops and lab jackets may be purchased at most discount chain or department stores or any uniform store.

Lockers are provided for students to change out of street clothes into their uniforms. Locks must be purchased from WACTC; cost is approximately \$6.

Clinical activities/learning situations may require that any body piercings be removed and any tattoos covered.

Students may be required to wear professional clothing for vocational student organization conferences, competitions and meetings.

All criteria is subject to change.