

Phlebotomy/Specimen Processing, Certificate

School of Health Professions

The purpose of the program is twofold. First the student must function as a phlebotomist in a hospital or other healthcare setting. The second purpose is to prepare the student to function as a laboratory specimen processor or laboratory aide in a clinical laboratory setting.

Admission to the program is limited by the availability of clinical sites. A separate application to the Phlebotomy/Specimen Processing Program is required. Students with previous phlebotomy certification and documented two years of clinical experience may apply to test out of the phlebotomy courses and earn a Specimen Processing Only Certificate.

The Phlebotomy Only Certificate option is for those students who desire to be a phlebotomist only and not to learn the laboratory specimen processor skills.

Graduates are eligible to sit for the Registered Phlebotomy Technician (RPT) examination.

Career Opportunities

As a phlebotomist, the graduate may draw blood in physicians' offices, blood banks, hospitals, ambulatory care centers, nursing care centers and other healthcare facilities. In addition to phlebotomy, a specimen processor will collect, evaluate and process various laboratory samples.

Special Admission and Selection Criteria

- Applicants must be graduates of an accredited secondary school program or hold a GED equivalency certificate prior to selection.

Application Process for Health Profession Programs

- Complete and submit an Application for Admission to Westmoreland County Community College
- Complete and submit an application for the specific Health Profession Program
- Submit all required documents to the Admissions Office by the deadline.
- Submit official transcript from all secondary schools attended, graduate equivalency degree (GED) programs and any other formal educational program beyond high school. I
- Enrollment is limited due to clinical site placement for practicum hours. Students cannot enroll in Phlebotomy (PHB) core classes until formally accepted into the program.
- Courses must be completed with a C grade or better (at least 2.0 GPA)

For Fall Start:

- Application Deadline May 1 prior to fall start Acceptance Notification May 30

For Spring Start:

- Application Deadline May 1 prior to spring start Acceptance Notification May 30

Essential Cognitive, Physical and Behavioral Functions

The Westmoreland County Community College Health Profession Programs including Nursing, Dental Programs, Radiology, Sonography, Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy and Specimen Processing require that students meet certain functional abilities essential to each program. A detailed list is available in each program's handbook.

Final Admission Criteria

Students accepted into the School of Health Professions including Nursing, Dental Programs, Radiology, Sonography, Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy and Specimen Processing are required to have a criminal background check, child abuse history and drug screening at the student's expense.

The Program Director of each Health Profession Program gives the accepted student directions for setting up a password-secure Castle Branch Account.

Castle Branch is the background screening and compliance tracking company, which provides Westmoreland County Community College Health Profession Programs with student background screening services.

Castle Branch background screening and compliance management includes:

- Background Checks (FBI Fingerprint Check, Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse Clearances)
- Urine Drug Screen
- Immunization and Record Tracking
- Houses PPD (TB screening)
- CPR Training Documentation
- Liability Insurance (if applicable for program)
- Houses the results of the Required Health Physical.

Final admission is conditional pending receipt of Urine Drug Screen and receipt and evaluation of Criminal Background Check to determine if there is any conviction that may bar the applicant from entering the Health Profession Programs.

- Positive Urine Drug Screen will result in denial of admission.
- Any record of child abuse will result in denial of admission.
- According to federal sentencing guidelines, any punishment over one year indicates a felony.
- Any felony conviction within the past 10 years will result in denial of admission to any Health Profession Program.
- Any misdemeanor will be evaluated based on the nature of the offense, length of time since the offense and explanatory letter/material submitted by the applicant.

Program Learning Outcomes

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

- Collect, transport, handle, and process laboratory specimens for analysis.
- Demonstrate professional conduct, stress management, and interpersonal and communications skills with patients, peers, and other communications.
- Display an understanding of requisitioning and the legal implications of their work.
- Recognize and act upon individual needs for continuing education as a function of growth and maintenance of professional competence.

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Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr.	Term Offered	Prereq(s)	Options Available
Fall	1	PDV 101	First Year Seminar	1	F, Sp, Su		
	2	ALH 122	Medical Terminology	3	F, Sp Su		
	3	PHB 101	Clinical Phlebotomy	4	F, Sp		
	4	PHB 105	Specimen Processing	4	F, Sp		
	5	PHB 110	Specimen Processing Practicum	4	F, Sp		

Total Program Credits

16

Phlebotomy ONLY Processing Certificate

Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr.	Term Offered	Prereq(s)	Options Available
Fall	1	PDV 101	First Year Seminar	1	F, Sp, Su		
	2	ALH 122	Medical Terminology	3	F, Sp Su		
	3	PHB 101	Clinical Phlebotomy	4	F, Sp		
	4	PHB 110	Specimen Processing Practicum	4	F, Sp		

Total Program Credits

12