

Phlebotomy/Specimen Processing, Certificate

School of Health Professions

Program Description

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 and the Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT) 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.

Getting Started: General Application Process for Health Professions Programs

- Apply to be a Westmoreland County Community College Student.
- Submit official transcript from all secondary schools attended, graduate equivalency degree (GED) programs and any other formal educational program beyond high school.
- Applicants for the Westmoreland County Community College Health Profession programs must be a Westmoreland County Community College student and have an active Student ID and college email account.
- Applicants for the Health Professions Programs must also have attended any college required planning sessions and placement assessment(s) and completed any developmental coursework that may be required based upon the assessment evaluation prior to applying for the selected Health Profession.
- Complete and submit an application for the specific Health Profession Program (Dental Assisting, Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Expanded Functions Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting, Nursing, Phlebotomy/Specimen Processing, Surgical Technology or Radiology).
- Submit all required documents to the College by the deadline.
- Qualified applicants to the Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, and Nursing Program will be invited to take the standardized entrance examination. The score on this examination is utilized in the selective admissions process. You may only take this examination once per admission cycle.

- Preference for admissions will be given to students who exceed minimum criteria

Special Admission and Selection Criteria for the Certificate Phlebotomy/Specimen Processing Program

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

For Fall Start:

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

For Spring Start:

Application Deadline - October 1 prior to spring start
Acceptance Notification - October 31

Final Admission Criteria

Students accepted into the School of Health Professions are required to have a health clearance, 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 Tuberculosis screening results
- 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 to determine if there are any substances that will prevent the applicant from participating in clinical experiences or bar entry into Health Profession Programs.
- 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.
- Receipt of proof of vaccinations including, but not limited to, MMR, Varicella, Tdap, HepB, Flu, and COVID-19 that are necessary to participate in clinical experiences.
- Receipt of Child Abuse History to determine if there is any conviction that may bar the applicant from entering the Health Profession Programs.

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Essential Cognitive, Physical and Behavioral Functions

The Westmoreland County Community College Health Profession Programs including Nursing, Dental Programs, Radiology, Sonography, Medical Assisting, Surgical Technology, 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.

Please be aware that based on ongoing changes occurring in the dental profession, it may be necessary to modify courses listed in this catalog to meet changing practice competencies.

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 healthcare personnel.
- 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 competency

Phlebotomy/Specimen Processing Certificate

Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr.	Term Offered	Prereq/Coreq(Co)	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	ALH 122, PHB 105 (if applicable)	
	4	PHB 105	Specimen Processing	4	F, Sp	Co: ALH 122, PHB 101 (if applicable)	
	5	PHB 110	Specimen Processing Practicum	4	F, Sp	Successful completion of PHB 101 and PHB 105 (If applicable) during first 8 weeks of semester	

Total Program Credits

16

PHBSP

Students must pass all program courses with a C or better.

Phlebotomy ONLY Certificate

Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr.	Term Offered	Prereq/Coreq(Co)	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	ALH 122, PHB 105 (if applicable)	
	4	PHB 110	Specimen Processing Practicum	4	F, Sp	Successful completion of PHB 101 and PHB 105 (If applicable) during first 8 weeks of semester	

Total Program Credits

12

PHLEB