

MEDICAL ASSISTING: ACCELERATED CAREER (CNA TO CMA BRIDGE)

Health Career Admissions

Program Code: G.MAS.CER.BRDG

Certificate

Minimum graduation requirement — 12 semester hours

The Medical Assisting Accelerated Career provides an opportunity for qualified certified nursing assistants to enter the medical assisting field. The program is an accelerated curriculum that will prepare graduating students to function in the role of a Medical Assistant who will veave act as a liaison between the physician and the patient. Medical assistants are skilled healthcare workers who demonstrate their knowledge in both clinical and administrative areas. In the administrative area, typical tasks include medical records management and patient scheduling. Clinical tasks include taking vital signs, EKGs, venipuncture, administering medications and immunizations, sterile instrumentation, and point of care testing. Medical assistants primarily work in outpatient settings but may work in hospitals, medical billing companies, or any place office skills and medical knowledge merge. The Medical Assisting Program is approved by the American Registry of Medical Assistants, www.arma-cert.org and the National Healthcareer Association, www.nhanow.com. Upon completion, students will be eligible to sit for the National Healthcareer Association (NHA) certification exam.

Program Notes

- Applicants must be currently employed as a certified nurse assistant and in good standing with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).
- To be admitted to the program, students must place into MAT 072 within the past two years, and must place into ENG 101 and CCS 099, and/or approval of program director.
- Applicants must be recommended by the employer and show evidence of having worked at least 300 hours as a CNA with a letter of verification from an employer.
- Students will obtain externship assignment through their employer. Employer must be able to provide all applicable administrative and clinical medical assistant skills and competencies within the scope and practice of a CMA.
- Students must complete the program in two sequential semesters. A student who has been out of the program more than 2 years after completing MAS 135/137 will need to meet with the program director, reapply for selective admissions, and reassess competency in all MAS courses through cognitive and/or psychomotor evaluations.
- To remain in the program and graduate, students must complete all required program courses with a C or higher in each course and maintain a 2.50 GPA and follow all program ethical criteria as outlined in the student handbook, as well as all standards of conduct established by Parkland College and the clinical practice agency.

Suggested Full-time Sequence

1st Semester	2nd Semester
MAS 116	HCS 173
MAS 137	MAS 156
HCS 151	MAS 158
HCS 155	
HCS 174	

Required Program Courses (12 hours)		Cr. Hrs.
HCS 151	Health Care Records Management.....	2
HCS 155	Pharmacology for Allied Health.....	2
HCS 173	Applied Electrocardiography	1
HCS 174	Legal Issues in Health Care	1
MAS 116	Point of Care Testing.	1
MAS 137	Medical Assisting Accelerated	1
MAS 156	Aseptic Technique	2
MAS 158	Administration of Medication.	2

Total Semester Credit Hours

12