Clackamas Community College
HEALTH SCIENCES

Nursing Assistant Course
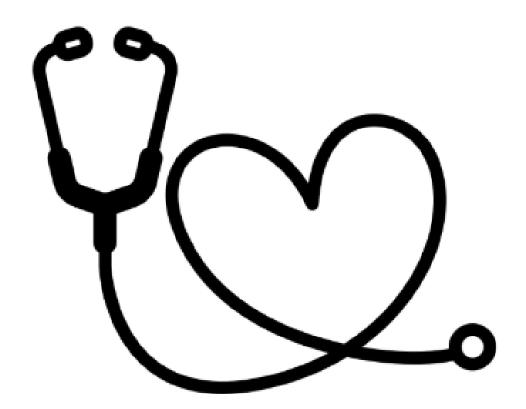
2025-26 Advising Guide

Clackamas Community College – Health Sciences Department
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Nursing Assistant (NA1) - Clackamas Community College
Harmony Campus, Milwaukie, OR

The Nursing Assistant Course accepts 20 students per cohort (Fall, Winter, Spring) and 10 students per cohort in Summer Term. Classes occur every term at our Harmony Campus. The program provides students with a combination of online learning with hands-on skills labs and an externship (e.g., long-term care or assisted living clinical experience).

The purpose of the Advising Guide is to provide prospective students with the necessary information to make an informed decision prior to applying.

If you have questions regarding eligibility, application dates, and/or process below, please contact healthsciences@clackamas.edu.

Program Eligibility and Requirements

Students who have been formally accepted into the Nursing Assistant Program must attend a mandatory orientation. During the orientation, students will start the process to complete all non-academic requirements. Please start collecting your vaccine records for the below list of immunizations and if accepted, be prepared to submit documentation during the orientation.

- ☐ High School Diploma or equivalent
- ☐ Immunizations (MMR, Varicella, Tdap, Hep B, COVID-19*, Seasonal Flu*)
- ☐ Criminal Background Check
- ☐ Drug Screen
- ☐ Tuberculosis test
- ☐ Training (BLS/CPR certification through American Heart Association)

Note: Criminal background check requires a social security number. Students will start the criminal background check process during the orientation and upload vaccine records and BLS/CPR card.
*COVID-19 and the Flu vaccine are recommended but not required

Application Due Dates, Status Dates, and Tentative Orientation Dates are posted to the webpage.

Student Success with Online Courses and Lab Courses

The Nursing Assistant course is designed for online learning with face to face skills labs. The online courses require students to have strong computer skills (examples below):

The online courses require students to have strong computer skills (examples below):
- using Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, and Google Docs
- saving and uploading documents
- using email, and avoiding phishing attempts
- attaching documents to emails
- navigating the Internet; recognizing credible, safe information
- searching for career and job information
- understanding the impact of your digital footprint

Although it is not required, we highly recommend students prepare for online course navigation. If you are a CCC student, you have access to the following free preparatory courses:

- ☐ Computer and digital literacy - https://libguides.clackamas.edu/northstar
- ☐ Moodle 101 – Information about Moodle can be found on the CCC website by searching "Moodle 101"

The face-to-face skills lab require students have the following abilities (examples below):

- Strength and mobility: able to lift and push 50 lbs., repeatedly lift, bend, and kneel
- Balance and coordination: fine motor skills, climb and descend stairs while carrying patients
- Fine motor skills (ability to make movements using the small muscles in your hands or wrists)
- Tactile ability (sense of touch)
- Visual acuity (clearness of vision)
- Hearing ability (auscultate patient vitals, audible alarms, etc.)
- English language (ability to read, write and verbally relay information to patient and team)
- Professional behaviors (ability to show up on time, maintain boundaries and appropriate language, follow protocols, adapt to changing environment)

Recommended Courses (not required)

Note: although the following courses are not required to attend the Nursing Assistant Course, they are highly recommended to help support student success.

☐ HP-110 Medical Terminology; or MA-110 Medical Terminology (4 credit)
☐ WR-121Z Composition I; or WR-101 Workplace Writing (4 credit)

Nursing Assistant Tentative Schedule

Weeks of Term	Class/Activity Types
Weeks 1-11	Lecture (asynchronous) – 33 hours
Weeks 1-5	Lab (in-person) – 44 hours • Tuesdays and Thursdays o Cohort A: 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM o Cohort B: 1:00 PM – 5:30 PM
Week 6	Tuesday – Written Exam & Clinical Orientation
Weeks 7-10	Clinical (in-person, clinical sites) – 45 hours • T/Th and possibly W • Typical schedule will be Day Shift • More details given during orientation & class
Weeks 9 **or** 10	Final Exam

Nursing Assistant Application Steps

Step 1: Review all information provided on the website before completing the application.
Step 2: Submit program application including the **vaccine attestation form** that can be found on the website and embedded in the application.
Step 3: Collect your vaccine records (see website for list). If accepted, you will bring your vaccine records to the mandatory orientation. Students who do not have proof of immunization at the time of orientation, will be deferred to the following cohort.

NURSING ASSISTANT ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

Nurses/nursing assistants must possess physical and cognitive capacity, emotional stability, and communication skills essential for the delivery of safe, effective nursing care. Students admitted to Nursing Assistant I, with or without accommodation, must be able to meet the following academic and technical standards (essential functions).

Visual acuity (clearness of vision)
Sufficient to gather data on clients and their environments and to provide appropriate care. Examples of relevant activities include, but are not limited to:
- Detect changes in skin color or condition
- Collect data from recording equipment and measurement devices used in client care
- Detect a fire in a client area and initiate emergency action
- Ability to read resident care plans
- Accurately place and maintain position of stethoscope for detecting blood pressure sounds.

Manipulate small equipment and containers, such as packaged juice foil pouches, hearing aid batteries.

Strength & Mobility
Sufficient to perform client care activities and emergency procedures.
Examples of relevant activities include, but are not limited to:

- Safely transfer clients in and out of bed and assist them with ambulation using appropriate devices e.g. a gait belt to prevent client falls.
- Lift or move clients
- Pull, push &/or lift objects weighing 50 pounds or more
- Turn and position clients as needed to prevent complications due to bed rest.
- Accurately read the volumes and empty body fluid collection devices hung or placed below bed level
- Reach under bed to pick up W/C footrest, resident's shoes, etc.
- Reach to shoulder or higher level
- Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation

Physical Endurance
Sufficient to complete assigned periods of clinical practice (e.g. 8-hour shifts, days, evenings, or weekends) with acceptable speed (an acceptable speed of function is reflected by ability to carry out the usual client care assignment appropriate to a particular point in the course within the allotted clinical time) while caring for 4-6 clients per shift.

Ability to speak, comprehend, read, and write in English
At a level that meets the need for accurate, clear, and effective communication with individuals, families, and groups respecting social, cultural and spiritual diversity.

Examples of relevant activities include, but are not limited to:
- Give clear oral reports
- Read watches with second hands
- Read graphs
- Negotiate interpersonal conflict
- Read and understand English printed documents
- Write legibly in English in client charts

Emotional Stability
To function effectively under stress, adapt to changing situations, demonstrate honesty and integrity, and follow through on assigned client care responsibilities.

Examples of relevant activities include, but are not limited to:

- Deal with the unexpected, e.g., frequently changing client status
- Handle strong emotions expressed by clients or others in the health care setting
- Be flexible with changing environments and schedules in both class and clinical settings

Cognitive Ability

To collect, analyze, and integrate information and knowledge to make clinical judgments that promote client outcomes.

Examples of relevant activities include, but are not limited to:

- Respond appropriately in emergency situations with sustained attention.
- Demonstrate skills of recall using both long- and short-term memory

ADA Accommodations: The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1991 (ADA) mandates that reasonable accommodations must be made for individuals with disabilities. Any student who may need an accommodation for a disability should make an appointment with the Program Director and the Disability Resource Center: https://www.clackamas.edu/campus-life/student-services/disability-resource-center

Program Contacts

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