

HEALTH

CCAC[®]

DEGREE, CERTIFICATE & DIPLOMA PROGRAMS



MICHAEL SIMON

Associate of Science in Nursing
CCAC Class of 2014

Master of Science in Nursing Administration
IUP Class of 2018

Nursing Manager
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HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS

Thanks to advances in medical technology, increased life expectations and an aging baby boomer population, the health care field promises to offer some of the best job prospects of the next decade. In its Occupational Outlook Handbook, the U.S. Department of Labor has projected that 11 of the 20 fastest-growing jobs will be in health care-related fields, with the most employment growth by 2026 among health care support jobs.

CCAC's health career programs in Allied Health and Nursing, with more than 30 certificate and degree options, encompass a wide range of exciting professions. Certificate programs and the Phlebotomist diploma program help students develop the skills and knowledge needed for entry-level positions, while CCAC's other diploma programs offer working professionals the opportunity to acquire specialized skills. Graduates may choose to enter the workforce or apply their credits toward an associate degree. Associate degree programs not only prepare graduates for career success, they also provide the opportunity to transfer to a four-year institution to pursue a bachelor's degree. CCAC is one of the nation's leading producers of graduates with associate degrees in the health professions.

Students enrolling in health career programs may chart a path in patient care, medical diagnostic and therapeutic services, health supportive services or rehabilitative therapies. CCAC offers a wide variety of nonpaid clinical, fieldwork, internship and practicum experiences as an integral aspect of the students' academic studies. CCAC partners with hundreds of hospitals, surgical centers, physician groups, nursing homes, community agencies, emergency responders, home health agencies, rehabilitation centers and other health care agencies throughout the region.

All of the health care programs offered by the college are separately accredited by their appropriate regulatory agencies.

PATIENT CARE

CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN

Certificate Program

This CCAC program is ideal for individuals who are detail-oriented and have a knack for organization. Central service technicians provide support to all patient care services in health care facilities. They are responsible for decontaminating, cleaning, processing, assembling, sterilizing, storing and distributing the medical devices and supplies needed in patient care, especially during surgery.

Students are exposed to all facets of central service functioning and are equipped for entry-level employment in hospitals and clinics. Clinical experiences in area hospital central service departments are included.

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Associate of Science Degree & Certificate Programs

One of the nation's fastest growing occupations, medical assistants work alongside doctors in physicians' offices and other health care facilities where they perform essential clinical and administrative duties. These include taking medical histories, recording the vital signs of patients and maintaining medical records.

Students enrolled in the certificate program are prepared for entry-level positions as medical assistants in a doctor's office, clinic or other health care setting. Students in the degree program have the opportunity to continue their education and complete the coursework needed for an associate degree. Both programs include a nonpaid clinical externship.

NURSING

Associate of Science Degree Program

Offered at all four campuses, as well as California University of Pennsylvania, the CCAC Nursing Program thoroughly prepares students to apply for the NCLEX-RN examination and to assume entry-level positions as registered nurses. Learning experiences prepare graduates for professional nursing practices as defined and delineated by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing. The program consists of courses in liberal arts and selected sciences as well as nursing. Clinical experiences in a variety of health care facilities are included. An advanced placement option is available to licensed practical nurses and to those with prior nursing school experience who meet certain criteria. Graduates have the opportunity to enter high-demand careers with strong earning potential.

Learn more about CCAC's Allied Health & Nursing Programs:

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PARAMEDIC

Associate of Science Degree & Certificate Programs

Few jobs require life-saving abilities, but for paramedics, it's all part of a rewarding day's work. As the leader of the pre-hospital team, the highly skilled paramedic directs the care delivered by basic EMTs and first responders, acting quickly to provide emergency care and transport patients to medical facilities. Students receive extensive training in the use of procedures, medications and equipment to manage medical emergencies and traumatic injuries. Pre-program requirements include current certification as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).

The certificate program prepares students for entry-level employment as paramedics in an emergency medical service or other medical setting. Both the certificate and degree programs prepare individuals for entry-level employment as advanced life support providers. The degree program also prepares individuals for advancement into supervisory roles or further education.

Graduates are eligible to take the credential examination of the National Registry of EMTs to become a nationally registered paramedic. The credential is recognized by the Pennsylvania Department of Health for certification as a paramedic.

PHLEBOTOMIST

Diploma Program

Phlebotomists perform the essential work of collecting blood specimens for the detection, diagnosis and treatment of disease. Students enrolled in this program are prepared for entry-level positions as phlebotomists in hospitals, blood drawing stations, physicians' offices, research facilities or other health care settings. Clinical experiences in health care facilities are included.

Graduates are eligible to apply to take the national examination given by the American Society for Clinical Pathology.

RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Associate of Science Degree Program

Essential members of the health care team, respiratory therapists are involved in saving and improving the quality of people's lives as they treat patients who have trouble breathing. Practicing under the direction of a physician, respiratory therapists assume primary responsibility for all respiratory therapeutic treatments and diagnostic procedures. They may perform diagnostic tests, administer breathing treatments, record a patient's progress and consult with physicians on continuing care.

This degree program prepares students for entry-level employment in the field of respiratory therapy. Training includes the use of equipment in a variety of patient-oriented hospital experiences. Employment opportunities exist in hospitals, clinics, home care and sales.

Graduates are eligible to take the examination leading to certification as a registered respiratory therapist sponsored by the National Board for Respiratory Care. Graduates have the opportunity to enter in-demand careers with strong earning potential.

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST

Associate of Science Degree & Certificate Programs

This program is ideal for individuals who are meticulous and who desire to be part of a highly skilled team in a growing field. Students are prepared for entry-level positions assisting surgeons in the operating room while practicing the principles of asepsis, the state of being free of living pathogenic microorganisms. Responsibilities include preparation of equipment and supplies before, during and after surgery.

Students in the certificate program have the opportunity to continue their education and to complete the coursework needed for an associate degree. Clinical experiences in a variety of surgical centers and hospitals are included. Graduates are eligible to take the National Surgical Technologist Certifying Examination administered by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting.

ANESTHESIA TECHNOLOGIST

Associate of Science Degree Program

Anesthesia technicians are vital members of the anesthesia care team. They assist with the preparation of equipment and medication required for the delivery of anesthesia care to patients who are in chronic pain or undergoing surgery.

Students enrolled in this associate degree program are prepared for entry-level work under the supervision of an anesthesia provider in a variety of clinical settings that include hospital operating rooms, interventional and diagnostic radiology, labor and delivery units, intensive care units, emergency rooms, outpatient procedure suites and ambulatory surgery centers. Graduates have the opportunity to enter careers with strong earning potential.

MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC & THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

COMPUTED ASSISTED TOMOGRAPHY (CAT Scanning)

Diploma Program

This two-semester program is designed for certified radiologic technologists, radiation therapists or nuclear medicine technologists who are seeking to expand their skills for specialization in computed assisted tomography (CAT) scanning. The field of CAT or CT imaging uses scanners to produce images of the human anatomy as an aid in the diagnosis of disease and injury. CT scanning technologists work in hospitals, clinics, health care centers and private imaging radiology departments.

Students are prepared to function as technically proficient entry-level CT technologists who can apply and perform safe patient care radiation protection practices and operate computerized imaging scanners to meet standardized protocols under the direction of a radiologist.

Graduates are eligible to take the advanced certification examination provided by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.





MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING (MRI Scanning)

Diploma Program

This two-semester program is designed for certified radiologic technologists, radiation therapists or nuclear medicine technologists who wish to expand their skills for specialization in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanning. MRI uses scanners to produce images of the anatomy as an aid in the diagnosis of disease and injury. MRI technologists work in hospitals, clinics, health care centers and private imaging radiology departments.

Students are prepared to function as technically proficient entry-level MR technologists who can apply and perform safe patient care magnetic imaging protection practices and operate magnetic resonance imaging scanners, meeting standardized protocols under the direction of a radiologist.

Graduates are eligible to take the advanced certification examination offered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) (MR).

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST

Associate of Science Degree Program

Students enrolled in this program are prepared for entry-level employment in the growing field of radiologic (X-ray) technology. Radiologic technologists are needed in every health care setting, including hospitals, outpatient clinics, health centers and physicians' offices. Students learn to produce radiologic images of body parts as an aid in the diagnosis of disease and injury. Clinical experiences in a variety of health care facilities are included. Graduates may enter careers with strong earning potential

Graduates are eligible to take the Radiologic Technologist Radiography (RTR) (R) certification examination offered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists required for employment in this field.

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHER (Ultrasound)

Associate of Science Degree Program

Students enrolled in this program are equipped with the skills necessary for entry-level employment in the high-demand field of diagnostic medical sonography. Diagnostic ultrasound uses high frequency sound waves to image organs and structures within the body. Skilled technicians play a vital role in ensuring proper diagnosis of disease and injury.

Students will select one specialty in the following fields of study in which to major: general ultrasound (abdominal, OB, GYN), cardiac ultrasound or vascular ultrasound. Clinical experiences in a variety of health care facilities are included. Graduates are eligible to take the American Registry in Diagnostic Medical Sonography exam leading to registration as diagnostic medical sonographers.

Graduates have the opportunity to enter careers with strong earning potential.

MEDICAL LABORATORY ASSISTANT

Certificate Program

Students enrolled in this program are prepared for entry-level employment as medical laboratory assistants in a clinical laboratory setting. Job duties may include running lab tests and preparing specimens, performing phlebotomy, recording testing information and maintaining inventory. Clinical experiences in a variety of health care facilities are included. Employment opportunities in this growing field exist in clinics, hospitals and private labs.

Graduates also have the opportunity to continue their studies through CCAC's Medical Laboratory Technician Associate of Science degree program and/or transfer to a medical technologist four-year degree program.

MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

Associate of Science Degree Program

This degree program prepares graduates for entry-level positions in the growing field of clinical laboratory work. Medical laboratory technicians perform routine medical laboratory tests for the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease. Clinical experiences in a variety of health care facilities are included. Employment opportunities exist in hospitals and private laboratories where work is done under the supervision of a pathologist.

Graduates are eligible to take the national examination for certification as medical laboratory technicians.

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY

Associate of Science Degree & Certificate Programs

Students enrolled in this program are equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary for entry-level employment in the general practice of nuclear medicine technology. Nuclear medicine is an imaging health science used to diagnose and treat disease states through the administration of radioactive isotopes to patients. Technologists then image the characteristics and functions of tissues or organs in which the drugs localize. Employment opportunities exist in hospitals, physicians' offices and clinics.

The 12-month certificate program is designed for students who wish to expand their skills in the field of nuclear medicine technology. The degree program includes an externship in a nuclear medicine facility. Graduates are eligible to take the national examination leading to certification as a nuclear medicine technologist. Graduates have the opportunity to enter careers with strong earning potential.





RADIATION THERAPY TECHNOLOGY

Associate of Science Degree & Certificate Programs

Radiation therapy involves the use of high-energy radiation in the treatment of patients with malignant tumors. Registered radiation therapists are employed in major cancer treatment centers and in hospitals with radiation therapy departments.

Applicants to the certificate program are required to have graduated from a Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) accredited school of diagnostic radiography and must be currently American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) board certified in diagnostic radiography RT(R) or be board certified and employed in diagnostic radiography for at least one year. Graduates of the certificate program are eligible to apply to take the ARRT Radiation Therapy certification exam.

The degree program is ideal for those not already certified in the field. Clinical experiences in a variety of health care facilities are included. Graduates of this program are eligible to apply to take the national credentialing exam in radiation therapy technology given by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. Graduates have the opportunity to enter careers with strong earning potential.

HEALTH SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

DIETETIC TECHNICIAN

Associate of Science Degree Program

This program is ideal for students who are interested in food and nutrition and who want to be an integral part of a health management team, involved in community or public health, or who might be seeking a career in food management.

Employment opportunities exist in foodservice establishments, restaurants, nursing homes and hospitals. Practice experiences in a variety of settings are included. In addition, students are prepared to provide nutrition education in community settings and home health agencies.

Graduates are eligible to take the registration exam given by the Accreditation Council of Education in Nutrition and Dietetics and to become an entry-level dietetic technician registered (DTR) or to take the credentialing exam from the Association of Nutrition and Foodservice Professionals to become a certified dietary manager.

DIETARY MANAGER

Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals Training Certificate Program

This program prepares students who are interested in food and nutrition for careers in health care, institutional foodservice and community nutrition programs. Practice experiences in a variety of settings are included.

Graduates are eligible for membership in the Association of Nutrition and Foodservice Professionals and qualify to take the credentials examination to become a certified dietary manager.

Articulation to the Dietetic Technician associate degree program is possible upon successful completion of the Dietary Manager Certificate program.

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Associate of Science Degree Program

Students enrolled in this program are prepared for careers that deal with the development, maintenance and use of patient health information for medical care, health planning, quality improvement, medical research, professional education and financial reimbursement. Increasing employment opportunities exist in hospitals, ambulatory care and long-term care centers, behavioral health care facilities and physician practices.

Graduates are eligible to take the national examination of the American Health Information Management Association to qualify as entry-level registered health information technicians.

MEDICAL INSURANCE SPECIALIST

Certificate Program

Students enrolled in this program are prepared for entry-level employment in the growing field of medical insurance and health care claims processing as well as coding and computerized medical billing. This program is also ideal for health care personnel who wish to upgrade their professional skills.

Employment opportunities exist in physician practices, hospitals, insurance companies and billing services. Graduates may apply their credits toward other select certificate or associate degree programs.

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

Associate of Science Degree & Certificate Programs

This program is ideal for individuals who enjoy helping others and who have an interest in the expanding field of pharmacology. Pharmacy technicians assist registered pharmacists in compounding and distributing medications, preparing intravenous admixtures and providing other pharmaceutical care services. Externships in a variety of settings are included.

The certificate program prepares students for entry-level careers with employment opportunities in acute care, ambulatory care or long-term care settings, research facilities, mail-order pharmacies and home infusion companies. The degree program prepares graduates to assist registered pharmacists in all facets of pharmacy care services in retail or hospital pharmacies.

Degree and certificate graduates are eligible to sit for the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) exam.





REHABILITATIVE THERAPIES

MASSAGE THERAPIST

Associate of Science Degree & Certificate Programs

This program is designed for individuals who are interested in promoting health and wellness and who enjoy using their skills to help others. Students are prepared for careers in professional massage therapy with proficiency in designing and implementing client-specific massage therapy approaches. Graduates of the degree program learn advanced soft tissue interventions for clinical and spa environments. The certificate program is designed to provide entry-level skills for students seeking practice as licensed massage therapists.

Graduates are eligible to apply for licensure as a massage therapist in Pennsylvania with opportunities as independent contractors or employment in a variety of health-related settings, including pain management clinics, wellness retreat centers, hospice facilities, orthopedic centers, and physical therapy and chiropractic offices. Licensed therapists may also work in athletic clubs, resorts, spas, yoga centers, dance studios and on cruise ships.

Upon completion, graduates are eligible to take the Massage and Bodywork Licensing Exam offered by the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

Associate of Science Degree Program

Students enrolled in this program are prepared for entry-level positions to assist in providing occupational therapy services under the supervision of a registered occupational therapist in a variety of facilities. Certified occupational therapy assistants are in high demand and are educated to assist in the prevention of further disability and the restoration of function in persons with developmental, physical or emotional disabilities, enabling patients to become as independent as possible within their own environment. Fieldwork experiences in a wide variety of health care and school-based facilities are included.

Graduates are eligible to take the National Certification Examination for the Occupational Therapy Assistant administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

Associate of Science Degree Program

Physical Therapist Assistants play an important part in the rehabilitation and treatment of patients with chronic conditions or injuries. Through the utilization of therapeutic modalities, exercise and other techniques, physical therapy aids patients in the relief of pain and discomfort as well as assists individuals with disabilities in restoring optimal functioning. Students enrolled in this program are prepared to perform entry-level physical therapy procedures and related tasks under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist. Clinical experiences in a wide variety of health care facilities are included.

Employment opportunities are rapidly increasing in hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation facilities, schools, patients' homes, sports medicine clinics and private practices. Graduates are eligible to take the national physical therapy examination for the Physical Therapist Assistant administered by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy.

GENERAL ADMISSION INFORMATION FOR HEALTH CAREER PROGRAMS

The Allied Health and Nursing programs at CCAC are limited enrollment programs, which means that students must apply and be accepted to the program prior to enrolling in program-specific courses. This application is separate from the general CCAC application.

Applying to CCAC's Allied Health and Nursing programs is a two-step process. Each program has unique admission requirements. For more information on applying to an Allied Health program, please email the name of your program choice and your U.S. postal mailing address to alliedhealthinfo@ccac.edu. Applications are not available online.

For more information on applying to the Nursing program, please visit the CCAC website at ccac.edu and enter Nursing Program in the search box.

Allied Health programs are offered at specific campuses due to the high costs of purchasing and maintaining the state-of-the-science equipment used in the labs. Although a program is offered at a specific campus, general education required courses may be taken at any CCAC site or remotely through CCAC's online course offerings.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY (CCAC)

Since its founding in 1966, CCAC has flourished, becoming the educational powerhouse it is today—a nationally renowned two-year college dedicated to serving all members of the community. From groundbreaking student success initiatives to top-ranked academic and career-based programs, CCAC continues to be the college of choice for nearly one out of three adults in the Greater Pittsburgh metropolitan region.

Every year, more than 25,000 students enroll at CCAC, taking advantage of 160+ degree, certificate, diploma and transfer programs while thousands more access noncredit and workforce development courses. Comprising four campuses and four neighborhood centers, as well as other off-site locations, CCAC is honored to have one of the largest veteran student populations in the state and takes pride in ranking among the nation's top community colleges for the number of individuals graduating in nursing and other health-related professions.

CCAC graduates have transferred to the nation's most prestigious colleges and universities, have obtained the most academically challenging and competitive degrees and can be found at leading companies, organizations and institutions throughout the country. CCAC alumni are actively engaged in every sector of society, providing leadership to scores of economic, scientific, civic and philanthropic entities both in the Pittsburgh region and around the world. Visit ccac.edu to learn more.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



"At CCAC, they know the students by name, and everyone is willing to help. They want you to do well—and I want to succeed, so it's a perfect match."

Davida Nash, who bubbles with energy and enthusiasm, was not meant to sit at a desk or behind a teller's window all day. So, after working in a bank for three years, she was ready for a change. Her mother urged Nash to become a nurse, like her. Although Nash had an interest in patient care, she wanted to explore a different path. When she learned about the new Anesthesia Technologist program at CCAC, she was intrigued, so she enrolled—and Nash has been extremely happy with her decision ever since.

According to Nash, who is on track to graduate with an Associate of Science in Anesthesia Technologist degree, *"I'm learning so much, and this is such a good experience. It's never the same thing every day."*

CCAC was Nash's first choice to further her education because it was close to home and—having earned an associate degree in General Studies in 2015—she knew CCAC had a wide range of programs, affordable tuition and small class sizes. She also knew from experience that CCAC instructors are invested in their students' success and are quick to respond with help and encouragement when needed. In addition, the counselors, tutors and advisors she interacts with are all committed to helping her reach her goals.

The Anesthesia Technologist program includes clinical experience in a local hospital where Nash has the opportunity to observe and use her skills under supervision in a surgical setting, with *"real patients and real people,"* to enhance her training and prepare her for her new career.

The busy, single mother of a 4-year-old son and 10-year-old daughter also works about 25 hours a week for a home health care agency. Her daughter, who holds the flash cards when Nash is studying for a test, wants to follow in her mom's footsteps and is learning that sometimes you have to study when you want to play. The lessons are paying off for mother and daughter—both of whom are earning high marks from their teachers.

Students can transfer credits to participating Pennsylvania colleges and universities through the Pennsylvania Transfer and Articulation Center (PA TRAC).

For more information about the PA TRAC program, visit pacollegetransfer.com. Students interested in pursuing a four-year degree should work with a CCAC counselor to select courses that will transfer to their college or university of choice.

For further information or to take a tour of a campus near you, call **412.237.3100** or email admissions@ccac.edu.

Notifications of nondiscrimination and contact information can be found at ccac.edu/nondiscrimination.

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