HEALTH SCIENCES (HPS) (Short-Term Certificate)

Program Purpose

The primary intent of a short-term certificate in Health Sciences is to fulfill basic occupational objectives, prepare the graduate, or provide specialty training/competencies for students who wish to enter a health field. The prescribed program of study is included in the College catalog. All health sciences clinical are supervised practicums within the clinical setting that provides laboratory practice, medication administration assistance, and basic nursing care in health sciences. Emphasis is placed on collection techniques, specimen processing, workflow practices, referrals, utilizing information systems, medication administration providing activities of daily living care and basic nursing care. Math, English, asepsis, and are also included courses.

In addition to CPR Certification, the graduate will be eligible to sit for the Phlebotomist Certification Examination, Medication Aide Certification Examination, and Certified Nurse Aide Certification upon completion of the program. This course satisfies the requirements necessary to sit for the Phlebotomist Certification Examination and is certified by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Board of Certification (BOC), Nurse Aide Certification Examination (certified by Alabama Department of Public Health) and Medication Aide Certification Exam (Certified by Alabama Board of Nursing and National Council State Board of Nursing).

The Health Sciences Short Certificate (Phlebotomy) is designed to prepare the graduate to recognize situations that require Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) first aid, and effectively implement emergency procedures when needed. Graduates will be able to apply medical terminology in verbal and written communication. It is also designed to train individuals to properly collect and process blood and other clinical specimens for laboratory testing and to interact with healthcare personnel, patients, and the public.

NAS-100 Long Term Care Nursing Assistant course fulfills the seventy-five-hour Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) requirements for training long-term care nursing assistants in preparation for certification through competency evaluation. Emphasis is placed on the development of knowledge, attitudes, and skills required of the long-term care nursing assistant. Upon completion of this course, the student should demonstrate satisfactory performance on written examinations and clinical skills.

NAS-102 Medication Assistant course fulfills the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) one hundred (100) hour Medication Assistant-Certified (MA-C) Curriculum requirements for training of nursing assistants in preparation for medication assistant certification (MA-C) through competency evaluation. Emphasis is placed on the development of the knowledge, attitudes, and skills required of the medication assistant. Upon completion of this course, the student should demonstrate satisfactory performance on written examinations, practical lab, and clinical skills. Completion of this course is satisfactory for candidacy for the Medication Assistant Certification Exam (MACE) through NCSBN and The Alabama Board of Nursing.

Occupational Data

Graduates of the Health Sciences program work in the healthcare industry where they use their skills which are grouped under the classification of phlebotomist personnel. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment and Wages, the national median wage for phlebotomist personnel was $19.51/hr. in 2022.

Graduates of the Certified Nursing Assistant program work in the healthcare industry where they use their skills which are grouped under the classification of nursing assistant personnel. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment and Wages, the national median wage for nursing assistant personnel was $17.41/hr. in 2022.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, nursing assistants with a Medication Aide certification should

have even better prospects. According to the United States Bureau of Statistics, the hourly pay for medication aides is $14.15 in 2022.

Program Outcome Objectives

- Program graduates will be proficient in communication, computation, and interpersonal skills.
- Program graduates will be technically proficient.
- Program graduates will be able to obtain industry certification.
- Program graduates will be successfully employed in the field.
- Employers of program graduates will be satisfied with their education and training.

Admission Requirements

Applicants to this course must possess a GED or high school diploma, complete all general application requirements, and pass the admissions exam. Prior to clinical placement, the student must show proof of liability insurance (purchased through the school), completion of a health form, a drug and alcohol screen, and a background check required by the participating clinical agency, all of which will be purchased at the student's own expense. In addition, random drug screens will be conducted if there is reasonable cause to believe a student is in violation of the institutional conduct code of the federal Drug-Free Workplace Act Regulations. If the student has a positive drug screen, the student will be referred to the Medical Review Officer. If the second drug screen is still positive, the student will be dismissed from the program immediately.

Criminal Background Checks: Eligibility for Clinical Rotations

Reid State Community College is contractually obligated to comply with requirements set forth by agencies used for clinical rotations. Students will be subject to criminal background checks at their own expense prior to attending the clinical rotation. A "Consent for Release of Information" form must be signed to authorize the criminal history record check and the release of information to the clinical agencies. The Human Resource Director (or designee) of the clinical agency will make the determination of whether a student can attend clinical or not, depending on the results of the background check.

The background screening is good for only one year. The cost of the background check is the responsibility of the student. Results are confidential and submitted directly to the health career department and the clinical agencies. Any student denied clinical access by a clinical affiliate will be withdrawn from the program. (See Policy on Background Screening)

Drug Screening

Students are required to abide by the policies, procedures, and rules of behavior of the institutions from which the student obtains a clinical rotation. Students will be required to undergo drug and alcohol testing prior to the clinical experience. Students will also be subject to random drug and drug or alcohol testing for "cause". Students will be responsible for the cost of such testing. Students who test positive for drugs (that cannot be confirmed by an MRO) or alcohol will be withdrawn from the program. Substance abuse (drug and alcohol) screening is good for only one year. (See Policy on Substance Abuse)

Grading Policy/Scale

No rounding of test scores (daily, weekly, or final exam) will be done (for example 78.6 is 78.6). Only the final course grade average will be rounded: 0.5 or higher will be raised to the next whole number (For example: 79.5 or higher will be rounded to 80). A student must have a "75" or better average (C) in all Health Sciences (HPS) courses or a "70" or better in general education courses (English and math) to pass and be allowed to progress in the program.

A grade of "D" or "F" is not acceptable for any course in the health sciences curriculum (including English & math). A student must pass both components of a theory/clinical class to pass the course. A passing grade in one component will not bring up a failing grade in the other.

Grading Scale for Health Sciences Courses:

A = 90 - 100	AU = Audit
B = 80 - 89	I = Incomplete
D = 60-74	W = Withdrawn
F = 59 and below	

Grades for general education courses will be assigned using the College's standard grade scale.

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MINIMUM CREDITS REQUIRED: 27 Semester Credit Hours
Length of Program: 2 semesters of full-time attendance

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE: 7 Semester Credit Hours			Theory	Lab	Clinical	Contact	Credit Hours
ORT 100 ORI 101		Orientation OR Orientation to College	1	0	0	1	1
AREA I: WRITTEN COMPOSITION 3 hours							
ENG	101	English Composition I	3	0	0	3	3
AREA III: NATURAL SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS 3 hours							
MTH 116 MTH 100 MTH@		Mathematical Applications OR Intermediate College Algebra OR MTH@higher	3	0	0	3	3
TECHNICAL CONCENTRATION: 20 Semester credit hours							
NAS	100	Long-Term Care Nursing Assistant	3	0	1	3	4
NAS	102	Medication Assistant	4	1	1	10	6
HPS	109	Asepsis	0	1	0	3	1
HPS	118	Fundamentals of Phlebotomy	1	4	0	13	5
HPS	119	Phlebotomy Clinical	0	0	4	12	4