

College of DuPage

Medical Assistant Program

Associate of Applied Science Degree

&

Certificate Program



Spring 2026 Registration Requirements
(MASST 1125 – Intro to Medical Assisting)

Registration Deadline:
Start of the semester or until the course fills

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College of DuPage Medical Assistant Certificate/Degree Program

The Medical Assistant performs routine administrative and clinical tasks within a medical office. Duties may vary from office to office; however, administrative duties usually include answering telephones, greeting patients, updating patient medical records, scheduling appointments, arranging for hospital admissions, and handling billing and accounting procedures. There is a growing demand for medical assistants, affording many job opportunities in the community.

Clinical duties may also vary but include taking medical histories, recording vital signs, preparing patients for examinations and assisting the physician during the examination. Clinical duties also include collecting blood specimens by both capillary and/or venipuncture technique, performing basic laboratory tests, disposing of contaminated supplies, sterilizing equipment, instructing patients about medication and special diets, preparing and administering medications as directed by the physician, authorizing drug refills and performing EKGs. As with any healthcare position, there are certain occupational risks that come into play with being a Medical Assistant and those hazards include the following:

- Exposure to infectious diseases
- Sharps injuries
- Bloodborne pathogens and biological hazards
- Chemical and drug exposure
- Ergonomic hazards from lifting, sitting, and repetitive tasks
- Latex allergies
- Stress

College of DuPage offers both an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree program and a certificate program for Medical Assistant. Both programs are designed to prepare students to work in a medical office performing both administrative and clinical procedures. The programs may be completed on a full-time or part-time basis.

The College of DuPage Medical Assistant Certificate Program is accredited by the [Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs](#) upon the recommendation of the Medical Assistant Education Review Board (MAERB).

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
25400 US Highway 19 North, Suite 158
Clearwater, FL 33763
Phone: (727) 210-2350
Fax: (727) 210-2354
Email: mail@caahep.org

Students completing the certificate or degree program are eligible to take the Certified Medical Assistant CMA (AAMA) Exam through the American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA). Students can also petition to receive a certificate from the college in "Medical Assistant" upon completion of the medical assistant core courses. More information about AAMA or the CMA (AAMA) exam can be found by clicking on the [American Association of Medical Assistants](#) website.

Employment

Employment of Medical Assistants is expected to grow by 19 percent from 2019 to 2029, much faster than the average for all occupations due to growth of the aging baby-boom population continues to spur demand for preventive medical services. An increasing number of group practices, merging of many healthcare facilities, and clinics will continue to need medical assistants, to perform both administrative and clinical duties.

Job Outlook

Medical Assistant is one of the ten fastest-growing careers in health care due to an increase in the number of physician group practices that need support personnel as well as the increase in the aging population and the implementation of the Electronic Medical Record (EMR). For current information concerning the job outlook for Medical Assistants visit the [U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics website](https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/medical-assistants.htm).

Earnings

Earnings may vary, depending on geographical location, experience and skill level. Employers are increasingly demanding that medical assistants have a professional credential. The average annual salary for a full-time practitioner CMA (AAMA) in 2021 was \$19.02 per hour according to the American Association of Medical Assistants. See most current information here: https://www.aama-ntl.org/docs/default-source/about/medical-assisting-educator-compensation-and-benefits-report.pdf?sfvrsn=50790ce7_2

Program Goals

To prepare medical assistants who are competent in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains to enter the profession.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Attend a mandatory Medical Assistant [Information Session](#). It is required that an applicant attend an information session within a **12-month period** prior to the application deadline.

2. Health Insurance proof:

Students are expected to provide proof of a **Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan** prior to clinical start. The comprehensive health insurance plan must cover you **throughout the length of your clinical experience**, which in most cases, consists of the entire length of the program. If you are in need of Health Insurance, please see important dates below and visit <https://cod.studentbenefitplans.com/bpg-insurance-individual/>.

IMPORTANT DATES:

November 1st – January 15th- Open Enrollment

If you will need health insurance ANYTIME in 2026, you must apply during the current open enrollment period.

December 15th: Deadline to enroll in a plan that will start January 1st, 2026.

January 15th: Deadline to enroll in a plan that will start February 1st, 2026.

After January 15th – enrollment is closed.

If you miss open enrollment but have a qualifying life event, you can apply during a [Special Enrollment Period](#).

While we **cannot** guarantee your official acceptance into the program, you need to be aware that there is short timeframe of when you are able to purchase a Health Insurance plan. The purpose of this step is to make you aware and that the time to research and purchase is **NOW**. Purchasing health insurance outside of this timeframe will take months and may prohibit your admittance into the Program. **NOTE:** Obtaining Health Insurance is NOT an application requirement but it is a requirement to be in the program.

3. If you have not been admitted to College of DuPage, please complete the **non-refundable \$20** [College of DuPage General Admissions Application](#) online. **This application is for general admissions to College of DuPage only.**

4. Complete the following pre-requisite course by the Registration Deadline:

- **HLTHS 1110 (Biomedical Terminology) ***

Grade of 'C' or higher required and must be completed within 5 years of program start date (1/26/21 – 1/26/26).

5. Complete or **concurrently** enroll during your first semester of the Medical Assistant program For **BOTH** courses below.

- **CIS 1110 or 1150 or OFTI 1200 or higher**

Grade of 'C' or higher and must be completed within **3 years** of program start date (1/26/23– 1/26/26).

AND

- **ANAT 1500 or higher*** (1551 & 1552 or 1571 & 1572). NOTE: *If you choose the two-course sequence (ANAT 1551 & 1552 OR ANAT 1571 & 1572), then both courses must be complete.* A grade of 'C' or higher is required and must be completed within **5 years** of program start date (1/26/21 – 1/26/26).).

_____ 6. Once all above steps are completed, please e-mail clinicalrequirements@cod.edu in order to express your interest in registering for the program. You **must** indicate your program preference: **Certificate or Degree** in the e-mail. You will then receive instructions to register for **MASST 1125 "Intro to Medical Assisting"**. This course is the official entrance into the program.

_____ 7. To ensure that all of your eligible credits are evaluated towards the registration requirements, turn in **ALL** official Transcripts from institutions that you have attended. Immediately:

- a. Submit your official transcript(s) to **College of DuPage, Office of Student Records**. *If College of DuPage is the only institution you have attended, you do not need to request official transcripts.*
- b. Verify receipt of your transcript(s). Log into myACCESS account, click on 'myACCESS for Students', select 'My Profile'. The receipt status of your transcript will be listed under 'Transcript Institutions'.

NOTE: If you have an international transcript from high school or college, it must be evaluated. Please visit the following website <https://www.cod.edu/records/international-transcript-evaluation.aspx> for details.

Acceptance/Registration to the Medical Assistant program does not guarantee successful program completion and/or graduation from the program.

Other necessary requirements of the program will be outlined in detail upon program start.

Program Information Disclaimer

This program information packet is published for that purpose; however, the information in this packet is not to be regarded as an irrevocable contract between the student and the program. The program reserves the right to change, at any time, without notice, requirements, fees and other charges, curriculum, course structure and content, and other such matters as may be within its control, notwithstanding any information set forth in the program information packet in accordance with the College of DuPage policies and procedures.

Standard Skills in Medical Assisting

To participate in the Medical Assistant program, students must possess additional non-academic skills. These standard skills listed below are consistent with the duties of the entry-level medical assistant in a professional position. These skills, which protect the health and well-being of patients, may include but are not limited to the ability to:

- Demonstrate the ability to move, lift or adjust patients
- Demonstrate professional interpersonal communication skills (verbal and written)
- Demonstrate the ability to perform multiple tasks at any time
- Demonstrate visual acuity to differentiate colors
- Demonstrate manual dexterity
- Manipulate appropriate administrative and clinical office equipment
- Perform for a prolonged period without breaks in a typical shift of eight hours.
- Demonstrate good listening skills
- Demonstrate good judgment
- Communicate orally and in writing in the English language with patients, doctors and other personnel clearly and effectively

- Follow verbal and written direction in the English language

If you are uncertain of your ability to perform these essential functions or feel you need reasonable accommodations to perform them, please consult with Special Student Services.

Transfer Credits

Transfer credits are not accepted for any of the Medical Assistant Program courses below:

MASST 1125, MASST 1133, MASST 2211, MASST 2237, MASST 2239, MASST 2245, MASST 2253, MASST 2250, HLTHS 1120, MASST 2235. We do not accept experiential learning as credit.

Policies and Procedures

All Nursing and Health Science Division policies and procedures are found on our [Division website](#). It is the students' responsibility to ensure they have reviewed and understand the policies and procedures. The Nursing and Health Science Division reserves the right to change, at any time, without notice, these policies and procedures.

Unpaid Clinical/Practicum Component

Students who are accepted into the program and complete all classroom courses, demonstrate professionalism and proficiency in all competencies will be eligible for the final capstone course MASST 2250. Students who are eligible must pass a chart review, drug test, a criminal background check and complete a CPR course for health care providers by the American Heart Association before placement on a practicum assignment.

Applicants may also be required to have written permission from a licensed physician stating they can perform all the duties of a Medical Assistant, despite the presence of a specific medical condition (i.e., back problem). **NOTE: All necessary requirements will be outlined prior to MASST 2550. Please do not begin these requirements until instructed to do so.**

The Medical Assistant program **requires** one clinical/practicum assignment: MASST 2250, Medical Assistant Practicum.

Most clinical sites are located within District 502; however, some sites may be located outside the district. Students may not receive payment for any clinical assignment. Students must be supervised at all times during any clinical assignment. The practicum coordinator is responsible for placement of medical assistant students in a physician office. Practicum assignments are a minimum of 180 daytime hours. Students must commit a minimum of 3 days per week or 20 hours per week to the MA practicum.

Estimated Costs

Please visit the [Program Costs webpage](#) for estimated fees.

Cost estimate does not include provisions for travel to and from school and clinical education site, textbooks and fees related to general education requirement courses, or for the cost of the required physical exam.

Financial Aid information is available at the [Office of Student Financial Assistance](#), SSC 2220, or (630) 942-2251 or (630) 942-2252

Health Requirements

Please do not begin these requirements until instructed to do so. Students must complete all health requirements before registering for any clinical/practicum assignment. Medical Assistant practicum assignment is at the end of the program when all classroom courses are complete. Access the most up to date information here: [Health Requirement Packet](#).

Note: Please see specific program registration or admission packets for detailed information on when to begin completing health requirements, drug tests, CPR, criminal background checks and proof of insurance submission. Timing varies depending upon either entrance to or participation in the clinical component of a given program. Funds paid to Edward Corporate Health or to a personal health care provider/ source, background check, drug test, and document management provider, insurance companies, and funds used towards CPR completion are not eligible for any sort of refund from College of DuPage if the required course(s) are not successfully completed.

For additional information contact:

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Medical Assistant Faculty

Program Chair

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Medical Assistant Certificate Program Requirements

MA Core Courses

**Anatomy & Physiology 1500 or higher (A&P 1551 & 1552 or 1571 & 1572)	4 - 8 credit hours
** Health Science 1110 - Biomedical Terminology	3 credit hours
Psychology 1100	3 credit hours
*Computer Information Systems 1110 or Higher	2 credit hours
Medical Assistant 1125 – Intro to Medical Assisting	1 credit hours
Medical Assistant 1131 – Administrative Procedures	2 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2235 – Diagnostic Procedures	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2233 - Pathophysiology for Medical Assistants	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2211 - Legal Aspects in Health Care	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 1133 – Practice Finance for Medical Assistants	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2237 - Assisting with Medical Specialties	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2239 - Medical Assistant Clinical Procedures	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2245 - Workplace Development	2 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2253 - CMA prep	1 credit hour
Medical Assistant 2250 - Medical Assisting Practicum	3 credit hours
MA Certificate: MA Core Courses	39 credit hours

****One of these classes must be completed with a "C" or higher before registering for the MA program.**

***Class must be completed with a "C" or higher before registering for the MA program.**

Core MA courses must be completed with a "C" or higher for graduation.

NOTE: Students may complete course work for both the A.A.S. degree and certificate program on a full- or part-time basis. Course work must be completed within three years of acceptance into the program.

College of DuPage
Medical Assistant Certificate
Full-time Sample Schedule

1st Semester		
Anatomy & Physiology	1500 or higher	4 credit hours
Biomedical Terminology	HLTHS 1110	3 credit hours
Computer Information Systems	CIS 1110 or higher	2 credit hours
Psychology	PSYCH 1100	3 credit hours
2nd Semester		
Intro to Medical Assisting	MASST 1125	1 credit hours
Pathophysiology for MA's	MASST 2233	3 credit hours
Administrative Procedures	MASST 1131	2 credit hours
Practice Finance	MASST 1133	3 credit hours
Diagnostic Procedures	MASST 2235	3 credit hours
3rd Semester		
Legal and Ethical Aspects	MASST 2211	3 credit hours
MA Clinical Procedures	MASST 2239	3 credit hours
Assisting with Medical Specialties	MASST 2237	3 credit hours
Workplace Development (1 st 12 wks)	MASST 2245	2 credit hours
CMA Preparation (2 nd 4 wks)	MASST 2253	1 credit hour
4th Semester		
Medical Assistant Practicum	MASST 2250	3 credit hours

Total Hours 39 credit hours

College of DuPage
Medical Assistant Certificate
Part-time Sample Schedule

1st Semester		
Anatomy & Physiology	1500 or higher	4 credit hours
Biomedical Terminology	HLTHS 1110	3 credit hours
Computer Information Systems	CIS 1110 or higher	2 credit hours
2nd Semester		
Intro to Medical Assisting	MASST 1125	1 credit hours
Administrative Procedures	MASST 1131	2 credit hours
Psychology	PSYCH 1100	3 credit hours
Diagnostic Procedures	MASST 2235	3 credit hours
3rd Summer Semester		
Legal and Ethical Aspects	MASST 2211	3 credit hours
4th Semester		
MA Pathophysiology	MASST 2233	3 credit hours
Practice Finance	MASST 1133	3 credit hours
Assisting with Medical Specialties	MASST 2237	3 credit hours
5th Semester		
MA Clinical Procedures	MASST 2239	3 credit hours
Workplace Development (1 st 12 wks)	MASST 2245	2 credit hours
CMA Preparation (2 nd 4 wks)	MASST 2253	1 credit hour
6th Semester		
Medical Assistant Practicum	MASST 2250	3 credit hours

Total Hours 39 credit hours

Medical Assistant Degree Program Requirements

***English 1101 or 1105	3 credit hours
***Speech 1100, 1120 or 1150	3 credit hours
**Health Science 1110 - Biomedical Terminology	3 credit hours
**Anatomy & Physiology (A&P) 1500 or higher (A&P 1551 & 1552 or 1571 & 1572)	4-8 credit hours
***Math 1102 or higher	3 credit hours
Psychology 1100	3 credit hours
*Computer Information Systems 1110 or higher	2 credit hours
Humanities and Fine Arts (see AAS degree requirements)	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 1125 – Intro to Medical Assisting	1 credit hours
Medical Assistant 1131 – Administrative Procedures	2 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2211 - Legal Aspects in Health Care	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2235 – Diagnostic Procedures	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2233 - Pathophysiology for Medical Assistants	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 1133 – Practice Finance for Medical Assistants	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2237 – Assisting with Medical Specialties	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2239 - Medical Assistant Clinical Procedures	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant 2245- Work Place Development	2 credit hours
Health Science 2253- CMA Prep	1 credit hour
Medical Assistant 2250 - Medical Assisting Practicum	3 credit hours
Medical Assistant A.A.S. Degree Credit Hours	66 - 71 credit hours

Program Electives – Students must complete the required amount of elective courses in order to reach 64 credit hours for the A.A.S. Degree

**Class must be completed with a "C" or higher before registering for the MA program.*

***One of these classes must be completed with a "C" or higher before registering for the MA program.*

***General education requirements

Core MA courses must be completed with a "C" or higher for graduation.

NOTE: Students may complete course work for both the A.A.S. degree and certificate program on a full- or part-time basis. Course work must be completed within three years of acceptance into the program.

College of DuPage
Medical Assistant AAS Degree
Full - time Sample Schedule

1st Semester		
Anatomy & Physiology	1500 or higher	4 credit hours
Biomedical Terminology	HLTHS 1110	3 credit hours
Computer Information Systems	CIS 1110 or higher	2 credit hours
English	1101 or 1105	3 credit hours
Speech	1100, 1120, or 1150	3 credit hours
2nd Semester		
Intro to Medical Assisting	MASST 1125	1 credit hours
Psychology	PSYCH 1100	3 credit hours
Administrative Procedures	MASST 1131	2 credit hours
Diagnostic Procedures	MASST 2235	3 credit hours
Math	1102 or higher	3 credit hours
Elective		3 credit hours
3rd Summer Semester		
Legal and Ethical Aspects	MASST 2211	3 credit hours
Elective		3 credit hours
4th Semester		
MA Pathophysiology	MASST 2233	3 credit hours
Practice Finance	MASST 1133	3 credit hours
Electives		6 credit hours
5th Semester		
Assisting with Medical Specialties	MASST 2237	3 credit hours
MA Clinical Procedures	MASST 2239	3 credit hours
Workplace Development (1 st 12 wks)	MASST 2245	2 credit hours
CMA Preparation (2 nd 4 wks)	MASST 2253	1 credit hour
Electives		5 credit hours
6th Semester MA Practicum		
Medical Assistant Practicum	MASST 2250	3 credit hours