Medical Assisting Program Advising Guide
Portland Community College Cascade Campus – Allied Health

- Applications for the FALL 2020 program at the Cascade Campus accepted April 13 – June 19, 2020.
- Applications for the SPRING 2021 program at Willow Creek accepted October 19 – December 11, 2020.
- See http://pcc.edu/programs/ma for program and application information
For additional information contact Admissions: Amanda Gallo 971-722-5667 or healthca@pcc.edu

PREREQUISITE COURSES (MUST BE COMPLETED WITH A ‘C’ OR ‘P’ OR BETTER BY CLOSE OF APPLICATION PERIOD)

- WR 121 – English Composition
- MP 111 – Medical Terminology
- MTH 60 or MTH 58 – Introductory Algebra – 1st term or Math Literacy (Contact admissions if you have questions about which to take)
- BI 120 – Survey of Body Systems – (or BI 121 or BI 231 & 232*)
- Recommended - CAS 133 (Basic Computer Skills) and/or CAS 121 (Computer Keyboarding). Students required to type 45 WPM during 1st term of program

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS RECOMMENDED TO TAKE PRIOR TO PROGRAM ADMISSION

- MP 135 – Pharmacology for Allied Health
- Human Relations elective – Options: PSY 101, 201A, 202A, 215 or SOC 204 or other approved class – check with admissions for approved list
- MP 140 – Intro to Health Law and Ethics
- Do you need BI 122 or 233? – If you took BI 121 or 231 and 232 you need to complete the series

Mission Statement
The Allied Health Admission Office supports equitable student opportunity and success through a holistic admission review process rooted in assessing applicants’ academic promise and accomplishment within the context of their personal and professional experience.

Point System Used for Admission to the Medical Assisting program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK</th>
<th>20 points max</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WR 121 (English Composition)</td>
<td>A=4; B=3; C or P =2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MP 111 (Medical Terminology)</td>
<td>A=4; B=3; C or P =2</td>
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<tr>
<td>BI 120 (Survey of Body Systems) or highest grade out of any A&amp;P course</td>
<td>A=6; B=5; C or P=4</td>
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<tr>
<td>MTH 58 (Math Literacy I) or MTH 60 (Introduction to Algebra) or best grade in a higher math class</td>
<td>A=6; B=5; C or P=4</td>
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For each of the below questions, response quality is an important factor in evaluating applicant materials. Responses are assessed on how well they answer all aspects of the question, the clarity of the response, and general writing ability displayed. PCC has resources to help with developing and writing quality responses.

QUESTION #1: Program Success Attributes (200 – 400 words)

Communication, teamwork and empathy are important attributes for success in the MA program. Choose ONE attribute from these that you think is one of your strengths and explain why you consider it a strength and how you believe this will help you to be successful in the program. Provide at least one example to support your response.

Things to consider: What past experience[s] (work, home life, volunteer, other) really shows how the attribute is a strength of yours? Did the strength develop over time or did you

Content: up to 20 pts
Writing: up to 5 pts
QUESTION #2: Experience (200 – 400 words) 30 points max

Please describe your experience related to healthcare and how this experience led you to apply to this program.

Things to consider: experience can include paid or volunteer work, community service, caring for a friend or family member, military experience, a personal experience that shaped your views on healthcare, or another experience that helps us understand your background as it relates to this discipline.

Content: up to 25 pts
Writing: up to 5 pts

QUESTION #3: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (200 – 400 words) 15 points max

In your own words, please explain why you think a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion are important to a successful career in healthcare? As part of your response, please include at least one example of your approach to working with people from different backgrounds or cultures.

Things to consider: what is unique about healthcare that makes diversity, equity and inclusion so important? For your example[s], think about what experience you have working with people different from yourself? What important lessons or skills has your work, home life, or school experience taught you about collaborating and working effectively with diverse people?

Content: up to 10 pts
Writing: up to 5 pts

QUESTION #4: Personal Context (200 – 400 words) 10 points max

We understand that grades and experience are just one part of who you are. What would you like the admissions committee to know about you that has not been addressed in the other application sections?

Things to consider: if there’s anything you want us to know about you, but didn’t find a question or place in the application to tell us, now’s your chance. What have you not shared with us that will highlight a skill, talent, challenge or opportunity that you think will help us know you better?

Content: up to 5 pts
Writing: up to 5 pts

What is needed to apply to the program

- Apply to Portland Community College, www.pcc.edu/enroll
- Complete all prerequisite coursework with a “C” or “P” or better.
  - You may apply if you are concurrently enrolled in prerequisites during the application period but your application will not be considered complete until all prerequisite course grades are recorded and completion is established.
  - If your prerequisites are being completed at a school other than PCC, you are responsible for getting a new transcript sent for review within a week of the grade being posted.
- Complete the Medical Assisting Program application
- Obtain unofficial transcripts from previous schools. Official Transcripts are required if accepted to program
- Have a plan in place to pay for school. If applying for federal financial aid (www.fafsa.ed.gov) please note it can take up to three months to receive an award if eligible.
For additional information, visit the Medical Assisting website at http://pcc.edu/programs/ma or contact Admissions Coordinator Amanda Gallo (healthca@pcc.edu, 971-722-5667).