

PATIENT CARE TECHNICIAN

(Also see Nursing, Medical Assistant, Basic Nurse Assistant Training, and Person-Centered Elder Support)

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Patient care technicians (PCT) work directly with patients assisting in the admission, transfer, and discharge of patients, while taking care of their basic needs and assisting with vital signs, EKG, and other procedures to facilitate patient care. PCTs work under the supervision of a nurse, doctor, or other health care professional. A PCT is qualified to work in high-demand, entry level positions at healthcare facilities, including hospitals, rehabilitation clinics, skilled nursing facilities, home care agencies, and dialysis clinics. Patient Care Technician (PCT) Certificate completers gain skills in phlebotomy and are prepared and eligible for EKG Technician certification by examination. Those students who complete the PCT certificate, pass the certified nursing assistant competency exam, and a criminal background check will be entered as Certified Nursing Assistants on the Health Care Worker Registry.

Students who complete the PCT Certificate are eligible to take the National Healthcare Workers Association (NHCWA) Patient Care Technician Exam. Starting as a PCT provides a pathway to other health careers including phlebotomist, medical assistant, medical laboratory technician, and nursing. This certificate can be completed in one semester.

Patient Care Technician Certificate

16 Semester Credit Hours; Curriculum: 0331

Code	Title	Hours
Courses for a Certificate		
HIT 104	Medical Terminology	3
BNA 100	Basic Nurse Assistant Training	7
PCT 101	Patient Care Technician	2
MLT 107	Phlebotomy	4
Total Hours		16

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Identify the role of a Patient Care Technician (PCT) as a member of the healthcare team.
2. Describe the legal and ethical implications of patient testing and responsibilities of the PCT.
3. Use effective communication skills with patients and staff.
4. Apply principles of infection control in the health care setting.
5. Demonstrate proficiency in clinical and laboratory skills, safety, and infection control policies/procedures in a safe manner according to established criteria.
6. Demonstrate proper collection of blood.
7. Perform accurate recordings for the electrical activity of the heart.
8. Collect and document patient data.