

MEDICAL ASSISTANT TECHNOLOGY – Certificate Program

The Medical Assistant Technology Program is a one-year certificate program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon recommendation of the Medical Assisting Education Review Board (MAERB) of the American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA). You will be trained in the administrative and clinical skills necessary for employment in an outpatient care setting. Upon graduation, you will be immediately eligible to sit for the AAMA Certification Examination. Successful completion of this examination will allow you to practice as a Certified Medical Assistant, CMA (AAMA) anywhere in the United States and its territories.

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs:

25400 U.S. Highway 19 North, Suite 158, Clearwater, FL 33763 (727) 210-2350 www.caahep.org

Although an open-door policy applies to the program's prerequisite courses, the Medical Assistant Technology program has a separate admissions process. The maximum enrollment in this program is twenty-four (24) students entering each FALL.

[Online applications](#) are accepted April 1 – 15 each year for entrance into the fall program.

Getting Started

1. If a **new** KVCC student, first submit the online general application for admission to Kalamazoo Valley Community College (www.kvcc.edu) listing *Health Sciences General Studies-Medical Assistant Technology* as program choice.
If a **current** KVCC student, change program choice status to *Health Sciences General Studies-Medical Assistant Technology* by contacting a counselor or advisor at [269-488-4040](tel:269-488-4040).
2. Provide the Admissions & Records Office with all official college and/or high school transcripts, if applicable.
3. Past and current students must have an overall KVCC grade point average of 2.0 or greater in all subjects.
4. Schedule an appointment with a counselor or advisor at [269-488-4040](tel:269-488-4040) to develop a course plan. **This is a critical step in the admission process!**
5. Applicants must provide proof of current **American Heart Association BLS Provider CPR certification** from an authorized training center for the American Heart Association.
 - WPE 112 – Safety & First Aid can be completed at KVCC to meet this requirement.
*Please note American Red Cross CPR certification of any kind is **NOT** accepted.*

Complete the required prerequisite requirements by:

- Taking and completing KVCC courses successfully.
- Using transfer courses from other colleges when equivalent to the courses listed below.
- Having all prerequisites successfully completed by the end of the WINTER semester of application to the Medical Assisting Technology program. All science and math prerequisite courses must be completed within 7 years of the application deadline (BIO, CHM, HCR and MATH).

Required Prerequisite Courses

HCR 116 – Medical Terminology – 1 credit

MATH 100* – Health Careers Math – 1 credit

***MATH 100** CANNOT be waived by *any* prior math course or college degree.

Frequently Asked Questions

Applying to the Program

- Submit all **official** college and/or high school transcripts (if applicable) to the Admissions, Registration & Records Office and **verify transcript arrival**. **Confirm required prerequisite transfer credit is awarded**.
- Schedule an appointment with a counselor or advisor at 269-488-4040 to develop a course plan. Meet with the Health Careers Admissions Coordinator (healthcareers@kvcc.edu) to review your application.
- Complete and submit the online [Health Careers Application](#). Select Medical Assistant Technology as program choice. Verify signature for completion.
- The [online application](#) will be available each year April 1-15 for entrance into the Fall (September) program.
- Students must have successfully completed all prerequisites with grades of 2.0 or higher by the end of the winter semester (typically end of April) to be eligible to apply in April.

***Please Note:** In the event that the program is not full when seats are awarded in June, applications will be continued to be taken until the program fills. Students who are in their last prerequisite course(s) during the SUMMER semester are encouraged to check with the Health Careers Admissions Coordinator (healthcareers@kvcc.edu) regarding any potential seat openings and/or options for permission to take Medical Assistant Technology courses that FALL.

Acceptance

- Admission decisions are typically sent to your Kalamazoo Valley email address by June 15.
- The Medical Assistant Technology program does not hold a waitlist. Applicants who are not admitted must reapply.
- Beginning with the April 2026 application period, students **must have a minimum prerequisite GPA of 2.5** or higher. Exceptions may be given on a case-by-case basis with the approval of the program director.

Kalamazoo Valley's Alternate List

- After the top 24 applicants have been determined, the next 10 highest applicants are designated as alternates in case an admitted student declines their seat. It is not uncommon for this to happen.
- Alternates who are not admitted into the program from the alternate list **must reapply** and will not receive preferential ranking in the next cycle.

Ranking of Applicants

The college implemented a holistic admission system for entry into the Health Careers programs beginning with the April 2023 application. The revised admission system was developed to establish a more equitable process so admitted students will have the best chance of success in their Health Careers program.

- Please see Holistic Admission details below.

Proof of Healthcare License or Non-Credit Training for Points

If you are interested in potentially earning admission points for healthcare experience, please be sure to submit all supporting documentation with your application. (Applicants can only receive points in one of these categories). Examples of supporting documentation include: A copy of your current healthcare license or credential, a copy of your transcript or diploma for degree(s) received, or a letter from your employer specifically detailing skills acquired through on-the-job training, current job tasks, etc. for PCA/CNA (non-credit) training.

- Please note that personal essays or letters of recommendation from employers, family, friends, colleagues cannot be factored into the admission score whatsoever.

Associate or Bachelor Degree Points

- Students must have a current license/credential in a healthcare occupation that requires an Associate or Bachelor Degree to obtain the license/credential. Examples include: licensed respiratory therapist, dental hygienist, paramedic, registered dietician, etc.

Admission Scores

- Please note that the competitiveness of each application period varies based on the number and quality of applications received.

After Acceptance

- An acceptance packet full of important information will be sent to your KVCC email address. Please read this packet thoroughly and pay attention to all deadlines.
- Several items will be due prior to the start of class. Examples include, but are not limited to: Current American Heart Association BLS Provider level CPR certification, immunization information, physical exam, 2-step TB test and Live Scan criminal background check.
 - Please note that the Live Scan criminal background check and drug screen will both be done ON CAMPUS after you have been accepted into the program. Further details will be given at that time. The corresponding forms in the application packet must be filled out and signed at the time of application as acknowledgment that these items will be successfully completed, if accepted.

Medical Assistant Technology Program Outline

This program is also available on a part-time basis.

Semester 1 – Fall Entry

MAT 100	Medical Administrative Procedures I	Theory	3 credits/3 contact hours
MAT 106	Medical Clinical Procedures I	Theory/Lab	3 credits/5 contact hours
MAT 109	Medical Clinical Procedures II	Theory/Lab	3 credit/5 contact hours
MAT 112	Medical Terminology & Anatomical Systems I	Theory	2 credit/2 contact hours
ENG 110	College Writing I	OR	3 credit/3 contact hours
ENG 160	College Writing and Research		4 credit/4 contact hours

TOTAL: 14-15 credit/18-19 contact hours

Semester 2 – Winter

MAT 200	Medical Administrative Procedures II	Theory	3 credits/3 contact hours
MAT 205	Laboratory Procedures	Theory/Lab	3 credits/5 contact hours
MAT 207	Pharmacology for Medical Assisting	Theory	2 credits/2 contact hours
MAT 209	Human Disease	Theory	1 credit/1 contact hour
MAT 210	Medical Terminology & Anatomical Systems II	Clinic	2 credits/2 contact hours
WPE 112	Safety & First Aid (if needed)		2 credits/2 contact hours

TOTAL: 13 credit/15 contact hours

Semester 3 – Summer

MAT 206	Medical Computer Applications	Theory	3 credits/3 contact hours
MAT 223	Medical Assisting Seminar	Theory	1 credit/1 contact hour
MAT 274	MAT Externship	Clinic	4 credits/4 contact hours

TOTAL: 8 credit/8 contact hours

GRAND TOTAL: 37 credits/43 contact hours

(Grand total includes prerequisite courses)

Please note: Program requirements are subject to change

Medical Assistant Technology Program

APPROXIMATE COST – Subject to change

	In-District	Out-of-District	Out-of-State	International
Tuition Rates (per contact hour)	\$127.00	\$219.00	\$292.00	\$331.00
Student fees/semester	\$167.00	\$167.00	\$167.00	\$167.00
Prerequisites				
Tuition (2 contact hours)	\$254.00	\$438.00	\$584.00	\$662.00
Student fees (2 semesters)	\$334.00	\$334.00	\$334.00	\$334.00
Books (approximate)	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
	\$688.00	\$872.00	\$1,018.00	\$1,096.00
Semester 1 - FALL				
Tuition (18 contact hours)	\$2,286.00	\$3,942.00	\$5,256.00	\$5,958.00
Student fee	\$167.00	\$167.00	\$167.00	\$167.00
Books (approximate)	\$850.00	\$850.00	\$850.00	\$850.00
Uniform/supplies* (approximate)	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
Clinical Compliance (approximate)	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
	\$3,928.00	\$5,584.00	\$6,898.00	\$7,600.00
Semester 2 - WINTER				
Tuition (15 contact hours)	\$1,905.00	\$3,285.00	\$4,380.00	\$4,965.00
Student fee	\$167.00	\$167.00	\$167.00	\$167.00
Books (approximate)	\$430.00	\$430.00	\$430.00	\$430.00
	\$2,502.00	\$3,882.00	\$4,977.00	\$5,562.00
Semester 3 - SUMMER				
Tuition (8 contact hours)	\$1,016.00	\$1,752.00	\$2,336.00	\$2,648.00
Student fee	\$167.00	\$167.00	\$167.00	\$167.00
Books (approximate)	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
	\$1,283.00	\$2,019.00	\$2,603.00	\$2,915.00
Program Totals				
Prerequisites	\$688.00	\$872.00	\$1,018.00	\$1,096.00
Semester 1	\$3,928.00	\$5,584.00	\$6,898.00	\$7,600.00
Semester 2	\$2,502.00	\$3,882.00	\$4,977.00	\$5,562.00
Semester 3	\$1,283.00	\$2,019.00	\$2,603.00	\$2,915.00
GRAND TOTAL:	\$8,401.00	\$12,357.00	\$15,496.00	\$17,173.00

*Uniform/Supplies: Scrubs and stethoscope

Medical Assistant Technology Applicant Checklist

Steps for Eligibility

- ☐ 1. New Student: General application to Kalamazoo Valley (www.kvcc.edu/apply) with program selection of *Health Sciences General Studies – Medical Assistant Technology*.
- ☐ 2. Current Valley Student: Program code changed to *Health Sciences General Studies – Medical Assistant Technology*, if needed.
- ☐ 3. Transferring credit toward a degree at Kalamazoo Valley: Forward official, unopened college transcripts for evaluation to:

Degree Auditor
Kalamazoo Valley Community College
PO Box 4070, Kalamazoo, MI 49003-4070

Verify their arrival at the Admissions, Registration & Records Office (Phone: 269.488.4281).
- ☐ 4. Verify that all transfer courses meet the prerequisites.
- ☐ 5. Schedule an appointment with an academic counselor or advisor (Phone: 269.488.4040).

MAT Application Requirements

- ☐ 1. ALL prerequisite courses successfully completed, or will be by the end of the Winter semester for the April 1 – 15 application period.
- ☐ 2. Apply using the [online application](#) between April 1 – 15. Answer the four Short Answer Questions about Experiences and Attributes.
- ☐ 3. Upload supporting documentation with the application for points in the Healthcare Experience category.
- ☐ 4. Proof of current American Heart Association BLS Provider CPR certification. A copy of the card, the eCard code or link must be included with the application

Other Requirements

- 1. An acceptable Live Scan fingerprinting (criminal background check) will be required at a later date. Further information regarding the on-campus Live Scan will be given to you upon acceptance into the program.
- 2. A negative drug screen will be required. Further information regarding the on-campus drug screen will be given to you upon acceptance into the program.
- 3. Immunization information, current (within 1 year) physical exam, 2-step TB (or QuantiFERON Gold TB blood test or T-Spot Blood test) and any other clinical compliance items required will be due after acceptance. Please pay close attention to due dates as outlined in your acceptance letter.

Medical Assistant Technology Prerequisite GPA Calculator Worksheet*:

PREREQUISITE COURSES	A	B	C
	Credit Hours or GPA Hours	Numeric Grade Example 4.0	Quality Points (A x B = C)
HCR 116 Human Anatomy & Physiology I	1		
MATH 100 Human Anatomy & Physiology II	1		
TOTALS	2		

Prerequisite GPA Calculation:

A: Add total Credit or GPA Hours

B: Add total Numeric Grade (i.e. 4.0)

C: Multiply A X B = **Quality Points**

Total from **Column C** ÷ Total from **Column A** = **Prerequisite GPA**

*Please note this worksheet is for student use only and is not required to be submitted with application

What is a Holistic Admission?

Holistic review, when used in combination with a variety of other mission-based practices, constitutes a “holistic admission” process.

Four Core Principles

1. Selection criteria are broad-based, are **clearly linked to school mission and goals**, and promote diversity as an essential element to achieving institutional excellence.
2. A balance of applicant **experiences, attributes, and academic metrics** (E-A-M) is used equitably across the entire candidate pool (with supporting evidence).
3. Those who participate in the admissions process, give **individualized** consideration to how each applicant may contribute to the school’s learning environment and to the profession.
4. Holistic admissions take a broad range of factors into consideration. In addition to grades, it may include personal attributes, communication skills, experiential factors or other considerations.

Our Values

Caring and Respect

- Foster a safe, dynamic learning environment
- Demonstrate positive regard for self and others
- Give and receive praise graciously
- Honor civility, service, collegiality, and social justice

Integrity

- Do the right things for the right reasons
- Ensure interactions are driven by our vision, mission and values
- Be responsible, accountable and ethical

Excellence and Quality

- Embrace change as an opportunity
- Pursue excellence and innovation
- Values learning and develop an environment of intellectual inquiry
- Share new ideas and expand the boundaries of knowledge

Humor and Well-Being

- Nurture creativity, humor, and enjoyment of work and learning
- Promote a healthy environment for mind, body and spirit

Teamwork and Stewardship

- Work together to achieve our vision, mission and goals
- Commit to finding solutions

Mission Statement:

Kalamazoo Valley Community College creates innovative and equitable opportunities that empower all to learn, grow and thrive.

Holistic Admission Outcomes

- Generate a student body that is diverse, highly qualified and passionate about a chosen health career.
- Maintain high board exam rates
- Maintain high employer satisfaction ratings for the KVCC Health Careers graduates.
- Respond to mission, vision and goals of Kalamazoo Valley and key stakeholders

Holistic Admission Overview (100 pts max)

- **Metrics (M) Prerequisite GPA – 50%**
Up to 50 pts with sliding scale
- **Experiences (E)/Attributes (A) – 40%**
UP 10 pts per response with 4 responses
- **Healthcare Experience – 5%**
5 pts max
- **Additional Criteria – 5%**
5 pts max

Prerequisite GPA (50 pts max)

<u>Prerequisite GPA</u>	<u>Ranking Points</u>
4	50
3.99 – 3.70	45
3.69 – 3.50	40
3.49 – 3.30	35
3.29 – 3.00	30
2.99 – 2.75	25
2.74 – 2.50	20
2.49 – 2.25	15
2.24 – 2.00	10

Experience and Attributes (40 pts max)

Short Answer Question (100 words max) in for areas. Answers should integrate the College's Mission Statement and values. Responses should utilize correct grammar, spelling and punctuation to receive full points.

Evaluation will be based on the following:

- **0 points** – Minimally addressed (very limited thought, ideas loosely connected, not clearly communicated)
- **5 points** – Adequately address (solid thinking and integration of ideas, reasonably communicated)
- **10 points** – Completely addressed (reflective, insightful thinking, ideas carefully connected, well-articulated)

Sample questions

Life Experiences

College Values: Excellence and Quality (up to 10 pts)

Short Answer Question (100 words max):

Explain why you want to pursue a career in respiratory care.

Values and Beliefs

College Values: Humor/Wellbeing, Caring and Respect (up to 10 pts)

Short Answer Question (100 words max):

Describe which personal qualities you possess that make you suitable for a career in respiratory care.

Integrity

College Value: Integrity (up to 10 pts)

Short Answer Question (100 words max):

Please provide an example of a barrier or mistake you have experienced. How did you deal with it and what did you learn from it?

Perspectives/ Leadership

College Values: Teamwork and Stewardship (up to 10 pts):

Short Answer Question (100 words max):

Please describe a personal experience working with or within a diverse team. Explain what went well and what didn't. What did you learn from the experience?

Healthcare Experience (5 pts max)

Health Occupation License/certificate/non-credit training:

- 5 pts Bachelor's (i.e. B.S Registered Dietician)
- 4 pts ANY Bachelor's Degree
- 4 pts Associate's (Paramedic)
- 3 pts License (LPN, EMT, CMA, RDA)
- 2 pts non-credit training (CNA, PCA, CDA, MFR, Phlebotomy)
- 1 pt. non-formal experience (i.e. caregiver of family)
- 1 pt. job shadow, health career specific

Additional Criteria (1 pt. each - 5 pts max)

- Lives within KVCC District
- 12 or more credits from Kalamazoo Valley
- Kalamazoo Promise Recipient
- KVAAP
- Active service person or Veteran
- First-generation College Student
- Early Middle College Student

Occupational Risks

Medical Assisting is a profession with many rewards, as practitioners can perform both administrative and clinical services, filling several roles in a variety of healthcare environments. The Bureau of Labor Statistics clearly outlines that it is a growth field, with an anticipated 18% growth from 2020 to 2030.

Medical Assistants work directly with providers and patients, with the goal of providing healthcare and ensuring patient safety. It is a position with a great deal of responsibility.

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

At the same time, there are protections set up with the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), and those protections are particularly important within a healthcare environment. OSHA has a series of standards that protect the safety of healthcare workers and patients.

Accredited medical assisting programs are required to teach students about the hazards that they face on the job and the protocols that can be put into place to ensure a workplace culture that prioritizes safety.