

Health Career Academic Planning and Success





Goals and Objectives

- Inform students of available support services
- Inform students of important advising issues
- Identify program admission criteria
- Guide students in selection of a health career occupation
- Inform students of technical standards
- Outline requirements for clinical selection

Overview

- General education classes can be taken at any HACC campus or on-line.
- Lecture and lab component of program clinicals is only held at the locations/campuses specified. Clinical rotations may include distant travel. Students must provide their own transportation.
- Deadlines – Know them and meet them. This is your responsibility.
- Know your program contact / director.
- Research your career choice (have you shadowed?)





Choosing a Health Career

- Go to the [web site](#), contact Health Careers (healthcareers@hacc.edu (717) 780-1988 or (800) 222-4222 x 1988)
- Want to pick up Health Career information?

Gettysburg – Welcome Center

Harrisburg - Blocker Hall Room 101

Lancaster - Welcome Center - Main Building

Lebanon – Information Desk - first floor lobby

York - Welcome Center

How to decide?

Questions to ask yourself:

- Do you want or not want to have direct patient contact?
- Do you want to assist patients with activities of daily living (ADL), provide therapy, perform diagnostics?
- Are you willing to work shifts / nights / weekends / holidays?
- Are you willing to be on call 24/7?
- Do you enjoy working with the elderly?
- How do you feel about phlebotomy (drawing blood)? Administering injections?
- How do you feel about handling and/or exposure to bodily fluids / bloodborne pathogens/ potentially hazardous materials?
- Do you want to get to know your and develop a relationship with your patients? (vs. short-term)
- Are you computer literate? Do you have carpal tunnel? (Computers are used in all medical fields on a regular daily basis)
- Do you think you could handle stressful situations including life and death decisions and situations?
- Would you be able to work in the operating room? Emergency room?
- Do you need to stay in this geographic area?
- Is full-time work with benefits necessary?
- Is a career ladder or opportunity for advancement important?
- Are you physically able to perform CPR, lift and move 50 pounds, see colors, hear heart and Korotkoff's sounds, be on your feet for prolonged periods?
- How long are you willing to go to school to achieve your goal? 6 months, 1 year, 2 years, 3 years, more? Are you able to attend clinicals full-time weekdays?
- Are you strong in science / do you enjoy science? math? physics?
- Are you quick on your feet and a good problem solver?

Information About Health Career Programs at HACC

Home | About Us | Academics | Admissions | Continuing Ed | Library | Student Life | Student Services | HACCWeb search

Health Careers

Admission Criteria

Can't Decide?

Health Careers Advising

Information Sessions

Off Campus Sites

Program Websites

Programs Offered

Related Links

Shadowing

Health Careers

May is Asthma & Allergy Awareness Month and Better Sleep Month - have you hugged your respiratory therapist or polysomnography technologist lately?

Thank you for your interest in the health careers at HACC.

NEW - [Nursing Advanced Standing Program \(LPN to RN\)](#) at Lebanon Campus. Class forming for August. Contact [Susan Corey](#) (717) 270-6329.

WHERE DO I FIND OUT WHAT IS OFFERED? Look at [Programs Offered](#) for a list of programs and all the technical standards, admission criteria, required courses, career information and videos. [What program clinicals are offered at my local campus?](#)

Look at [Admission Criteria](#) and [Admitted Students Profile](#). Health career programs at HACC are selective admission programs. All health career students are initially enrolled at HACC as pre-clinical students (i.e. Pre-Nursing, Pre-Rad Tech, Pre-Respiratory, etc.) and must apply for the clinical phase of the program after completing minimum admission criteria (consult with your advisor and refer to Health Careers web pages). **Being in a pre- or non-clinical major in no way guarantees progression and acceptance into the clinical program.**

Pre-clinical is the classification for all newly admitted students and all students taking developmental courses. Non-clinical students are those who completed all developmental course work and who are not yet selected for admission into the clinical phase of the program. Clinical students are those who have been officially selected and admitted to the program and are taking program theory and clinical coursework (NURS, RADT, RESP, etc. designation).

HOW TO GET STARTED - [Apply Now!](#) - A step-by-step guide to the HACC admission process, the first step to

www.hacc.edu/healthcareers

Career Services Center

Make an informed choice. Stop by Career Services at any campus to learn more about the career assessments and other occupational information available to you.





How to Decide?

Learn as much as you can – what are the good and bad things?

- Follow related links on Health Careers Programs Offered website
- Career Infonet / Career OneStop / Career Voyages on the web – YouTube videos
- Professional organizations
- Shadow, shadow, shadow!
- **Call Health Careers or see your advisor**

Career Selection

- Most professional organizations offer career information and videos. Some videos are available in HACCC Health Career advising offices
- Other health career videos are available on the Health Career program web pages and YouTube
- [CareerInfonet](#) also has over 450 videos

Essential Qualifications

Outline the affective, social, physical, professional abilities and characteristics necessary for the student to successfully participate in and complete the professional program. They are conditions of admission to, continuation in and graduation from the program.

- Review the essential qualifications on the Health Careers web site and be sure you can meet them.
- It is *your* responsibility to meet these standards *if* accepted into the program.
- Be aware that you may be exposed to bloodborne pathogens and potentially hazardous materials.
- Some programs require students to practice skills on each other – massage, phlebotomy, injections.



Essential Qualifications

- You may be required to wear scrubs.
- You will need to use a computer and access the internet.



Cheating on tests and lying on applications are integrity issues and will result in dismissal from the program.



Academic Honesty

- Students are expected to be honest in all their academic endeavors. The College views academic dishonesty as a serious breach of conduct. Depending upon the nature and severity of a dishonest act, the faculty and the College will discipline a student for verifiable acts of dishonesty occurring in or out of the classroom in accordance with college regulation 594.
- Any verifiable act of dishonesty will result in the removal of the student from the clinical program. The student will not be allowed to return to the program at HACC.
- **Acts of dishonesty include but are not limited to the following: falsifying or knowingly making incorrect entries into a patient's record or related document; copying other student's written assignments; cheating on a quiz or examination; making untrue statements to a faculty member or administrator.**

Sample Curriculum

<u>General Education</u>		<u>Major</u>		<u>Other Required Courses</u>	
ENGL 101 English Composition I	3	RADT 100 Intro to Radiographic Procedures	2	AH 140 Introduction to Allied Health	3
ENGL 102 English Composition II	3	RADT 107 Radiographic Procedures I	2	AH 141 Patient Care Skills Lab	1
SPCH 101 Effective Speaking <u>or</u>		RADT 201 Radiographic Procedures II	2	AH 209 Pharmacology for Allied Health	3
SPCH 104 Interpersonal Communication	3	RADT 101 Imaging Equipment	2	BIOL 121 Anatomy & Physiology I	4
Core A Elective	3	RADT 103 Imaging & Processing	3	BIOL 122 Anatomy & Physiology II	4
Core B Elective (PSYC 101 General Psychology <u>or</u>		RADT 209 Imaging Analysis	2	BIOL 230 Physiological Pathology	3
SOC 201 Introduction to Sociology)	3	RADT 105 Radiation Protection & Biology	2	PBT 100 Intro to Phlebotomy for Allied Health	1
Core C Elective (MATH 103 College Algebra)	3	RADT 205 Radiographic Pathology	2	PHYS 151 Physics for Technicians	4
Free Elective (CIS 105 Intro. to Software for Business)	3	RADT 106 Rad Tech Clinical Intro	1	PHYS 152 Physics for Radiographers	4
Physical Education	1	RADT 109 Rad Tech1 Clinical I	2		
	22	RADT 203 Rad Tech Clinical II	3		
		RADT 207 Rad Tech Clinical III	3		
		RADT 211 Rad Tech Clinical IV	3		
			<u>3</u>		
			29		

“gen eds” or
“prerequisites”

“gen eds” or
“prerequisites” 10/07

“clinical
phase”

Program Admission

- These are selective admission professional programs. **Admission into the college does *not* guarantee admission into the clinical phase of the program.**
- All health career students are initially enrolled at HACCC as pre-clinical students (i.e. Pre-Nursing, Pre-Rad Tech, Pre-Respiratory, etc.).
- You must apply for the clinical phase of the program after completing minimum [admission criteria](#) (consult with your advisor).
- Success in *science* courses is the best indicator of academic success in clinicals (that is why *science* grades count for more points than other courses)
- Profile of Admitted Students.
- Develop options – what if you don't get into your program of choice?
 - Consider other career options (less competitive programs)
 - Reapply next year

CVT

Sample Point Systems

Rad Tech

Your Points	Possible Points	Criterion
	10	* Biology 121 A = 10, B = 8, C = 6
	10	* Biology 122 A = 10, B = 8, C = 6
	10	* CVT 101 A = 10, B = 8, C = 6
	10	* CVT 102 A = 10, B = 8, C = 6
	10	* CVT 103 A = 10, B = 8, C = 6
	10	* Math 103 A = 10, B = 8, C = 6
<i>* Note: All transferred courses will be assigned the number of points based on the actual grade earned.</i>		
	3	AH 140
	3	Speech 101 or 104
	3	English 101
	3	English 102
	3	Core A
	3	Core B
	3	Free Elective
	1	PE
	5	Attendance of shadowing day <i>*(see below for clarification)</i>
	5	No D's or F's
	-5 (per occurrence)	Minus five for every F
	-3 (per occurrence)	Minus three for every D
		2 x GPA
		Total Score (100 possible)

	Criterion
12 to 17	* Grade in BIOL 121 A = 17, B = 14, C = 12
10 to 15	* Grade in BIOL 122 A = 15, B = 12, C = 10
12 to 17	* Core C Elective (MATH 103) A = 17, B = 14, C = 12
10 to 15	* Grade in PHYS 151 A = 15, B = 12, C = 10
7 to 12	* Grade in AH 140 (3 or 4 credit course) A = 12, B = 9, C = 7
7 to 12	* Grade in CIS 105 A = 12, B = 9, C = 7
5 to 10	* Grade in AH 209 A = 10, B = 7, C = 5
5 to 10	* Grade in BIOL 230 A = 10, B = 7, C = 5
5 to 10	* Grade in PBT 100 A = 10, B = 7, C = 5

<i>* Note: all transferred courses are equivalent to a "C" grade at HACC</i>	
7	ENGL 101
5	ENGL 102
5	Core A
5	Core B (PSYC 101 OR SOC 201)
5	Speech 101 or 104
1	PE
5	Shadowed a radiologic technologist
5	Ranked applicant from previous year
	Total Score (156 MAX)

These can
change
yearly!

**Admitted Students Profile
10/13/10**

Program	Clinical Class Start	# Qualified Applicants	GPA Range & Avg - Admitted Students	Point Range for Admitted Students
Dental Assistant (Capacity = 26)				
	Fall 10	29	0.0-4.0 Avg – 2.95	0-28
	Fall 09	35	0.0-3.5 Avg – 2.76	2-28 (43 max)
	Fall 08	30	0.0-4.0 Avg – 3.19	NA
Dental Hygienist (Capacity = 20)				
(26 accepted this year)	Fall 10	67	3.23-4.0 Avg – 3.7	94-109.5
(26 accepted this year)	Fall 09	112	3.01-4.0 Avg – 3.75	98-118.5 (130 max)
	Fall 08	99	2.64-4.0 Avg – 3.61	93-109
Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (Capacity = 10)				
	Spring 11	19	2.93-3.82 Avg – 3.42	59-94
	Fall 09	28	2.92-4.0 Avg – 3.65	69.2-82.0 (90 max)
	Spring 09	31	3.34-3.92 Avg – 3.42	69.82-84.84
Radiologic Tech (College-Based) (Capacity = 25)				
	Spring 11	87	2.79-4.0 Avg – 3.38	129-153
	Spring 10	81	2.66-4.0 Avg – 3.30	123-145 (156 max)
	Spring 09	95	2.58-4.0 Avg – 3.24	120-146 (156 max)
Radiologic Tech (Hospital-Based) (Capacity = 8)				
	Spring 11	23	3.3-3.9 Avg – 3.6	NA
	Spring 10	30	3.32-3.9 Avg – 3.67	NA
	Spring 09	45	3.0-3.9 Avg – 3.4	NA
Respiratory Therapist (Capacity = 25)				
GPA is Program GPA. Min 13 points required.	Fall 10	15	2.51-3.85 Avg – 2.95	NA
	Fall 09	15	2.61-4.0 Avg – 3.09	NA
	Fall 08	26	2.54-4.0 Avg – 3.1	21.0-69.14



Advising

Repeating Courses

Students may repeat a course for which they have received a D, F, I, Y, or W grade only.

Note - Repeating courses may negatively affect clinical candidacy. See your advisor.



Advising

Course Withdrawal

Dropping courses could impact eligibility for financial aid, Veterans Education benefits, or coverage by parent's health insurance.

Note – Withdrawing from courses may negatively affect clinical candidacy. See your advisor.

Advising

Course Withdrawal

- Students who wish to withdraw from a course must submit an official [drop/add/withdrawal \(DAW\) form](#). Failure to submit an official form could result in an F on your academic transcript.
- Telling your instructor that you are dropping the course does not constitute an “*official*” withdrawal.
- Without an “*official*” withdrawal, you may receive a grade of “F” for the course.



Advising

GPA (Grade Point Average) Calculation

Whether you are looking to improve your grades or need to calculate your GPA within your major, there are several useful calculators on the web that can help you.

GPA affects clinical candidacy. See your advisor.



Clinicals

Clinicals are the courses within the major (NURS, RESP, MA, etc.) and consist of lecture, lab, and clinical rotations - time spent in a health care facility.

- General education/prerequisite courses can be taken at any campus.
- The lecture and lab component of program clinicals is only held at the locations or campuses specified.
- The assignment of clinical rotations may include distant travel. Check with the program director regarding assignment of clinical rotations.
- Students must have their own transportation to attend required field trips and clinical rotations.
- Length of time, location, starting semester varies.
- Students may be required to practice skills on each other.



Considerations During Clinical

- Costs - uniforms, accessories, supplies – some program have hefty (over \$1,000) additional fees.
- Time commitment - it is difficult to be successful if you are trying to work more than 20 hours/week while doing daytime clinicals
 - Work hours
 - Personal time
 - Skills lab/study time
- Attendance policies – there is often a “zero tolerance” policy for tardiness and absence
- Health insurance – medical coverage is at your own expense
- A “C” or better is required to progress through clinical/core courses
- Travel time and associated costs
- Have you ever worked at a hospital and are ineligible for re-hire? It may affect your ability to do clinicals.

Considerations During Clinical

- *STRESS*

- TIME - overwhelming schedule and workload
- Demanding hospital personnel and situations
- Competency testing
- Must pass with a C or better
- Stressed and overworked hospital personnel
- Cranky and/or critically ill patients





Quotes from Current Clinical Students

“This program is more challenging than anything else I have done”

“This is great, I learn new things everyday”

“Clinical days are exhausting”

“I am just overwhelmed between studying and clinicals”

“You said it was hard but I didn't think it could be this hard”

“I have a satisfying feeling because I am helping people ”

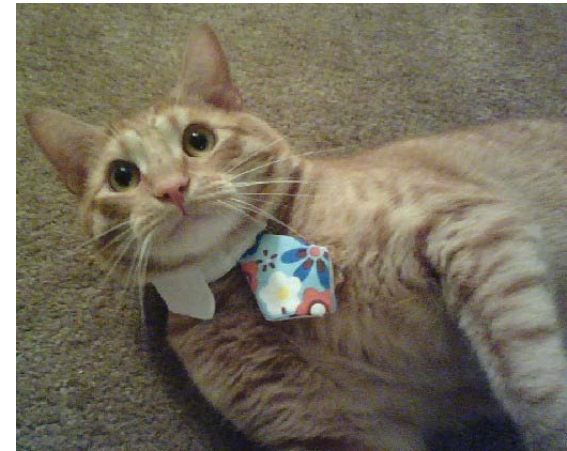
“I didn't know the time commitment would be just too much”

“It's like 15 months of A&P lecture and lab”

“I didn't know that this was going to impact on my personal life”

Application to Clinical Program

- Know and meet admission criteria
- Follow directions – there may be mandatory interviews, shadowing, information sessions
- Meet deadlines
- Ethical eligibility forms for some programs





- Look, talk, write and BE **professional**, courteous, and prompt during any interviews/appointments (and show up!)
- First impressions DO count!



Professionalism

As a member of your profession, you are expected to share and uphold certain values that characterize the practice of healing and medicine.

Character, Attitude, Competency, Conduct, Excellence

- You don't get a second chance to make a first impression!
- What does your email address say about you?
JLSmith@whatevermail.com vs lamhot4u@whatevermail.com
- Be careful about Facebook and other social media postings!
- Employers frequently request references regarding interpersonal skills (ability to work as part of a team), not grades
- No visible tattoos, body piercing (also for infection control and safety – and no acrylic nails)
- Dress codes (neat & clean) – hair, nails, attire, perfume (no), makeup, cannot smell like smoke





Code of Ethics

In order to promote excellence in patient care, the Health Career student shall:

- Treat patients with respect for the dignity, rights, and value of each individual.
- Provide nondiscriminatory and equitable treatment for all patients.
- Promote and strive to protect the health, safety and rights of each patient, including placing the well being of the patient before his or her own well-being.
- Maintain confidentiality of patient information following privacy regulations required by law.
- Perform procedures or functions within his/her level of education in the profession.



Code of Ethics

- **Refuse to participate in any illegal, unethical or incompetent acts.** Disclose any illegal, unethical, or incompetent acts of others to the proper authority.
- Avoid any conduct that creates a conflict of interest.
- **Demonstrate behavior that reflects integrity.**
- Follow all principles of ethical and professional behavior, as identified in the code of ethics of his/her chosen health career.

Students shall be denied admission to a program for any of the above breaches in conduct. Students who are in a clinical program and breach the code of conduct will be dismissed from the program and denied access to any other health career program at HACCC.



Background Checks

Submission of a Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, FBI Check, State Police Criminal Record Check* and Urine Drug and Alcohol Screen may be required (at the student's expense):

- for entrance into the program's clinical component
- prior to employment
- prior to taking national credentialing exams

www.hacc.edu/healthcareers - select *Related Links* (to get link to background checks)

DEAL WITH ISSUES **NOW!** [Criminal records](#) do NOT disappear after a certain period of time. They are with you forever.

DUIs may affect ability to obtain license!

PROHIBITIVE OFFENSES CONTAINED IN ACT 14 OF 1997

Offense Code	Prohibitive Offense	Type of Conviction
CC2500	Criminal Homicide	Any
CC2502A	Murder I	Any
CC2502B	Murder II	Any
CC2502C	Murder III	Any
CC2503	Voluntary Manslaughter	Any
CC2504	Involuntary Manslaughter	Any
CC2505	Causing or Aiding Suicide	Any
CC2506	Drug Delivery Resulting in Death	Any
CC2702	Aggravated Assault	Any
CC2901	Kidnapping	Any
CC2902	Unlawful Restraint	Any
CC3121	Rape	Any
CC3122.1	Statutory Sexual Assault	Any
CC3123	Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse	Any
CC3124.1	Sexual Assault	Any
CC3125	Aggravated Indecent Assault	Any
CC3126	Indecent Assault	Any
CC3127	Indecent Exposure	Any
CC3301	Arson and Related Offenses	Any
CC3502	Burglary	Any
CC3701	Robbery	Any

HACC policy being written AND new PA law in committee. – 10/10

CC3901	Theft	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3921	Theft by Unlawful Taking	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3922	Theft by Deception	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3923	Theft by Extortion	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3924	Theft by Property Lost	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3925	Receiving Stolen Property	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3926	Theft of Services	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3927	Theft by Failure to Deposit	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3928	Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3929	Retail Theft	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3929.1	Library Theft	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3930	Theft of Trade Secrets	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3931	Theft of Unpublished Dramas or Musicals	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3932	Theft of Leased Properties	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC3933	Unlawful Use of a Computer	1 Felony or 2 Misdemeanors
CC4101	Forgery	Any
CC4114	Securing Execution of Document by Deception	Any
CC4302	Incest	Any
CC4303	Concealing Death of a Child	Any
CC4304	Endangering Welfare of a Child	Any
CC4305	Dealing in Infant Children	Any
CC4952	Intimidation of Witnesses or Victims	Any
CC4953	Retaliation Against Witness or Victim	Any
CC5902B	Promoting Prostitution	Felony
CC5903C	Obscene and Other Sexual Materials to Minors	Any
CC5903D	Obscene and Other Sexual Materials	Any
CC6301	Corruption of Minors	Any
CC6312	Sexual Abuse of Children	Any
CS13A12	Acquisition of Controlled Substance by Fraud	Felony
CS13A14	Delivery by Practitioner	Felony
CS13A30	Possession with Intent to Deliver	Felony
CS13A36	Illegal Sale of Non-Controlled Substance	Felony
CS13A37	Designer Drugs	Felony

(CHRI.001)



Will my credits transfer?

- *HACC is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.*
www.CHEA.org
- HACC [accepts transfer credits](#) from other similarly accredited institutions and vice versa. A student must have earned a grade of "C" or higher in any course for which credit is granted.



Accredited Programs

- www.CAAHEP.org – Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs - accredits many health career programs
- Search on-line for <career> organization to find accredited programs
- If you are looking for a health career program, look for an accredited program so you will be eligible to sit for credentialing exams

Have questions or
looking for advice?



Call or email Health Careers!
780-1988
healthcareers@hacc.edu

Best wishes as
you pursue
your
educational
and career
goals at
HACC!

