

# PATIENT CARE TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATE

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The Patient Care Technician certificate is a short-term technical certificate designed to be completed in two semesters. This multi-skilled entry-level position is ideal for high school students seeking immediate employment in the health care field after graduation or to facilitate advancement into other high-demand career pathways such as Nursing Assistants, Medical Assistants, Phlebotomists, and Health Technicians.

Doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals rely on Patient Care Technicians (PCTs) to assist with the critical day-to-day care of patients in healthcare facilities, hospitals, and nursing homes.

PCTs may perform the following tasks:

- Provide bedside patient care
- Distribute and administer patient care supplies
- Perform safety checks and ensure cleanliness in patient rooms
- Complete documentation about patient condition, including vital signs, mood, appetite, and any pain they are experiencing.
- Monitor a patient's blood pressure, heart rate, and pulse on a routine basis
- Escort patients to X-rays and other diagnostic imaging procedures
- Change patient bandages and clean affected areas

Upon completion of the course work, the student is eligible to take the Patient Care Technician certification exam offered by the American Medical Certification Association (AMCA).

## Technical Standards

See here for details.

## Patient Care Technician Certificate

### First Year

| First Semester    |                                    | Hours    |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| BIO 1000          | Basic Human Structure and Function | 3        |
| BHS 1390          | Medical Terminology                | 2        |
| BHS 1100          | Patient Care Technician I          | 4        |
| <b>Term Hours</b> |                                    | <b>9</b> |

### Second Semester

|                    |                               |           |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| BHS 1160           | Medical Law-Ethics Healthcare | 2         |
| BHS 1120           | Patient Care Technician II    | 4         |
| <b>Term Hours</b>  |                               | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>Total Hours</b> |                               | <b>15</b> |