



**NWACC**  
*Learning For Living*

**Northwest Arkansas Community  
College**

**Medication Assistant Program**

**Application for Admission**

Updated 05-05-2009

**Goal:**

The goal of the Medication Assistant (MA) Program is to provide the Certified Nurses Assistant an opportunity to expand their vital role in healthcare. The MA Program includes the development of knowledge related to many commonly prescribed medication, medication classification, side effects, and administration techniques. The 115 contact hours include theory, lab and clinical experience in medication related tasks. The MA-C performs these duties under the supervision of a licensed nurse within the training program and in their respective employment facilities. This program will prepare a Certified Nursing Assistant, the currently employed in long-term care, with at least one year of good standing per the office of long-term care, for the task of medication administration in the nursing home setting.

**Objectives of the Program:**

Upon successful completion of this program, the student will demonstrate an understanding of the role and scope of practice for the MA-C. The student will successfully identify the various types of medications, demonstrate the principles of medication administration, and effectively communicate their understanding orally and through appropriate documentation in the patient's medical record.

**College Admission:**

Students seeking admission for the first time to the Northwest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) should use the following procedures:

1. Complete a NWACC application for admission form.
2. Submit a transcript of high school graduation or General Education Diploma (GED) and any college work.
3. Provide proof of immunization against measles (2) and rubella (1) if enrolled as full time student
4. Submit SAT, ACT scores or take the COMPASS test administered at the NWACC testing center prior to registering for classes. Call 479-619-4317 or visit our website for testing hours and information.

**Program Admission**

Students seeking admission into the Medication Assistant (MA-C) Program should use the following procedures, in addition to those mentioned above, in order to gain enrollment into the program:

1. Complete a NWACC MA-C program application
2. Submit COMPASS scores >81 in Reading, >19 in English or successful completion of ENGL 0063 and/or ENGL 0043 respectively.
3. Submit current Arkansas Health Card ( TB skin test)
4. Submit evidence of CURRENT employment at a nursing home.
5. Submit proof of CNA certification for at least one year in good standing.
6. Sign documents in Division of Health Professions Student Handbook.

The Northwest Arkansas Community College Medication Assistant Program is an Arkansas State Board of Nursing approved program. The following course is required for completion of the program:

NURS 1116 Medication Assistant

6 credit hours

Any student convicted of a misdemeanor or felony or listed on the LTCF Employment Clearance Registry with a disqualification status due to substance abuse, neglect, misappropriation of resident property or a disqualifying criminal record must contact the Program Director prior to application to the program.

**Class Times:**

The Medication Assistant Program is a 115-hour program scheduled for approximately 16 weeks. There will be 75 hours of lecture. A minimum of forty-five hours of theory, fifteen hours of simulation labs and forty hours of clinical will be required for completion. Clinical days and times will be assigned within the college semester.

Course objectives are met with textbooks, videos, hands-on lab experience, and clinical experiences.

**Progression Policy:**

A student who receives a final grade of less than 78% in any MA-C course during the program, exceeds the attendance policy allowance, or withdraws from a course cannot progress and will be suspended from the program. If less than 78% is accomplished in the theory portion of NURS 1116, then progression of NURS 1116 clinical is not possible.

**Re-Admission Policy:**

A student that did not successfully complete the requirements in NURS 1116 whether due to academic scores less than 78%, exceeding the attendance policy on absences, withdrawing from the course, or any other reason may be allowed a maximum of two additional attempts to complete the course. The student must counsel with the Director of Nursing or the Medication Assistant Primary Instructor prior to re-admission.

**MA-C Certification:**

The student must complete and pass the State of Arkansas MA-C certification exam and receive the Arkansas State Board of Nursing Certification in order to obtain a job in a nursing home facility. The NWACC certificate of proficiency entitles the student to sit for the MA-C certificate examination.

**Program Cost (Estimate ONLY):**

6 hours tuition at \$66.00 (in-district) per hour	\$396.00
Application Fee (First time student)	10.00
Lab Fee	15.00
Liability Insurance	21.75
Learning Support Fee \$6.75/credit hour	40.50
Textbook(s) – less if purchase used books	65.50
Certification Fee	106.00
Certification eligibility screening fee	10.00
Watch with second hand	20.00
Stethoscope	40.00
Scrubs	40.00
Misc. – See NWACC fee schedule	
<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>\$764.75</b>

**NWACC Medication Assistant Program Application**  
**Applications will be accepted (Date here) through (Date here)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

The NWACC Medication Assistant Program is scheduled to begin classes on (date here-month/day/year). The deadline for application (with all proofs) will be (date here-month/day/year). Letters of acceptance or decline will be sent out (date here-month/day/year).

If you have ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony, been disciplined by the Office of Long Term Care, currently engage in drug-related behavior, or in the last two years been the subject of a chemical or alcohol dependency program, you should discuss these matters with the Program Director or Dean of the Health Professions Division *prior* to application.

I have read the above information.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

**Administrative Use:**

- COMPASS scores >81 in Reading or successful completion of ENGL 0063
- COMPASS scores >19 in English or successful completion of ENGL 0043
- Current Arkansas Health Care (TB skin test)
- CNA Certification Proof: with One Year Experience
- Proof of *Current Employment* in Long Term Care Facility
- Background Check Authorization *or* attestation from employer

**Return to:**  
**NWACC Medication Assistant Program**  
**Attn: Department of Nursing –**  
**Janice Ruth, Primary Instructor**  
**One College Drive**  
**Bentonville, AR 72712**