

# ALLIED HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT

The versatile Allied Healthcare Assistant program has been designed to allow graduates to take advantage of expanding health career opportunities. The program consists of courses which can be taken separately for individual certifications, or together as part of a complete college certificate or associate's degree.

## Associate's Degree

- Medical Assisting - Associate of Applied Science (59-63 credits)

## Certificates of Completion

- Medical Assisting Certificate (31-35 Credits)

## Course-Completion Certificates

- Phlebotomist Basic

\* Registration for courses requiring clinical/practicum is contingent upon completion and submission of the clinical clearance packet to Castlebranch (<https://discover.castlebranch.com/>), the results from the New Mexico Department of Health Caregiver Criminal History Screening Program (CCHSP) (<https://nmhealth.org/about/dhi/cchsp/>) and drug screen.

## Categories of Essential Functions

To participate in the courses offered in the Allied Healthcare Assistant Program, the student must be capable of performing the following:

### Observation.

1. Visually discriminate incremental readings on various types of medical equipment;
2. Visually discriminate between different colored objects;
3. Discriminate between various auditory stimuli.

### Communication.

1. Communicate effectively in English, using verbal, nonverbal, and written formats;
2. Read and interpret the English language without assistance.

### Motor.

1. Stand for at least 5 hours;
2. Lift/carry 50 pounds; a release from MD may be required
3. Perform patient-care procedures with finger and manual dexterity.

### Intellectual.

1. Collect, interpret, and integrate information.

## Special Pre-Registration Requirements ("The Clinical Packet")

Before registering for any courses that are a co-requisite for a clinical course or a clinical course (MAST 1190 Clinical Skills & Concepts for Medical Assisting I; PHLB 1190 Phlebotomist Basic; MAST 2210 Medical Assisting Clinical Procedures II; MAST 2210 Medical Assisting Clinical

Procedures III; MAST 2990 Medical Assistant Practicum) students must submit documentation of the following on-line to Castlebranch (<https://discover.castlebranch.com/>) at [https://www.castlebranch.com/online\\_submission/package\\_code.php](https://www.castlebranch.com/online_submission/package_code.php):

- **COVID-19** - To be determined by healthcare facilities where student completes clinical assignments.
- **TETANUS, DIPHTHERIA, PERTUSSIS (Tdap)**
  - A booster within last 9 years
  - Adult Tdap required once
- **MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)**
  - Proof of vaccination (2 doses) **OR**
  - Proof of immunity by titers (Rubeola, Mumps, and Rubella). Must include a copy of the lab report
- **VARICELLA (Chicken Pox)**
  - Proof of vaccination (2 doses) **OR**
  - Proof of immunity by titer. Must include the copy of the lab report
  - History of Disease is **NOT** accepted
- **HEPATITIS B**
  - Proof of immunity by vaccination (3 doses) **OR**
  - Proof of immunity by titer. Must include a copy of the lab report
- **SEASONAL FLU**
  - Influenza vaccine must be for current year
- **TUBERCULIN STATUS**
  - Annual Tuberculous (TB) status is required. Depending on your past status and testing there are different options. Some healthcare facilities will require option 3 only.
  - **Option 1: Initial Two-Step Skin Test**
    - (1) receive the test, (2) return 48-72 hours later for reading, (3) wait 1-3 weeks, (4) repeat steps 1 & 2.
    - If no history or more than 12 months since last Tb Skin Test # 2 step Tb Skin Test required
  - **Option 2: Annual Skin Test**
    - If negative TB Test within 12 months # one step Tb Skin Test (for a total of 2 within 12 months)
  - **Option 3: QuantiFeron Gold (QFT) Blood Test**
    - Annual QFT is acceptable instead of Tb Skin Test. Like Tb Test, must be within 12 months and be negative
  - **Option 4: History of Positive Tb Skin Test or QuantiFeron Gold (QFT) Blood Test**
    - If History of Positive Tb Skin Test, submit the following:
      - **Date of Positive Tb with induration (mm)**
      - **Proof of chest x-ray**
      - **Complete Symptom Check Sheet (contact Health Services for form)**
    - If new positive TB # Follow-up by a healthcare provider. Must complete treatment as recommended
    - If a history of BCG vaccine # TST Skin Testing or QFT as above. If negative # OK; If positive # follow up as above.
- **American Heart Association Healthcare Provider BLS-CPR card** (cannot expire while taking courses); Heartsaver is not accepted.
- **7-10 panel Urine Drug Screen** ordered via Castlebranch and delivered directly to the program. A drug screen result hand-carried by a student will not be accepted. A positive screening result may prevent the student from gaining employment, obtaining state and national certifications, and continuing in courses.

Additional information regarding specific requirements is available from the program office in DAHL Room 190 and on the program webpage. (<https://dacc.nmsu.edu/academics/programs/allied-healthcare-assistant/>)

## **Criminal History Screening**

Prospective students are required to complete digital fingerprints and receive a clearance letter from N.M. Department of Health Caregiver Criminal History Screening Program (<https://nmhealth.org/about/dhi/cchsp/>). Past criminal violations may prevent a student from obtaining state and national certification, or from gaining employment in the field, and enrolling in the courses.