

## Entrance Requirements for Health Professions Programs

Admission to college programs in health professions is limited to a specific number of candidates each year because of requirements imposed by accrediting agencies and by the availability of faculty, college laboratory, and clinical agency resources. To insure that all applicants are evaluated in the same way, within each discipline, criteria for acceptance have been developed by the School of Health Professions and Student Services. These criteria will be utilized in determining the candidates who will be offered admission. Admission will have a step process: academic eligibility will be determined, as well as a criminal history background check, basic skills testing, and admissions examination for the Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Nursing, Radiography, Respiratory Technology and Veterinary Technology programs.

All eligible candidates for admission to the Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Nursing, Radiography, Respiratory Therapy and Veterinary Technology programs are required to take a national Nursing/Health Professions standardized admissions examination -The Admissions Assessment Examination by HESI. There is a fee that is payable directly to the examination company. The examination is given off-campus at a testing center. All eligible Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Sonography, Radiography, Nursing, Respiratory Therapy, and Veterinary Technology candidates with a clear background report will receive an invitation to take the examination. The invitation will outline all information related to the examination.

If students have not taken the necessary high school prerequisites, the courses can be made up by substituting courses taken at Bergen. These courses must be taken before students apply to any Health Professions program. **Science prerequisites must have been completed within the last five years. Applicable college science courses taken more than five years ago are not transferable. All science grades must be a "C" or better.**

All students applying to health professions programs must take the basic skills test and successfully complete all remedial course-work prior to application. High school students applying to Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Sonography, Nursing, Paramedic Science, Radiography,

Respiratory Therapy and Veterinary Technology programs must sit for the basic skills test prior to the application deadline.

A successful candidate for a health professions program at Bergen Community College must possess certain abilities and skills necessary to provide and maintain safe and effective care administered to the patient. The candidate must be able to function on an independent level without any intermediary. These skills and abilities include: observation, communication, motor skills, cognitive and intellectual skills, behavioral, and social attributes.

Health Professions students must carry personal medical health insurance, professional liability insurance, and be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) by the American Heart Association (Healthcare Provider with AED) or the American Red Cross (Professional Rescue Certification). In addition, all health professions students are required to complete health examination forms upon admission to the program and fulfill the requirement for a yearly Mantoux skin test for tuberculosis.

Students seeking admission to Nursing Day, Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Paramedic Science, Radiography, Respiratory Therapy and Surgical Technology must submit completed applications including transcripts by February 1 for fall (September) admission. Nursing Evening and Veterinary Tech applications are due by October 1, for spring (January) admission.

\*Prerequisites for the Nursing, Dental Hygiene and Diagnostic Sonography programs must be completed prior to application.

### **Criminal History Background Check Requirement**

Clinical agencies mandate criminal history background checks for all individuals engaged in patient care, and all students must undergo criminal history background checks before admission may be offered. These checks are conducted by an external company, and the information is sent to the Dean of Health Professions. All background reports must be clear to be eligible for admission and to be invited to take any Admissions Examination. Any applicant with a criminal history background report that is NOT clear will not be eligible for consideration.

## Minimum Entrance Requirements for Health Professions

### **Degree Programs**

#### **Dental Hygiene Program** AAS.HP.DENTL

Program length: 24 months. Program Admits: Fall semester

Preadmission Test: Dental Hygiene Admissions Exam

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.50

High School prerequisite courses: Chemistry with lab;

Biology with lab and Algebra. In addition, the following

College courses: BIO109; MAT040 and CHM112 must be successfully completed.

Application Deadline: February 1st

**Note:** High school Biology is waived if college Biology, preferably BIO109 is successfully completed.

Preadmission Test: Dental Hygiene Admissions Exam

#### **Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program** AAS.HP.DMS

Program length: 24 months

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.50

Preadmission Test: Diagnostic Sonography Admissions Exam

High School prerequisites: HS students are required to have taken advanced placement Biological Science (AP test documentation required); HS advanced placement Physics (AP test documentation required), and high school Algebra. College substitutions: BIO109 Anatomy & Physiology I; PHY185 Intro to Physics; MAT040 Algebra.

Application Deadline: February 1st

Program Admits: Fall semester

**Note:** This is a regional program that utilizes clinical education centers throughout the state of NJ. Students might be required to travel to distant sites and provide their own transportation.

#### **Medical Office Assistant Program** AAS.HP.MOA

Program length: 24 months

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.00

High School prerequisite courses: None

Application Deadline: No deadline date for admission

Program Admits: Fall/Spring semester.

#### **Nursing Day Program** AAS.NURS.DAY

Program Length: 2 academic years

Preadmission Test: Nursing Program Admission Exam

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.50

High School prerequisite courses: Chemistry w/Lab and Biology w/Lab and Algebra.

College substitutions: CHM100; BIO109; MAT040.

Application Deadline: February 1st

Program Admits: Fall semester.

#### **Nursing Evening Program** AAS.NURS.EVE

Program Length: 2 academic years

Preadmission Test: Nursing Program Admission Exam

GPA Requirement: 2.50

High School prerequisite courses: Chemistry w/Lab

College substitutions: CHM100

College prerequisite courses: MAT040; BIO109; BIO209; WRT101; WRT201; PSY101; PSY106; SOC101.

Application Deadline: October 1st

Program Admits: Spring semester

### **Paramedic Science Program** AAS.HP.PAR

Program length: 24 months

Preadmission: EMT skills screening, Active NJ EMT License

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.50

Prerequisite courses: BIO109, BIO209, MAT100 elective, PSY101, PSY201, SOC101, WRT101, WRT201 or WRT202.

Application Deadline: February 1st

Program Admits: Fall semester

Students who are interested in the program should make an appointment to meet with the Program Coordinator regarding admissions.

**Note:** This regional program utilizes clinical education sites throughout the state of NJ. Students will be required to travel to distant sites and provide their own transportation.

### **Radiography Program** AAS.HP.RAD

Program length: 24 months

Preadmission Test: Radiography Admissions Exam

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.50

High School prerequisite courses: 1 year science (College Placement Biology and Lab); 1 year Algebra II

College substitutions: BIO109; MAT040.

Application Deadline: February 1st

Program Admits: Fall semester

**Note:** High school Biology is waived if college Biology, preferably BIO109 is successfully completed.

### **Respiratory Therapy Program** AAS.HP.RESP

Program length: 24 months

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.00

Pre-admission Test: Respiratory Care Admission Exam

High School prerequisite courses: Chemistry with lab;

Biology with lab; Algebra

College substitutions: BIO109; CHM100; MAT040.

Application Deadline: February 1st

Program Admits: Fall semester

**Note:** High school Biology is waived if college Biology, preferably BIO109, is successfully completed.

### **Veterinary Technology Program** AAS.HP.VET

Program length: 24 months

Pre-admission Test: Veterinary Tech Admissions Exam

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.00

Prerequisites: MAT040; VET115; VET102; VET103; CHM112; WRT101.

Application Deadline: October 1st

Program Admits: Spring semester.

**Note:** Applicants will only be accepted once the prerequisites stated above have been successfully completed. Applicants are strongly encouraged to meet with a program official regarding application procedures. Travel is required for all students enrolled in this program.

**PLEASE NOTE:** High School students applying to Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Sonography, Radiography, Paramedic Science, Respiratory Therapy, Nursing Day, Cert. Surgical Technology and Veterinary Technology programs must sit for the basic skills test before the application deadline.

**\*Prerequisites for the Nursing, Dental Hygiene and Diagnostic Sonography programs must be completed prior to application. Science prerequisite courses must have been completed within the last five years. Prerequisite grades must be a "C" or better.**

### **Health Science Program** AAS.HP.HLTH.SCI

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.50

Program Admits: Fall and Spring Semester

**Note:** This program is for practicing professionals who hold current certification or licensure in a Health Profession discipline, such as dental assisting, diagnostic medical sonography, licensed practical nursing, medical office assisting, radiography, respiratory technology and surgical technology. Certification or Licensure must be recognized by the accrediting agencies of Bergen's Health Professions Programs. Qualified students will be awarded 30 transfer credits. The credits will be applied to the degree in AAS. Health Science upon the completion of the curriculum. It is essential to understand that this program does not entitle the graduate eligibility to advanced certification or licensure within the Health Professions discipline. Students enrolled in the AAS degree in Health Sciences must satisfy the English, Mathematics and Algebra basic skills requirements. Students who enter into this program must be aware of the BCC policy on the number of credits that must be taken at the college. Transcripts and credentials will be evaluated by an appointed admissions committee.

### **Certificate Programs**

#### **Surgical Technology Program** CERT.SURG

Program length: 12 months

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.00

Prerequisites: High school graduate, or GED

**College courses recommended:** BIO109 A&P I w/lab; and BIO209 A&P II w/lab.

Application Deadline: February 1

Program Admits: Fall semester only.

High School students applying to the Certificate Surgical Technology Program must sit for the Basic Skills Test before the application deadline.

#### **Medical Office Administrative Program** CERT.MOAA

Prerequisite: High school graduate or GED.

Program length: 12 months

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.00

Application Deadline: No deadline date for admission.

Program Admits: Fall/Spring semester

#### **Radiation Therapy Program** CERT.RAD.THERAPY

Program length: 12 months

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.50

An applicant must be a Registered or registry-eligible Radiologic Technologist possessing an Associate Degree or higher from an accredited college. Prerequisite courses: Anatomy and Physiology I and II (BIO109 and BIO209); MAT160 Intermediate Algebra; MAT180 Precalculus; PHY185 General Physics. In addition to the above-stated requirements, candidates cannot be accepted into the program until at least one of the following three courses have been completed: WRT201, COM100. Two of these general education courses may be taken concurrently with the program. Successful completion of all three courses is required by the American Registry of Radiologic Tech and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection.

**Note:** Students who are interested in the program should make an appointment to meet with the Program Coordinator regarding admissions.