

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 be 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 deadline Feb 1.

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 Nursing, Dental Hygiene and Diagnostic Medical Sonography programs must be completed prior to the application deadline February 1.

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
GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.50. Preadmission Test: Dental Hygiene Admissions Exam. Application Deadline: February 1.
High School prerequisite courses: Chemistry w/lab; Algebra and Biology w/lab. High School students must complete CHM-112 (College Chemistry), before the application deadline. A junior or senior high school student, 16 years of age or older, may apply for dual enrollment, with their guidance counselors or principal's permission/endorsement. They can register for CHM-112 during the fall semester and successfully complete prior to the application deadline. College requirements: BIO109; CHM112 and MAT040.

Prerequisite courses must be completed prior to application deadline.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program AAS.HP.DMS

Program length: 24 months. Program Admits: Fall semester
GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.50
Application Deadline: February 1.
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 HS Algebra. If you have not taken these courses in high school, you need to take the following college level courses: BIO-109; PHY 185 and MAT 040.

Prerequisite courses must be completed prior to application deadline.

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. Prog Admits: Fall semester
Application Deadline: February 1.
Preadmission Test: Nursing Program Admission Exam
GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.50
High School prerequisite courses: Chemistry and Biology with labs and Algebra. If you have not taken these courses in high school, you need to take the following college level courses: BIO-109; CHM 100 or CHM 112 and MAT 040.

Prerequisite courses must be completed prior to application dateline.

Nursing Evening Program AAS.NURS.EVE

Program Length: 2 academic years. Prog Admits: Spring semester
Application Deadline: October 1. GPA Requirement: 2.50
Preadmission Test: Nursing Program Admission Exam.
HS prerequisite: Chemistry w/Lab. CHM100. If you have not taken HS Chemistry, w/lab you are required to take college level CHM 100 or CHM 112. College prerequisite courses: MAT040; BIO109; BIO209; WRT101; WRT201; PSY101; PSY106 and SOC101.

Prerequisite courses must be completed prior to application dateline.

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 1

Program Admits: Fall semester

Students who are interested in the program should make an appointment to meet with the Program Director 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

Application Deadline: February 1

Program Admits: Fall semester

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 (Algebra II). College prerequisites: BIO109; MAT 040.

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

Respiratory Therapy Program AAS.HP.RESP

Program length: 24 months

Application Deadline: February 1

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.50

Preadmission Test: Respiratory Care Admission Exam

High School prerequisite courses: Chemistry with lab; Biology with lab; Algebra

College substitutions: BIO109; CHM100; MAT040.

Program Admits: Fall semester

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

Veterinary Technology Program AAS.HP.VET

Program length: 24 months

Preadmission Test: Veterinary Tech Admissions Exam

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.00

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

Application Deadline: October 1

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.

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

Health Science Program AAS.HP.HLTH.SCI

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.50

Application Deadline: February 1

Program Admits: Fall and Spring semester

This is a post certification course of study to earn an associate's degree for those individuals who have received education in a hospital sponsored program and are certified (or registered professionals) and are seeking degrees.

Applicant must have graduated from a program that has acceptable accreditation agencies that is comparable to our Health Professions disciplines. Transcripts and credentials will be evaluated by an appointed admissions committee.

Students enrolled in the AAS degree in Health Sciences must satisfy the English, Mathematics and Algebra basic skills requirements. Qualified students will be awarded 30 transfer credits. The credits will be applied to the degree in Health Science upon the completion of the curriculum. 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.

It is essential to understand that this program does not entitle the graduate eligibility to advanced certification or licensure within the Health Professions discipline.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Surgical Technology Program CERT.SURG

Program length: 12 months

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.00

Prerequisites: High school graduate, or GED

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

Program length: 12 months

GPA for admissions eligibility: 2.00

Prerequisite: High school graduate or GED.

Application Deadline: No deadline date for admission.

Program Admits: Fall/Spring semester

Radiation Therapy Program CERT.RAD.THERAPY

Program length: 12 months

Application Deadline: February 1

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: BIO-109; BIO-209; MAT-150; MAT-160; MAT-180; PHY-185 WRT-201; COM-100. WRT-201 and COM-100 may be taken concurrent with the program.

Successful completion of all eight prerequisite general education courses is required by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection.

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

Information in this document is subject to change at any time.