Centralia College
Medical Assistant Program

The Industry
As more people reach retirement age, and with ever increasing technological advancements in health care, more people are living longer than at any time in history. Because of these and other factors, Medical Assistants as a profession are in very high demand, with a projected job growth of 29% between the year’s 2010 and 2020. The median income for Medical Assistants is $30,780 a year with excellent medical and retirement benefits available at most jobs. The earning potential for graduates is well over the national average for most other occupations.

Our Medical Assistant Program
Medical Assistants are multi-skilled practitioners who perform a wide range of skills in physicians’ offices and other health care settings. Program graduates assist physicians and other health care practitioners on many aspects of medical practice, including patient care management, administrative, and clinical procedures. Clinical procedures may include: assisting with physical examinations, phlebotomy (blood draw), administering injections, performing electrocardiograms (ECGs) and other diagnostic procedures and tests.

Career Opportunities
There are excellent career opportunities available for Medical Assistants working in a variety of fields and settings:
• Hospital-based outpatient departments
• Physician’s offices
• Ambulatory care facilities

Occupational Outlook, Job & Salary Statistics
For statistics on medical assistant occupations, see:
• Bureau of Labor Statistics
• http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/medical-assistants.htm
• WOIS/The Career Information System > Medical Assistants (available for current students)