Centralia College

Nursing Assistant Certified (NAC) Program

The Industry
Increasing numbers of baby boomers are reaching retirement age and with ever-increasing technological advancements in health care, more and more people are living longer. This means an increase in the need for quality health care, which has generated an increase in the demand for Nursing Assistants Certified (NAC). This is a field that is expected to grow by 21 percent by 2020. NACs have a medium annual income of $24,400 and most positions come with medical and retirement benefits.

Our Nursing Assistant Certified Program
This program prepares students to work under the direction of registered nurses and licensed practical nurses and assist in the care of clients.

Nursing Assistant Certified (NAC) 9 credits
This comprehensive, short-term training course provides basic awareness of the role of the nursing assistant in nursing care and skill development in the several facets of that care. NACs are qualified to work under the direction of registered nurses and licensed practical nurses and assist in the care of clients in hospitals, clinics, and nursing homes. Instruction includes maintaining a safe environment for the client, restorative care, communicating with clients, and basic concepts of care. Upon successful completion, certifications included are: American Heart Association Healthcare Provider Card, HIV/Aids Certification, Nursing Assistant Registered and Nursing Assistant Certified. The NAC program runs approximately one college quarter and is offered both day and night each quarter during the academic year.

This course is approved and certified by both the Washington State Department of Health and Department of Social and Health Services. Upon successful completion of our Nursing Assistant Certified training program, students are eligible to take the National Nursing Aide Assessment Program (NNAAP) exam and to become licensed in Washington state.

Important notice to students:
Individuals with prior or pending felony, misdemeanor or domestic violence charges or convictions, and those persons with a history of serious or repeated traffic convictions may be ineligible for employment opportunities in the criminal justice field. If you have any infractions, please consult with an attorney prior to entering this program.
Career Opportunities
Is the Nursing Assistant Certified program right for you?

If you are looking for a career in the health care industry, becoming a Nursing Assistant Certified is a great way to start! Centralia College offers both day and evening classes, and supplemental certification is frequently required for employment.

Common tasks of an NAC:
- Turn and reposition bedridden clients, alone or with assistance, to prevent bedsores
- Answer clients call signals
- Feed clients who are unable to feed themselves
- Observe clients conditions, measuring and recording food and liquid intake and output, vital signs and report changes to professional staff
- Provide clients with help walking, exercising, and moving in and out of bed
- Bathe, groom, shave, dress, and/or drape clients to prepare them for surgery, treatment, or examination
- Collect specimens such as urine, feces, or sputum
- Prepare, serve and collect food trays
- Clean rooms and change linens

Occupational Outlook, Job & Salary Statistics
For statistics on criminal justice occupations, see:
- http://www.dol.gov
- http://www.wois.org/use/occs/viewer.cfm?occnum=100140#wg
  (WOIS for current students)

Important Links
- Washington State Department of Health Nursing Assistant: http://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/ProfessionsNewReneworUpdate/NursingAssistant.aspx
- Secretary’s List of Crimes and Negative Actions: http://dshs.wa.gov/bccu/bccucrimeslist.shtml

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