

Health Science Education Programs

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Health Science Education Programs

Health Science programs are limited access programs that require a separate admissions process in addition to the College's admissions for all other programs of study. Admission into Broward College does not guarantee admission into Health Science programs of study. In addition to meeting Broward College standards, students must also meet the standards outlined by external partners, accreditors, licensing, and other agencies and program affiliates.

At Broward College there are three major academic divisions within the area of Health Science Education:

1. Programs for Initial Professional Preparation:

- Dental Assisting
- Dental Hygiene
- Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Management
- Massage Therapy
- Medical Assisting
- Nuclear Medicine
- Nursing RN Program
- Paramedic
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Radiation Therapy
- Radiography (X-ray)
- Respiratory Care
- Vision Care

2. Post-Professional Development Programs:

The Continuing Education and Workforce Development Department offers post-professional development courses/programs for credentialed health professionals whose goals are to increase their knowledge and skills in various health-related topics and courses. Advanced Technical Certificates are also offered in the following areas: Basic Perioperative Nursing, Coronary Care Nursing, Critical Care Nursing, Graduate Nurse Intern, Home Health Nursing, Multi-skilled Healthcare Professional, and Vascular Sonography.

3. Bachelor degree programs in Nursing: The RN to BSN program is outlined in the bachelor degree program section of this catalog.

Technical Performance Standards

Students must meet certain standards of performance prior to the start of any Health Science

program so that they can successfully progress in their course work and ultimately graduate. These standards include meeting certain physical, psychological, and cognitive demands associated with the chosen profession. Technical Performance Standards for each program can be reviewed at the specific program's web site.

Health Science Program Policies

Academic Integrity

In addition to the College's Student Code of Conduct, the Health Science programs have adopted a Health Science Code of Professional Behaviors. This Code is provided in the Student Handbook for each program. Students are expected to comply with all of the professional behaviors detailed in the Code. Any infraction of the Code may result in disciplinary action including dismissal from the program.

Each Health Science course syllabus outlines the specific instructor's policy on cheating. If a student is discovered cheating, the student also may be expelled or suspended from the program. In submitting written work during any course, the student should be aware of the policy on plagiarism adopted by the Health Science faculty found in the Student Handbook for each program.

Attendance

Each instructor determines the attendance policy for his/her Health Science lecture or lab class. The attendance policy is detailed in the course syllabus at the beginning of each semester. It is the student's responsibility to know and comply with the attendance policy. Each program maintains clinical policies as well which follow specific guidelines related to attendance.

Continuation in a Health Science Program

Continuation in a Health Science program is dependent upon maintaining a minimum grade of "C" in each Health Science course and a minimum GPA of 2.0 (or as specified by the specific program).

Each program has established policies in addition to the College academic progress policies that may be more restrictive and that must be met in order to progress through the program. As such, the program deans can assess students' readiness and qualifications including, but not limited to the following: coursework, clinical and laboratory;

behavior and ethical standards in and outside of class at the College or at clinical sites and make a judgment to continue or discontinue a student's enrollment. When it is deemed that the student does not possess the qualifications necessary for the selected Health Science career or demonstrates behavior deemed to be potentially detrimental to the aims and purposes of the College or to a patient's safety and well-being, the student will be dismissed from health science programs. This decision may or may not impact continued enrollment in other programs at the College, each circumstance will be evaluated. Excessive course/clinical failures in limited access programs may result in dismissal from the program. Refer to College Policy 6Hx2-5.33 and Procedure A6Hx2-5.-33 on Re-entry into a Health Sciences Program or program guidelines.

Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening

Students applying to a Health Science program are subject to a criminal background check and drug screening which is required as a prerequisite to attending any clinical practicum while enrolled in the program. A student needs to be aware that participation and placement may be denied at a clinical agency based on the background or drug screening results and the clinical agency's pre-employment screening policy.

Should such denial occur, the health science program cannot guarantee an alternative facility placement. Withdrawal from the program will be necessary if a student cannot meet requirements as they relate to the clinical site.

If a student is admitted to the College based on their background check and screening and is allowed to complete a clinical experience, it does not guarantee the student will be eligible to sit for the certification or licensing exam. Pursuant to Section 456.0635, Florida Statutes, effective July 1, 2009, health care boards or the department shall refuse to issue a license, certificate or registration and shall refuse to admit a candidate to sit for the examination if the applicant has been:

1. Convicted or plead guilty or nolo contendere to a felony violation regardless of adjudication of: chapters 409, 817, or 893, Florida Statutes; or 21 U.S.C. ss. 801-970 or 42 U.S.C. ss 1395-1396, unless the sentence and any probation or pleas ended more than 15 years prior to the application.
2. Terminated for cause from Florida Medicaid Program (unless the applicant has been in

good standing for the most recent five years).

3. Terminated for cause by any other State Medicaid Program or the Medicare Program (unless the termination was at least 20 years prior to the date of the application and the applicant has been in good standing with the program for the most recent five years).

Nursing graduates taking the NCLEX-RN must be able to provide one or more of the acceptable forms of identification as described on the Testing Center's website (www.pearsonvue.com/nclex). Temporary identifications or passports, not translated in English, are not acceptable forms of identification. For further information, see the Nursing Program section in the Catalog.

College Disclaimer:

Health Science graduates are subject to the laws, policies, and procedures of their respective regulatory or licensing boards. And these regulations are outside the control of the College. Students should read all guidelines and ensure that they can comply with such prior to admission or persisting toward completion of any program that requires licensure or certification from an entity not governed by the College.

Curriculum and Policy Changes

The Health Science policies and programs of study contained in this catalog and program student handbooks are regarded as a contract between the student and the College. However, there are times when the College must make changes to the curriculum, course offering, admissions and applications requirements. All curriculum changes must be approved through the College's curriculum approval process. All other policy changes, including curriculum must be approved by the College's District Board of Trustees. The effective date of approved changes is aligned with the student's catalog entry year, as long as there is no break in that original catalog year. Students who break catalog will be required to meet all admissions and curriculum requirements that are in effect at the point of entry or re-entry to the College. There are exceptions when a change may be made immediately outside of this cycle.

Graduation Requirements

Students must complete all courses in the degree or certificate program with a grade of "C" or higher and have an overall degree GPA of 2.0 or higher.

It is important that students know the catalog requirements under which they will graduate. For more information, refer to the “Applicable Catalog” statement on page 96.

Students should consult with an Academic Advisor every term to assure successful progress toward completion of the chosen Health Science certificate or degree.

Health and Accident Insurance

Any student who is assigned to a clinical facility may be exposed to environmental hazards and infectious diseases. It is strongly recommended that each student carry health insurance to avoid any untoward expenses related to medical care. Health insurance is not offered by the College.

Limited accident insurance is provided for Health Science students at the time of registration in clinical courses each semester for a nominal fee. This insurance provides coverage for injuries sustained while participating in Health Science classes, labs and/or clinical training.

Health Examination

A Medical History and Physical Health Form must be completed at the time specified by the program. Final acceptance or continuation in a program will be contingent upon the results of the physical examination. A student may not enroll in a clinical course unless the Health Form has been submitted then reviewed by the program for completion of all listed requirements. Forms for each Health Science program are available online.

Liability Insurance

Professional liability insurance is required of all Health Science students each term that they are enrolled in a clinical course. The fee for liability insurance coverage is non-refundable and is charged each semester when the student registers for the first clinical course during an academic year.

Registration/Audit

A student must be admitted to a program and be registered in the course to attend any Health Science class. No student may audit a Health Science course without the permission of the appropriate Health Science Associate Dean or Program Manager.

Substance Abuse Policy Statement

All Health Science programs are committed to maintaining an environment that is free from substance abuse. Any student who is convicted

under a criminal statute for a drug-related offense is required to notify his or her Dean or appropriate representative not later than five (5) days after such conviction. Failure to comply with this policy by any student will constitute disciplinary actions.

A student who is unable to perform clinical activities with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness, or use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other type substances, or as a result of any mental or physical condition, shall be required to submit to a mental or physical examination. The physician or health care practitioner must possess expertise to diagnose the impairment and be approved by the program. Cost of the examination will be borne by the student. Failure to submit to such an examination may result in dismissal from the program. Refer to College Policy 6Hx2-5.18 and Procedure A6Hx2-5.18 on Substance Abuse.

Students will be asked to leave a clinical site or classroom/lab with an unexcused absence if they appear to be impaired or under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Safe transportation from the clinical site will be borne by the student. Chemical abuse offenses may result in dismissal from the program.

Transfer

Students who wish to transfer Health Science credits from another college should contact the appropriate program for a copy of its policies and procedures related to transfer of credit. Science courses such as Anatomy and Physiology which were completed more than 10 years ago may not be acceptable for transfer. Students should meet with the Program Manager or Associate Dean of the program of interest to determine if the course(s) will need to be repeated. Transfer students must meet the College’s requirements for graduation as stated in Policy 6Hx2-4.22. The College policy related to third and fourth attempt tuition charges will apply.

Transportation

Students must have reliable transportation to/from Broward College and to/from an assigned clinical facility. Neither the College nor any clinical facility will provide transportation. The student assumes all risks and responsibilities for travel to/from clinical sites and required or optional field trips.

Uniforms

Each Health Science program has its own uniform. Students must purchase uniforms that meet the approval of the appropriate Health Science program.

Information regarding uniform guidelines is given to each applicant following admission to a program.

Withdrawal/Failure

Any Health Science student who fails a course, fails to maintain the appropriate GPA, or withdraws from a Health Science program during his/her first semester shall follow the specific program guidelines regarding the readmission. Re-enrollment will be

based on the criteria and procedures in effect at the time of readmission and space availability. Additional requirements may also be applied to students who have previously failed. Refer to College Policy 6Hx2-5.33 and Procedure A6Hx2-5.33 about Re-entry into a Health Sciences Program or program guidelines.



