

Nursing Assistant (High School Classes)



A nurse's assistant should **enjoy working with people** and **possess good communication skills**. Nursing assistants must be **compassionate** people who are skilled at **comforting the sick**. They work closely with Registered Nurses (RNs), so they must be able to **take direction** from other medical professionals.

Since nursing assistants provide constant care to patients, they often have more contact with patients than other medical professionals in the facility. For this reason, they often form genuine relationships with patients. They can observe the emotional, mental, and physical conditions of patients so that they can report any fluctuations to nurses and physicians.

The nursing assistant's job is a demanding one, as they are often required to perform a great deal of physical tasks. They spend most of their shift on their feet, walking and standing. Each day, they may have to assist patients into or out of bed. Since the job is physically strenuous, they must learn the proper way to lift patients. Not practicing proper lifting methods can cause the nursing assistant to injure his or her back.

MATC Nursing Assistant Course: The Nursing Assistant Program is a 3 credit, 120 hour program. The Nursing Assistant Program prepares students for employment as nursing assistants. This program is recognized by the Department of Health Services as a nurse aide training program. State certification is required for employment in nursing homes, hospitals, home health agencies, hospices and home for the developmentally disabled. The State test cost \$115.00. This is the responsibility of the student.

Prerequisites: Compass Reading of 75. The Compass test must be completed before students can be enrolled in the course. It is important to take the compass test as soon as possible as students will not be able to register for a course until the test is completed. Classes fill up fast. To see the schedule for testing go to <http://matcmadison.edu/compass-schedules-and-study-guides>

Other Requirements: (forms should be completed as soon as possible.)

- Health History form to be completed by health practitioner. Requires 2 TB test reading. Health History form can be downloaded from the following site: http://matcmadison.edu/files/users/lnellen/chase_medical-physical-history.pdf
- Background Check form. <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/forms/F8/F82064.pdf> CBC (Background Information Disclosure form) PDF, 55KB Any crime relating to the use of violence, drugs or thefts of any kind, including disorderly conduct, domestic abuse, retail theft and fraud may prevent a student from participating in the clinical portion of the course. Felony convictions will prevent participation in the clinical portion of the class.

Program

There are three parts to the nursing assistant program.

1. Classroom: The classroom may be held at a high school distant learning, on-line or at the MATC Campus. The classrooms are offered a varied times depending which section you are enrolled in.
2. Labs: The labs may be held at your high school, MATC Campus or another identified site. The labs can be delivered at different times depending on which section you are enrolled in.
3. Clinical: A **supervised clinical** with direct client care is held **in the evening** at a nursing facility. There are 10 sessions, generally 2 sessions a week in the evening, for 5 hours each session. The clinical are supervised by licensed nursing staff.

Attendance: Attendance for all class sessions is mandatory.

For More Information: Contact your School to Career Coordinator or counseling office.