

Maine College of Health Professions

Education that Enriches Lives

College Catalog,
Addendum 1

2023-2024

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Associate Degree in Clinical Health Sciences

About Our Program

The associate degree in clinical health sciences (ACHS) at Maine College of Health Professions (MCHP) equips students with the essential education and training needed to excel in a diverse range of healthcare professions. Courses in the ACHS program are geared toward students who are new to healthcare, empowering them to embark on a successful journey towards becoming skilled healthcare professionals. This program also provides a steppingstone for individuals who are interested in pursuing careers in nursing or medical imaging.

Rooted in a robust educational framework, the ACHS degree offers foundational knowledge in the liberal arts, which is essential for navigating the complexities of healthcare. By nurturing a deep understanding of subjects spanning humanities, and biological, behavioral, and social sciences, students are prepared to flourish in the intricate world of healthcare.

Upon completing the program, students gain proficiency in a variety of vital medical skills. These encompass effective communication within healthcare settings. Graduates acquire a comprehensive repertoire of patient care techniques and are eligible to sit for a select group of certifications, Phlebotomy Technician, Clinical Medical Assistant, Patient Care Technician, and Mental Health Technician. Graduates of the ACHS degree program are competent and have acquired the confidence to excel in the healthcare realm, contributing to superior patient care and the advancement of the field

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Evaluate patient health concerns to optimize patient healthcare outcomes.
2. Utilize appropriate patient care techniques, interventions, protocols, and equipment to optimize patient outcomes.
3. Integrate the principles of healthcare ethics into allied health practice.
4. Demonstrate mastery of professional communication and etiquette, when performing patient care within their scope of practice.
5. Demonstrate an awareness of community, cultural, and global diversity in a healthcare setting.

6. Ascertain your role within the healthcare team to optimize patient outcomes.
7. Reflect on personal biases and patterns of thinking, to promote optimal decision making in the healthcare setting

Curriculum Plan- *Suggested Schedule*

Program Courses	Credit Hours
Semester One	
HCS 110 Intro. to Medical Lab Procedures w/Lab	6
ENG 101 College Writing	3
MET 111 Medical Terminology	3
ELE** General Education Elective	3
Semester Two	
HCS 120 Intro to Medical Office Procedures w/Lab	6
PSY 101 Intro to Psychology	3
BIO 105 General Anatomy & Physiology w/Lab	3
Semester Three	
HCS 250 Health Sciences Clinical Preceptorship	3
MAT 140 College Algebra	3
MHT 100 Intro. To Mental Health Care & Disorders	3
Fourth Semester	
MHT 210 Trauma, Addiction, and Environment	3
MHT 220 Therapeutic Interventions	3
HUM 225 Emotional Intelligence Seminar	3
ELE** General Education Elective	3
Five Semester	
MHT 250 Mental Health Practicum	5
HCS 260 Health Sciences Seminar	1
PSY 201 Developmental Psychology	3
SOC 101 Intro to Sociology	3
Total Program Credits	61

Note: Students may enter the ACHS program at five different start times, and do not necessarily need to take all courses in a prescribed sequence. Students in this program can earn one, two, three, or four allied health certificates depending on their aspirations. In addition, students become eligible to sit for these certification exams at different times throughout the program and are therefore able to start working in healthcare prior to graduation.

Career Opportunities

Graduates will be eligible to work in doctor's offices, hospitals, nursing homes, mental health facilities, and other medical facilities completing a wide range of clinical tasks. Students may even have a standing

job offer from an employer on the day that he or she graduates from the program.

BIO 214 Microbiology with Lab

4 Credits

This course provides a survey of the microbial world including bacteria, yeast, molds, fungi, and viruses. The primary focus of the course is on the relationship between humans and microbes ranging from the various forms of parasitism, to disease processes, to immunity. Students will develop an understanding of prokaryotic cell structure, bacterial genetics and metabolism, control of microbial growth, how microbes cause specific disease, and various public health and medical interventions to combat microbial disease. Students will also be exposed to real world application of microbiology in the healthcare setting via laboratory learning content. Prerequisites: BIO111, BIO 111L, BIO 112, BIO 112L

ENG 210 English Literature

3 Credits

The focus of this course is the exploration of literature. Literature is a creative expression of our human experience. Students will explore the characteristics and conventions of various literary genres: fiction, poetry, and drama. Through close reading exercises, students will improve their ability to examine texts in detail, paying attention to nuances in language, tone, and style. To promote a deeper understanding of literary techniques, students will experiment with different forms and styles of writing. Students will explore research methodologies relevant to literary studies, including locating and evaluating secondary sources, conducting literary analysis, and citing sources. To foster an appreciation for the diversity of voices in literature, students will appraise works by authors from a variety of cultural backgrounds, genders, and time periods. Prerequisite: ENG 101

HCS 110 Introduction to Medical Laboratory Procedures

6 Credits

Students will be introduced to the professions of Medical Assisting (CCMA), Phlebotomy (CPT), and Patient Care Technician (CPCT) by studying the theory and skills necessary to function in a medical lab setting. Theoretical applications will focus on the

entire life span, including health, health promotion, wellness, and illness. Students will apply these concepts in the college lab, including phlebotomy, preparing for, and assisting with procedures, performing point of care testing and microscopy, and following laboratory safety standards. Students are required to practice selected skills with each other during the laboratory portion of this course. Pre- or Co-requisite: MET 111

HCS 115 Phlebotomy Practicum

1 Credit

The Phlebotomy Practicum is a 15 hour hands-on clinical training course designed for students who have already completed the theoretical and practical aspects of phlebotomy training in HCS 110. The course offers students the opportunity to gain practical experience by working under the direct supervision of a certified phlebotomist in a clinical setting. The course requires a minimum of 10 successful capillary punctures and 30 successful venipunctures under the direct supervision of the phlebotomist. Students gain experience performing phlebotomy skills, demonstrating proper patient identification, choosing the correct equipment for the tests that are ordered, ensuring that the necessary preanalytical requirements have been met, using the appropriate technique, and labeling and transporting specimens according to facility protocol. Prerequisite: HCS 110

HCS 120 Introduction to Medical Office Procedures

6 Credits

Students will be introduced to the professions of Medical Assisting (CCMA) and Patient Care Technician (CPCT) by studying the theory and skills necessary to function in a medical office setting. Theoretical applications will focus on the entire life span, including health, health promotion, wellness, and illness. Students will apply these concepts in the college lab, performing procedures such as vital signs, electrocardiograms, medication preparation and administration, assisting in physical exams, and setting up for and assisting with minor office surgeries. Pre- or Co-requisite: MET 111

HCS 250 Health Sciences Clinical Preceptorship

3 Credits

This is a concluding course for the CCMA and CPCT certificates. This course provides practical experience in medical offices (for the CCMA

certificate) or in a hospital (for the CPCT certificate) through the completion of 180 hours of supervised, unpaid field experience. Students receive a grade of pass or fail. Pre-requisites: HCS 110 and HCS 120

HCS 260 Health Sciences Seminar

1 Credit

In today's complex healthcare landscape, effective collaboration among healthcare professionals is essential for delivering high-quality, patient-centered care. This seminar provides a survey of interprofessional education, communication, professionalism, ethical decision-making, and promotes diversity and inclusion within the healthcare professions. To support employment opportunities for students, this course will also give students practice with key employment preparation skills, such as resume writing and interviewing skills.

MET 111 Medical Terminology

3 Credits

This course aims to equip students with the ability to decipher, pronounce and accurately use terminology common in the healthcare field. Medical terminology is essential for healthcare professionals, to allow for effective communication, documentation, and understanding of medical conditions, treatments, and procedures. The course will begin with principles of word construction in medical terminology, including combining forms, word roots, and combining vowels, and then systematically work through the body systems exploring medical terms that identify the anatomy, physiology, diagnostic testing, pathology, surgical and therapeutic interventions.

MHT 100 Introduction to Mental Health Care and Disorders

3 Credits

This course is designed to provide an overview of patient care techniques, healthcare law, and healthcare ethics, as well as common mental health disorders, their causes, symptoms, and treatment options. This course will cover various aspects of mental health disorders, including mood disorders, anxiety disorders, personality disorders, psychotic disorders, and substance use disorders. Students will gain an understanding of the diagnostic criteria for each disorder and learn how to recognize the signs and symptoms in themselves and others. The course will also discuss the impact of mental health

disorders on individuals, families, and society, and explore various approaches to treatment and management, such as therapy, medication, and lifestyle changes. Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to examine their own attitudes and beliefs about mental health, increase their knowledge of available resources, and develop a greater empathy and understanding for those living with mental health disorders. Pre-requisites: MET 111, PSY 101

MHT 210 Trauma, Addiction, and Environment

3 Credits

This course explores the relationship between trauma, addiction, and environmental factors. The course will provide an in-depth understanding of how traumatic experiences can lead to addiction and how environmental factors can influence both trauma and addiction. Students will learn about the different types of trauma, including acute trauma and complex trauma, and how they can lead to substance use disorders. The course will also explore how environmental factors, such as poverty, social isolation, and discrimination, can contribute to trauma and addiction. Additionally, students will examine various treatment approaches, including trauma-focused therapy and harm reduction strategies, that can help individuals recover from trauma and addiction. They will also learn about the importance of creating safe and supportive environments for individuals who are struggling with trauma and addiction. Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to reflect on their own experiences and attitudes towards trauma and addiction and develop a greater understanding of the complexities of these issues. The course will also highlight the importance of addressing the root causes of addiction and trauma, such as social and economic inequality, and the need for a comprehensive, holistic approach to treatment and recovery. Pre-req MHT 100.

MHT 220 Therapeutic Interventions

3 Credits

This course provides an overview of various therapeutic approaches and interventions used to promote mental health and well-being. The course will cover a range of therapeutic modalities, including cognitive-behavioral therapy, psychodynamic therapy, humanistic therapy, and mindfulness-based interventions. Students will study

the theoretical foundations of these approaches, as well as their practical application in clinical settings. The course will also explore the role of the therapist in facilitating therapeutic change, including the importance of building a strong therapeutic alliance, using evidence-based interventions, and adapting treatment to the unique needs and preferences of each client. Additionally, students will explore how culture, gender, and other diversity factors can influence the therapeutic process, and the importance of addressing these factors in treatment. Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to practice key therapeutic skills, such as active listening, empathy, and effective communication. They will also learn how to conduct assessments and develop treatment plans based on client needs and goals. By the end of the course, students will have a solid understanding of the principles and practices of therapeutic interventions and be equipped to apply this knowledge to a range of clinical settings and populations. Pre-req MHT 100

will be better prepared to work effectively as part of a mental health team and more confident in their ability to apply evidence-based treatments to a variety of clinical contexts. Pre-requisites: MHT 210, MHT 220; Pre- or Co-requisite: PSY 201

MHT 250 Mental Health Practicum

5 Credits

This practicum is designed to provide students with an opportunity to learn and practice mental health assessment and intervention skills in a simulated environment. The lab offers a safe and controlled setting where students gain experience working with different types of clients and presenting problems. Students will participate in a variety of simulated clinical scenarios that require them to apply assessment and intervention skills, including diagnostic interviewing, mental status examination, and crisis intervention. They will also practice delivering evidence-based treatments, such as cognitive-behavioral therapy and mindfulness-based interventions, under the supervision of the instructor. Throughout the lab, students will receive feedback and guidance from their instructor and peers, as well as reflect on their performance, identifying areas for improvement. They will also participate in discussions and case presentations to deepen their understanding of mental health assessment and intervention principles and practice. By the end of the course, students will have gained practical skills and experience in mental health assessment and intervention, as well as a deeper understanding of the ethical and professional standards involved in mental health practice. They

Admission to the College

Applicants meeting the criteria for admission to the College are accepted regardless of religion, race, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital or parental status, or national or ethnic origin and are accorded all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities available to students at the College.

Application Procedure

- Submit a completed application with a non-refundable application fee to the College Admission office by the published deadlines. This form must be completed fully and accurately.
- Submit an official graduation transcript from a secondary (high) school directly to the College. Submit official results from a HiSET or General Education Development (GED) exam if you have not received a diploma from a State-approved secondary educational institution.
- Submit official transcripts for all post-secondary education (college/university) courses completed and/or attempted. These transcripts must be submitted directly to the College from the institution(s) at which the applicant completed or attempted courses.
- Evaluation of International Transcripts will follow the International Transcript Evaluation Policy.
- Admission to all programs is based on a competitive review.

Admission Requirements

Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing

- Documentation of high school graduation, HiSET completion, or GED completion.
- Provide evidence of current unrestricted RN licensure or current enrollment in the final semester of an ADN program. Unrestricted RN licensure is required before the start of the second semester of the BS program.
- Completion of the following general education college courses taken at a

regionally accredited college/university with a minimum grade of C.

- A&P I with lab- 4 credits
- A&P II with lab- 4 credits
- Microbiology with lab- 4 credits
- College Writing- 3 credits
- Introduction to Psychology- 3 credits
- Developmental Psychology- 3 credits
- Arts/Humanities Elective- 3 credits
- Social Science Elective- 3 credits

Bachelor of Science Degree in Medical Imaging

- Documentation of high school graduation, HiSET completion, or GED completion.
- Completion of the following general education college courses taken at a regionally accredited college/university with a minimum grade of C.
 - A&P I with lab- 4 credits
 - A&P II with lab- 4 credits
 - College Writing- 3 credits
 - Introduction to Psychology- 3 credits
 - Communications- 3 credits
 - College Algebra – 3 credits
 - Humanities or Social Science Elective- 3 credits
- *Computed Tomography Track* – Provide evidence of current unrestricted ARRT or NMTCB certification in radiography, nuclear medicine technology, or radiation therapy before program completion.
- *Mammography Track* – Provide evidence of current unrestricted ARRT certification in radiography before program completion.
- *Diagnostic Medical Sonography*
 - Completion of a single two-year associate degree in an allied health program that is patient-care related from a regionally accredited college with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or by permission of the dean
 - Allied health education programs include, but are not limited to, radiologic technologists, respiratory

therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and registered nurse

- The two-year education program that is patient-care related is defined as (1) 24 full-time consecutive calendar months or (2) 60-semester credits or (3) 84-quarter credits (4) and requiring a clinical internship/externship to complete the program.
- Documentation of professional certification in good standing before enrolling in Clinical Practicum (Semester II)
- Documentation of a job shadow in sonography to include a minimum of 5 different procedures observed

Bachelor of Science Degree in Healthcare Administration

- Documentation of high school graduation, HiSET completion, or GED completion.
- Provide evidence of current unrestricted professional healthcare certification or current enrollment in a professional healthcare course and an associate degree. Unrestricted professional healthcare certification is required before the start of the second semester of the BS program.
- Completion of the following general education college courses taken at a regionally accredited college/university with a minimum grade of C.
 - A&P I with lab- 4 credits
 - A&P II with lab- 4 credits
 - College Writing- 3 credits
 - Introduction to Psychology- 3 credits
 - Communications- 3 credits
 - College Algebra – 3 credits
 - Humanities or Social Science Elective- 3 credits

Associate Degree in Nursing

- Documentation of high school graduation, HiSET completion, or GED completion.
- Meet the benchmark requirements of the placement testing examination.
- Completion of high school or college-level biology, algebra, and second math with a minimum grade of C. (Biology may be waived with completion of College Level A+P I or II with a minimum grade of C.)

Associate Degree in Radiologic Technology

- Documentation of high school graduation, HiSET completion, or GED completion.
- Meet the benchmark requirements of the placement examination. (Reading and Writing Components may be waived with completion of College Writing with a minimum grade of C. Math components may be waived with completion of a 100-level college math with a minimum grade of C.)
- Submit scholastic assessment test scores (SAT or ACT scores). Scores may be waived with a minimum of 12 college credits with a grade of C.
- Completion of high school or college-level biology, chemistry, algebra, and second math with a minimum grade of C. (Biology and chemistry may be waived with completion of College Level A+P I and II with a minimum grade of C.)
- Finalist applicants must attend a program informational session.

Associate Degree in Clinical Health Sciences

- Documentation of high school graduation, HiSET completion, or GED completion.
- Meet the benchmark requirements of the placement examination. (Reading and Writing Components may be waived with completion of College Writing with a minimum grade of C. Math components may be waived with the completion of 100-level college math with a minimum grade of C.)

- Completion of high school or college-level biology and math with a minimum grade of C. (Biology may be waived with completion of College Level A+P I or II with a minimum grade of C.)

Bridge to Associate Degree Nursing Program

- Documentation of high school graduation, HiSET completion, or GED completion.
- Completion of the following general education college courses taken at a regionally accredited college/university with a minimum grade of C.
 - College-level College Writing with a minimum grade of C
 - College-level Introduction to Psychology with a minimum grade of C
 - College-level A&P I with lab with a minimum grade of C
 - College-level A&P II with lab with a minimum grade of C
- An official transcript indicating graduation from a practical/vocational nursing program or paramedic. Transcripts must be submitted directly to the College from the institution(s) where the applicant completed courses.
- Provide evidence of current unrestricted state license indicating approval to practice as a licensed practical nurse or paramedic.
- Submit documentation of 1,000 hours of practice as an LPN /LVN or paramedic within the previous two years.
- Meet the benchmark requirements of the placement testing examination. Practical nurse graduates of MCHP are exempt from placement testing and the work hour requirement.

Certificate Practical Nursing Program

- Documentation of high school graduation, HiSET completion, or GED completion.
- Meet the benchmark requirements of the placement testing examination

Advanced Certificate Mammography Program

- Documentation of high school graduation, HiSET completion, or GED completion.
- Completion of a radiography diploma or degree program or current enrollment in a radiography program.
- Documentation of ARRT radiologic technology certification in good standing. Students currently enrolled in a radiography program will document ARRT certification in good standing before program completion.

Advanced Certificate Computed Tomography Program

- Documentation of high school graduation, HiSET completion, or GED completion.
- Completion of radiography, nuclear medicine technology, radiation therapy education or current enrollment in a program.
- Documentation of ARRT or NMTCB primary certification in good standing. Students currently enrolled in a program will document ARRT certification in good standing before program completion.

Advanced Certificate Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program

Associate Degree Allied Health Education Program

- Documentation of high school graduation, HiSET completion, or GED completion.
- Completion of a single two-year associate degree in an allied health program that is patient-care related from a regionally accredited college with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or by permission of the dean
 - Allied health education programs include, but are not limited to, radiologic technologists, respiratory therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and registered nurse
 - The two-year education program that is patient-care related is defined as (1) 24 full-time consecutive calendar months or (2) 60-semester credits or (3) 84-quarter credits (4) and requiring a clinical internship/externship to complete the program.
- Documentation of professional certification in good standing before enrolling in Clinical Practicum (Semester II)
- Documentation of a job shadow in sonography to include a minimum of 5 different procedures observed

Bachelor of Science Degree or Higher

- Documentation of high school graduation, HiSET completion, or GED completion.
- In lieu of the associate degree in an allied health education program, a regionally accredited bachelor of science degree may be accepted
- Completion of the following general education college courses taken at a regionally accredited college/university with a minimum grade of C:
 - A&P I with lab- 4 credits
 - A&P II with lab- 4 credits
 - College Writing- 3 credits

- College Math 100 level or higher – 3 credits
- Patient care experience or the successful completion of a patient care course or equivalent
- Documentation of a job shadow in sonography to include a minimum of 5 different procedures observed.

Early Action

The Admissions Committee reserves the right to make early acceptance decisions and will notify the applicant.