

NURSING ASSISTANT

Contact Information

Division

Allied Health

Dean

Nancy James

Division Office

V 211, Rocklin Campus

Department Office

RN1 100, Rocklin Campus

Department Phone

(916) 660-8300

Overview

The Nursing Assistant course is designed to prepare students for employment providing direct patient care in long term care facilities. There are no degree patterns or transfer majors in this area. Students desiring eligibility for certification testing must earn a grade of "C" or better on each test and complete the CDPH required training hours for the program (60 hours theory/100 hours clinical).

Acceptance into the Precertification Nursing Assistant Training course is through an application process. The application packet consists of a completed application signed by the student and submission of transcripts or assessment results verifying completion of the course prerequisite.

A physical examination and TB clearance are required (at the student's expense) prior to the first day of class. These must be current and within 3 months of the class start date. The student must be clear of any health conditions that could create a hazard to the student, fellow employees, or patients.

Drug testing and background screening are required. Students must complete livescan fingerprinting prior to the first day of class. Criminal background clearance is required to become a CNA.

Students must obtain an approved uniform and required patient care equipment, obtain a Basic Life Support certificate from the American Heart Association designated for Healthcare Providers and be responsible for transportation to and from clinical facilities.

Upon successful completion of the 160 CDPH program, the student is eligible to take the state certification exam (student is responsible for testing fees) to become a CNA.

Precertification of Nursing Assistant

Skills Certificate

The Precertification Nursing Assistant course is designed to prepare students for employment providing direct patient care in long term care facilities. There are no degree patterns or transfer majors in this area. Students desiring eligibility for certification testing must earn a grade of "C" or better on each test and complete the CDPH required training hours for the program (60 hours theory/100 hours clinical).

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Required Courses:

Code	Title	Units
NRSA 0003	Precertification Nursing Assistant Training	6.5
Total Units		6.5

Course

Understanding course descriptions (<https://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2025-2026/student-resources/course-information/understanding-course-descriptions/>)

NRSA 0003. Precertification Nursing Assistant Training

Units: 6.5

Hours: 202 (85 lecture, 117 laboratory)

Introduction to nursing practice based on the humanistic philosophy of Abraham Maslow. Includes basic skills necessary to assist in satisfying the patient's physical, psychological, social, and cultural needs. Students must be fingerprinted and submit documentation related to received conviction; certification may be denied. Students must meet regulatory requirements for class attendance, health clearance, background check clearance, and valid social security number to participate in the course. Upon successful completion, students are eligible to take the State of California Certification Examination to become a Nursing Assistant qualified for employment in an acute or long-term health care facility. Testing and certification fees are required. (letter grade only) (not transferable)

Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)

- Describe the fundamental concepts of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) and California Title 22 regulations for safe and quality care in long term care settings.
- Successfully complete the State Competency Test for Nursing Assistants (American Red Cross).