

Health Science

Associate in Applied Science in Allied Health & Life Science

Program Description:

The Health Science A.A.S program is unique opportunity for students holding a national certification in a professional field to build on that experience and earn an associate degree. The associate degree often allows students greater flexibility in their chosen fields of study and opportunities for advancement in their jobs. Health Science A.A.S. graduates have a wide range of career options within the health science industries. Graduates work in professional, scientific, or technical services firms. Health Science graduates also work in education services, Federal, State, and local governments, or pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing.

The A.A.S. Health Science Degree includes a minimum of 21 general education credits, at least 9 allied health and/or life science credits and a maximum of 30 credits earned through national certification. The credits earned through national certification can be from a variety of careers, including but not limited to medical records, phlebotomy, patient care technician, certified nurse assistant, massage therapy, cardiovascular technician, EKG technician, DOT drug testing, and many more.

Career Outlook:

According to the United States Department of Labor, the employment projection on the average for all Health Science professions is expected to grow as fast as other occupations. However, selective specialties within this field are expected to grow faster.

Salary Forecast:

Hourly wage for Health Science Technicians, averages over \$8.00 to \$35.00/hour with benefits depending on certification. (Information obtained from *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2009-2010*)

Admission Requirements:

1. Mountwest is an open enrollment institution. Please contact Student Services Division at (304) 696-3005 for specific admission requirements.
2. Applicants must complete all general education and prerequisite courses with a grade of "C" or better, and must have a cumulative GPA or 2.0 or higher.
3. Prior to admission to the Health Science Program and/or clinical internships, students may be required to document that they have successfully passed a criminal background check and drug screen. For more information concerning the Allied health criminal background check and drug screen procedure, please contact the Dean of Allied health and Life Sciences at (304) 696-6270

National Certification Areas of Emphasis include, but are not limited to:

- EMT
- Clinical Laboratory (MLT, HT, Phleb)
- EKG Tech
- Massage Therapy
- Nursing (CNA, LPN, PCT, PCS)
- Pharmacy Technician
- Radiology Technology
- Respiratory Therapy
- Surgical Technology
- Ophthalmic Technician
- Ultrasound
- Veterinary Technician

Major Code – CH70

General Education			Allied Health Elective (Totalling a minimum of 9 credit hours from the following)		
BIOL	257	Intro to Anatomy & Physiology ¹3	EME	105	Basic Life Support.....3
IT	101	Fundamentals of Computers (EDGE).....3	AH	205	Principles of Disease.....4
COM	112	Oral Communication.....3	AH	207	Infection Control for Health Professionals.....4
ENL	111	Written Communications I.....3	AH	151	Medical Terminology.....3
MAT		Elective.....3	AH	217	Personal Fitness Training.....4
		General Education Elective.....3	AH	220	Basic Nutrition.....3
		Humanities or Social Science Elective.....3	AH	216	Basic Pharmacology.....3
TOTAL CREDITS.....21			TOTAL CREDITS..... 9 hours minimum		
Nationally Certified Credentialed Area of Emphasis: 15-30 credit hours²					
HOURS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION: 60					

Earn A Degree Graduate Early (Edge):

This program provides students the opportunity to receive credit for their high school EDGE courses.

Contact Information:

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¹ BIOL 257 or suitable substitute

² Equivalency hours based on the WV Board of Governor's Credit Equivalency Guidelines: "Summary of credit awards for certified credentials," or credit recommendation from the American Council for Education