

## Certified Nurse Aide Course Description/Requirements/Objectives

### Course Description:

This course provides instruction in the roles and responsibilities of the Nursing Assistant. Body structure and function, infection prevention, nutrition, principles of growth and development, safety in healthcare, home health care, and care of the older person are some of the topics emphasized. Instruction and practice of basic patient care skills required for Nursing Assistants is provided. Skills practiced include patient assistance with activities of daily living, personal care, transfer and positioning, vital sign measurement, intake and output measurement, restorative care, and communication. Students will practice supervised basic patient care in a clinical setting prior to completion of the program. The student must successfully meet all objectives of the course; pass computerized exams, laboratory skills performance and the clinical experience to be eligible for course completion. There are specific clinical requirements that must be completed prior to beginning the course. At the completion of this certificate, students are eligible to take the New Mexico State certification exam to become a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). The Nurse Aid Certification Course is a five credit hour course with a lab component. (45 didactic and 80 clinical/lab hours)

### Pre-requisite(s):

- Minimum 2.5 high school GPA, or GED/high school diploma, or permission from the instructor

### Co-requisite(s): none

### Special Requirements

- **Criminal Background –**

Students are required to undergo the New Mexico Department of Health caregiver's criminal history screening program. This involves state and federal felony criminal background checks with fingerprints. **This must be completed prior to starting the program.** Students with a disqualifying conviction can appeal some of those convictions through the New Mexico Department of Health. Students may or may not be allowed to remain in the program pending appeal. Students who do not successfully appeal a disqualifying conviction will not be allowed to start or remain in the program. A successful appeal does not guarantee eligibility for licensure after graduation in professions that require licensure.

Students must schedule an appointment with the instructor of the CNA course to initiate the background screening **prior to the first day of class.** Students are responsible for the cost of this screening. Currently, the cost is \$73.30 and must be in the form of a money order made payable to Gemalto.

- **Physical Requirements –**

Students must be in good physical and psychological health. Students must provide documentation of a recent physical examination. The NMJC Nursing Physical Exam Form may be found on the NMJC Nursing page at <https://www.nmjc.edu/program/nursing/index.aspx>. This form must be used. No other physical form will be accepted. Students must be able to safely lift and/or move a minimum of 50 pounds. Reasonable accommodations are made for students with disabilities. However, some disabilities may prohibit students from completing program specific competencies or gaining employment.

- **Other Compliance Requirements –**

Students are required to undergo random drug screening, provide documentation of current immunizations, have a current Healthcare Provider Basic Life Support (CPR) certificate prior to beginning the program. Students must also purchase liability insurance and may do so at the NMJC Cashiers office. Students are also required to have their own medical insurance and provide proof.

- All immunizations and/or titers are the responsibility of the student. Prices vary. Please read the *Immunizations and Tests Required by State Law and Clinical Facilities* document on the NMJC Nursing page at <https://www.nmjc.edu/program/nursing/index.aspx>.
- The cost for the drug screening is the responsibility of the student and is \$45.00 cash only, payable to the drug screening company at the time of the drug screen. This requirement will be met during the semester, prior to attending clinical.
- Healthcare Provider Basic Life Support (CPR) must be obtained prior to the first day of class and is the responsibility of the student. The cost for this certification usually runs anywhere from \$10.00 -\$25.00. **Online CPR classes are not acceptable.**
- Student liability insurance must be purchased by the student in the NMJC Cashier's office and is \$16.00.

- **Transportation –**

Students are responsible for their own transportation to off-campus training sites (i.e. clinical).

### **General Course Objectives and Competencies**

Upon successful completion of this course, it is anticipated that the student will be able to:

1. Explain the purposes and services of relevant health care agencies and providers.

2. Describe how the laws and regulations for health care affect the role of nursing assistants.
3. Describe and demonstrate elements of work ethic relevant to nursing assistants.
4. Identify and demonstrate critical elements of communication within the healthcare team.
5. Describe the nursing assistant's role in the nursing process.
6. Explain the various elements that make a person unique.
7. Identify the relevant elements of anatomy and physiology required to perform as a nursing assistant.
8. Describe the developmental tasks and needs of the clients in long-term care, hospitals, and home care settings.
9. Explain the methods used to prevent and control the spread of infection in the healthcare setting.
10. Relate the theoretical concepts and rationale behind course specified skills in clinical settings.
11. Perform with theoretical and procedural competency, all course specified skills within three attempts.
12. Demonstrate in a clinical setting, safe and effective performance of resident care, to include promoting resident independence, and protecting resident rights.