

A photograph of four surgeons in an operating room, all wearing blue scrubs, blue bouffant caps, and surgical masks. They are focused on a patient lying on a table, which is covered with blue sterile drapes. The surgeons are using various surgical instruments. The background shows a typical hospital operating room environment with bright lighting and medical equipment.

# EXPLORING HEALTH CAREERS



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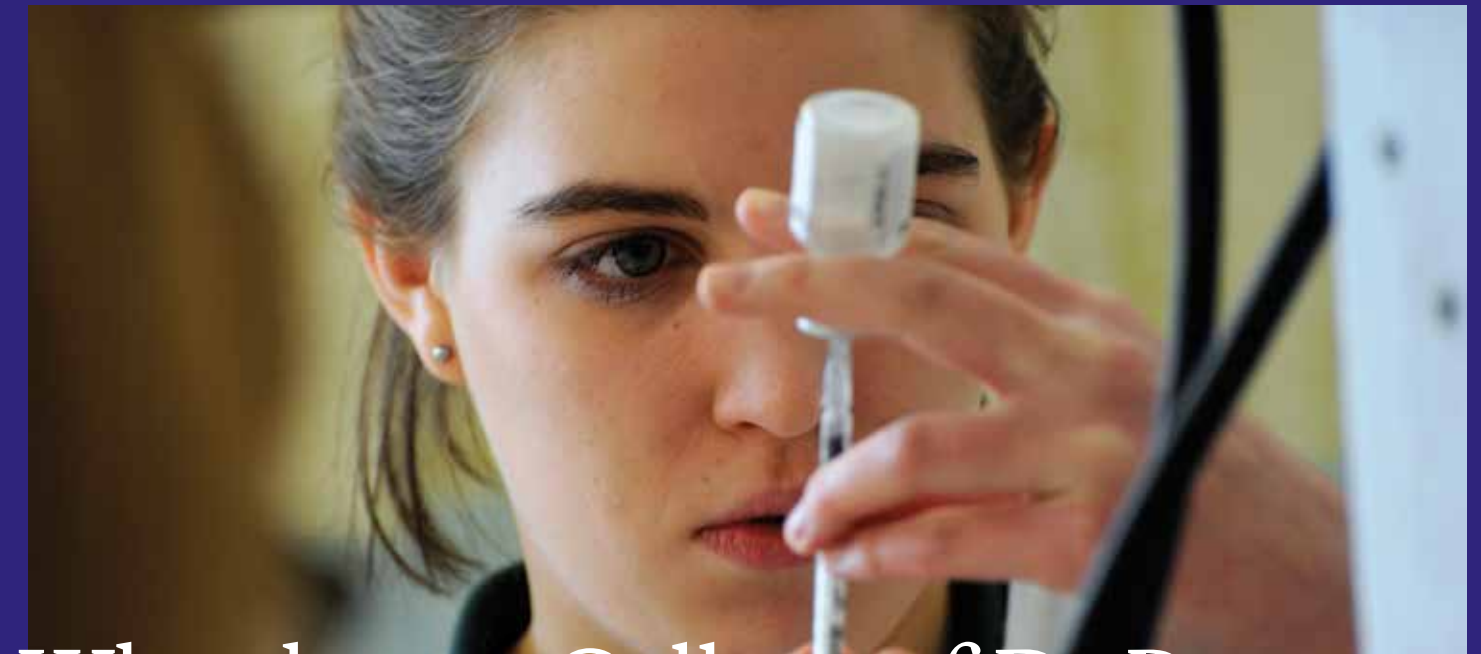


## HEALTH CAREER TRANSFER PROGRAMS

College of DuPage has partnered with several universities to offer 3+1 and 2+2 transfer programs as a smart way to earn a bachelor's degree at a greatly reduced cost.

- Partner universities are educational leaders in their respective program areas
- Advanced classes are offered at a significantly reduced tuition rate

For more information, visit [cod.edu/academics/transfer](http://cod.edu/academics/transfer).



# Why choose College of DuPage HEALTH CAREER PROGRAMS?

Our Health Career programs offer associate degrees, certificates and transfer programs in many areas of health care. Our courses offer hands-on training and academic skills that prepare students for numerous careers in the medical field, including clinical and patient care skills, lab work, research and medical office administration.

### College of DuPage is a leader in health care with state-of-the-art facilities that include:

- Simulation Labs—The first is a hospital lab that consists of a nurse's station, four hospital rooms and a medication dispensing device. The second lab mimics the home healthcare environment so that students get a broader range of simulation experiences.
- College of DuPage is the only community college in the country to house a computed tomography (CT) scanner. Students in radiation therapy, radiography and nuclear medicine get hands-on experience using the CT scanner, making them more attractive to employers when they enter the job market.
- The Surgical Technology lab includes multiple training operating rooms that allow students to perform preoperative, postoperative and intraoperative functions.

- The Sonography lab includes multiple scanning stations for scan practice.
- The Dental Hygiene program utilizes an on-campus dental clinic where the students learn to provide comprehensive oral healthcare services.
- Our Health Career programs provide quality clinical education with a wide range of affiliate hospitals and healthcare institutions included in their education.
- College of DuPage Health Career students obtain employment after graduation in many of the community hospitals and clinics within the Chicago area as well as other states.
- A mobile X-ray unit is bringing wireless technology into radiography labs at College of DuPage. With its mobility, the X-ray unit can move from the Hospital Simulation lab to the mock operating room lab, thereby maximizing its effectiveness as a teaching and learning tool. Wireless technology is what hospitals are using today. New technologies like the mobile X-ray unit provide students with the additional skills necessary for a career in the Health Sciences.

[cod.edu/healthsciences](http://cod.edu/healthsciences)





## PROGRAMS

### ANESTHESIA TECHNOLOGY ♦

Program Length: 2 years  
 Class Time: Online program with clinical component  
 Degree/Certificate: Associate in Applied Science; certificate for individuals who already hold an associate degree or higher (pending approval)  
 Entry Salary: \$20-\$28 an hour  
 Anesthesia technologists are integral members of the anesthesia patient care team. Their role is to assist licensed anesthesia providers in the acquisition, preparation and application of various equipment and supplies required for the delivery of anesthesia care. This may be performed in a variety of clinical settings, including the operating room, interventional and diagnostic radiology, post anesthesia care unit, intensive care unit, cardiac catheterization lab, emergency department, endoscopic and dental suites, and ambulatory surgery centers.

### CENTRAL STERILE PROCESSING DISTRIBUTION (CSPD) TECHNICIAN

Program Length: 1 semester  
 Class Time: Monday-Friday, days  
 Degree/Certificate: Certificate  
 Entry Salary: \$13-\$15 an hour  
 Central sterile processing and distribution technicians decontaminate, assemble, package, sterilize, store and distribute all of the surgical instrumentation and supplies needed for the operating room. Instruction includes classroom and laboratory hands-on learning as well as a 10-week hospital/surgery center clinical rotation. Students who successfully complete the program are eligible to sit for the International Association of Healthcare Central Service Material Management (IAHCSMM) Provisional Examination as well as the Certification Board of Sterile Processing and Distribution (CBSPD) Sterile Processing and Distribution Technician Certification Examination.

♦ Two-year associate degrees are required for most advanced certificates.

♦ Selective enrollment program



### CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT (CNA)

Program Length: 8 and 16 weeks (face to face and hybrid/blended formats)  
 Class Time: Days, evenings or weekends  
 Degree/Certificate: Certificate plus eligible for State Certification  
 Entry Salary: \$12-\$16 an hour  
 Training skills include all elements of personal care, vital sign measurement, body mechanics, safety precautions, patient rights, infection control, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, communication and observation. Exploration of the healthcare needs of geriatric residents and people with dementia is included. It is a prerequisite for the nursing program.

### CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE (CLS)

Program Length: 2-plus years full time  
 Class Time: Days and evenings  
 Degree/Certificate: Associate in Science, 2+2 Transfer Program  
 Entry Salary: \$23-\$25 an hour  
 The clinical laboratory scientist performs a variety of laboratory tests that help the physician evaluate, diagnose and monitor medical treatment. Many of the complex laboratory tests uncover diseases such as AIDS, diabetes, leukemia and many others.

### COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY (CT) ♦

Program Length: 2 semesters (9 months)  
 Class Time: Evening classes; day clinicals  
 Degree/Certificate: Advanced Certificate ♦  
 Entry Salary: \$28-\$36 an hour  
 Computed tomography (CT) is one of many health professions that use different types of energy to produce diagnostic images (i.e., radiography, nuclear medicine, mammography, magnetic resonance). Using a narrow beam of x-radiation passing through and rotating around the patient or specific body part, CT uses radiation detectors to produce a series of digital medical images of "slices" through the body in an axial plane of various thicknesses. These images are then displayed in a cross-sectional method as a computed image in different planes, such as axial or transverse, sagittal or longitudinal and coronal. The CT procedures may also use contrast media to illustrate anatomy or function.

### DENTAL HYGIENE ♦

Program Length: 2 years full time (four semesters plus one summer term)  
 Class Time: All day, 5 days a week, 1 to 2 evenings per week  
 Degree/Certificate: Associate in Applied Science/State Licensure  
 Entry Salary: \$35-\$40 an hour  
 The Dental Hygiene program prepares its graduates to provide comprehensive oral healthcare services in a variety of settings. Upon successful completion of the program and passing of the National Dental Hygiene Examination and Regional Board Examination, graduates are eligible to apply for mandatory Illinois state licensure.

Visit [cod.edu/healthscience\\_packets](http://cod.edu/healthscience_packets) or call (630) 942-8331 for current admission packets and advising sessions.





### EYE CARE ASSISTANT

Program Length: 3 semesters

Class Time: Days

Degree/Certificate: Certificate

Entry Salary: \$18-\$20 an hour with COA Certification

The Eye Care Assistant certificate is designed to prepare students for entry-level positions as assistants in optometrist/ophthalmology practices. Under the supervision of a licensed eye care professional, eye care assistants render support services and aid in the treatment of eye conditions and diseases. Students will be prepared to sit for the COA (Certified Ophthalmic Assistant) certification. The certification examination is administered by the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO) prior to graduation. The Eye Care Assistant certificate requires a minimum of 33 credits in program requirements.

### HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (HIT) †

Program Length: 2 years

Class Time: Monday to Thursday, mornings and afternoons and some evenings

Degree/Certificate: Associate in Applied Science

Entry Salary: \$18-\$20 an hour

Use computers to collect, analyze, report, store and retrieve health information from patient visits and admissions while protecting patient privacy. Learn medical coding for health insurance claims and healthcare statistics. This program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management

Education. Graduates are invited to sit for the national Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) examination. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, "Health information employment is projected to grow 11 percent from 2018 to 2028."

### HEARING INSTRUMENT DISPENSARY (HID)

Program Length: 4 semesters

Class time: Days or evenings

Degree/Certificate: Advanced certificate

Entry Salary: \$24 an hour plus bonuses

The Hearing Instrument Dispensary (HID) program certificate will prepare students for a career as a hearing healthcare provider and hearing instrument specialist. This program will prepare hearing healthcare providers to administer and interpret hearing tests, select and fit hearing aids, adjust physical and electroacoustic parameters of hearing instruments and recommend assistive listening devices. Hearing instrument specialists work together with audiologists in medical settings, private practice, clinics and retail venue in order to meet the needs of the hard of hearing community. The HIDP program certificate is designed to provide students with the didactic instruction and clinical practice in anatomy and physiology of the auditory mechanism, acoustics and hearing sciences, clinical audiometry, aural rehabilitation, professional ethics and hearing instrumentation. This program will help prepare students for the Illinois Department of Public Health Hearing Instrument Dispenser Licensing Written and Practical Exams.

### LONG-TERM CARE ADMINISTRATION

Program Length: 1 year part time

Class Time: As arranged; online format

Degree/Certificate: Certificate

Entry Salary: \$43-\$47 an hour

The expected job growth in the field of medical and health service managers between 2016 and 2026 is 20 percent, much larger than other fields (Bls.gov, 2019). This certificate program addresses the educational needs of managers who will work with the elderly and disabled populations in healthcare settings. This program prepares students for employment in long-term care facilities and related areas of long-term care administration. The coursework satisfies the requirements of the Nursing Home Administrator (NHA) licensing exam given by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

### MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING TECHNOLOGY (MRI) †

Program Length: 1 year full time

Class Time: Days and evenings

Degree/Certificate: Advanced Certificate †

Entry Salary: \$26.64 an hour

A magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technologist administers image scans on patients to produce quality images of designated areas of the body. The technologist operates an MRI scanner, which takes several cross-sectional scans and combines them into one to form a three-dimensional image that assists doctors in diagnosis and treatment of patients. This position involves direct contact with patients, including interviewing them, explaining the scanning process and positioning them on the examining table. Some MRI technologists give patients intravenous injections of gadolinium, a contrast agent that increases visibility of internal body areas.

### MAMMOGRAPHY †

Program Length: 1 semester

Class Time: Evenings; day clinicals (2 days a week)

Degree/Certificate: Advanced Certificate †

Entry Salary: \$24-\$38 an hour

Mammography is a medical imaging modality that uses ionizing radiation to produce images of the breast. Mammographers perform breast imaging procedures, operate equipment, evaluate breast images as well as perform quality control testing on the equipment. They also assist the physician when using radiopharmaceuticals and performing biopsies.

### MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Program Length: 3 semesters and practicum; part-time available

Class Time: Day only practicum

Degree/Certificate: Associate in Applied Science/Certificate

Entry Salary: \$15-\$17 an hour

Medical assistants are the only allied health professionals specifically trained to work in ambulatory care settings. They perform a wide variety of duties under the direction of a physician such as electronic medical record entry, appointment scheduling, preparing patients for exams, collecting blood specimens and performing EKGs. Employment of medical assistants is projected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations. (Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor)

### NON-INVASIVE EKG

Program Length: 3 semesters

Class Time: Day and evening classes; clinicals (days only)

Degree/Certificate: Certificate

Entry Salary: \$16-\$18 an hour

Electrocardiography (EKG) is a procedure that records the electrical activity of the heart muscle, providing valuable information about heart function. The Non-Invasive EKG program educates the student with the didactic, laboratory and clinical experience in preparation for a health career as a certified non-invasive EKG technician.

### NUCLEAR MEDICINE (DMIN) †

Program Length: 14 months full time

Class Time: 40 hours per week

Degree/Certificate: Advanced Certificate †

Entry Salary: \$31-\$39 an hour

Nuclear medicine is the scientific and clinical discipline involving the diagnostic, therapeutic and investigative use of radionuclides. The skills of the nuclear medicine technologist are important to the nuclear medicine physician, other health professionals and especially the patient.

Nuclear medicine technologists attend to patient needs, abstract data from patient records, calculate doses for in vivo and in vitro studies, prepare and administer radiopharmaceuticals, operate scanning equipment, perform computer acquisition and analysis of patient studies, and assist the physician when using radiopharmaceuticals.

### NURSING (ADN) †

Program Length: 2 years

Class Time: Morning and afternoons, day and evening clinicals

Degree/Certificate: Associate in Applied Science/State Licensure

Entry Salary: \$23-\$34 an hour

Prepares graduates for the art and science of nursing, which is concerned with human responses to health needs or problems. Students who complete the Nursing program and earn an Associate in Applied Science degree in Nursing are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN). Once students pass the exam and criminal background check, they are licensed to practice as a professional nurse (RN).

### OPERATING ROOM PATIENT CARE TECHNICIAN (ORPCT)

Program Length: 1 semester, Monday to Friday days

Class Time: 8 weeks

Degree/Certificate: Certificate

Entry Salary: \$13-\$15 an hour

Operating room patient care technicians assist the operating room team with preoperative and postoperative care of the surgical patient. Instruction offers an excellent introduction to the operating room and includes an online classroom with intensive hands-on laboratory skills. Students who successfully complete the program may find employment in a hospital/surgery center as an ORPCT or continue through the surgical technology pathway.

† Two-year associate degrees are required for most advanced certificates.

† Selective enrollment program





### OPHTHALMIC TECHNICIAN

Program Length: 5 semesters

Class Time: Days

Degree/Certificate: Degree

Entry Salary: \$21-\$23 an hour with COT certification

Ophthalmic technology is an expanding field with a great demand for qualified technicians. The Ophthalmic Technician Associate in Science degree is designed to help prepare students to work as an intermediate-level technician. Ophthalmic technicians work under the direction of an ophthalmologist. Under the supervision of a licensed eye care professional, ophthalmic technicians provide support services in the aid and treatment of eye conditions and diseases. Students will be prepared to sit for the COT (Certified Ophthalmic Technician) certification. The certification examination is administered by the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO) prior to graduation. The Ophthalmic Technician AAS degree requires a minimum of 64 credits in program requirements.

### PHLEBOTOMY

Program Length: 2 to 3 semesters

Class Time: Day and evening classes, clinicals days only

Degree/Certificate: Certificate

Entry Salary: \$13-\$15 an hour

Phlebotomy is the procedure to withdraw blood for the purpose of laboratory testing to evaluate, diagnose and monitor treatment of patients. The Phlebotomy program educates students with didactic, laboratory and clinical experience in preparation for a health career as a certified phlebotomist.

🔗 Two-year associate degrees are required for most advanced certificates.

### PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT (PTA) ⬆

Program Length: 2 years

Class Time: Evenings

Degree/Certificate: Associate in Applied Science

Entry Salary: \$23-\$30 an hour

Physical therapist assistants are licensed to practice under the supervision of licensed physical therapists. Movement is key to the quality of life for all persons. Movement affects each person's ability to participate in activities of daily living along with achieving optimal health. The physical therapy profession strives to reduce preventable healthcare costs and to improve the human experience through movement. Treatments include therapeutic exercise and therapeutic modalities along with gait training, bed mobility training and transfer training. Strong critical-thinking skills are required for continued assessments of patients. Strong communication skills are required for effective PT/PTA communication along with patient/caregiver communication/education. Diverse environments are available for job prospects along with potential for career advancement opportunities as a clinical instructor or as a manager/director of rehab.

⬆ Selective enrollment program



### PHYSICIAN OFFICE CODING AND BILLING

Program Length: 1 year part time

Class Time: Evenings

Degree/Certificate: Certificate

Entry Salary: \$14-\$16 an hour

Learn how to select current procedural terminology (CPT) visit/procedure and ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes for ambulatory care and physician services in order to create insurance claims for physician services rendered.

### PROTON THERAPY ⬆

Program Length: 1 to 3 semesters

Class Time: Online, clinical during the day or evening

Degree/Certificate: Advanced Certificate 🔗

Entry Salary: \$35-\$45 an hour

The Proton Therapy Advanced Certificate program provides advancement opportunities to registered radiation therapists through a variety of instructional methods, including online instruction, simulated practical experience, as well as clinical experience. The Proton Therapy Advanced Certificate provides graduates with 16 undergraduate college credit hours.

### RADIATION THERAPY ⬆

Program Length: 1 year (3 terms full time)

Class Time: Evenings; clinical during the day, M, W, F

Degree/Certificate: Advanced Certificate 🔗

Entry Salary: \$31-\$39 an hour

Duties of the radiation therapist may include reviewing prescription and diagnosis; acting as a liaison with the physician and supportive care personnel; preparing equipment, such as immobilization, treatment and protection devices; and maintaining records, reports and files. They may also assist in dosimetry procedures and tumor localization. Radiation therapists administer targeted doses of radiation to the patient's body to treat cancer and other diseases.

### RADIOGRAPHY (DMIR) ⬆

Program Length: 2 years full time

Class Time: Year 1: Class and lab: M, W, F; clinicals: T, R (some weekend shifts required); Year 2: Class and lab: T, R; clinicals: M, W, F (some weekend shifts required)

Degree/Certificate: Associate in Applied Science

Entry Salary: \$21-\$24 an hour

Radiographers take radiographic images (X-rays) and are involved with short-term patient care, positioning the body, setting equipment to deliver the proper amount of radiation, checking image quality and practicing radiation protection.




Visit [cod.edu/healthscience\\_packets](http://cod.edu/healthscience_packets) or call (630) 942-8331 for current admission packets and advising sessions.





## SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT (SLPA)

Program Length: 2 years  
 Class Time: Evenings  
 Degree/Certificate: Associate in Applied Science   
 Entry Salary: \$24 an hour in a school setting; \$35-\$45 an hour early intervention  
 Perform speech language therapy tasks related to communication services as prescribed, directed and supervised by certified speech language pathologists. The ultimate goals are to maximize the client's ability to (1) communicate his/her wants, needs, thoughts and feelings and (2) understand what is being said by others.

## SURGICAL ASSISTANT

Program Length: 1 year (3 semesters)  
 Class Time: Online program with clinical component  
 Degree/Certificate: Advanced Certificate  
 Entry Salary: \$26-\$35 an hour  
 The Surgical Assistant program provides advancement opportunities for the surgical technologist, physician assistant, registered nurse or military trained operating room technologist through a variety of instructional methods, including online, laboratory and clinical experience. The Surgical Assistant program will train students on the role and responsibilities of a surgical assistant. The Surgical Assistant program will provide students with experience in aiding in surgical procedure exposure, hemostasis, closure and other intraoperative surgical functions that help a surgeon carry out a safe surgical procedure with optimal results for the patient.

## SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

Program Length: 1 year full time  
 Class Time: Monday to Friday, days  
 Degree/Certificate: Associate in Applied Science (2 years); Certificate (1 year; students must possess a minimum associate degree to enroll in the certificate program)  
 Entry Salary: \$19-\$25 an hour  
 Surgical technologists deliver exceptional patient care and perform specialized tasks such as setting up the surgical field and passing instrumentation while adhering to strict sterile technique. Surgical technologists work with registered nurses and surgeons before, during and after surgery. Instruction includes classroom and laboratory hands-on learning, as well as more than 27 weeks of a hospital/surgery center clinical rotations. Students who successfully complete the Surgical Technology program will sit for the national Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) exam through the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA).


## VASCULAR SONOGRAPHY

Program Length: 6 months full time  
 Class Time: Days and evenings  
 Degree/Certificate: Certificate  
 Entry Salary: \$30-\$35 an hour  
 Students in the Vascular Sonography Certificate program are trained in the use of ultrasound to create images for medical interpretation and diagnosis in arterial and venous structures. Vascular Certificate applicants need to already be currently registered American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography® (ARDMS®) sonographers in either abdomen, obstetrics/gynecology, and/or echocardiography with a completed degree in their respective field.

## RESPIRATORY CARE

Program Length: 2 years full time  
 Class Time: Days and evenings  
 Degree/Certificate: Associate in Applied Science  
 Entry Salary: \$22-\$30 an hour  
 Respiratory therapists perform evaluation and treatment for patients who have been diagnosed with cardiopulmonary disease. In addition, therapists support and manage patients who have suffered a breathing impairment resulting from stroke, heart attack and traumatic events. Therapists assist all age ranges of patients and are found in all areas of patient care. Because the critical role of maintaining a patient's airway is the RT's expertise, therapists are staffed in emergency departments, ICUs and accompany mechanically ventilated patients during transports. The program prepares you for both entry-level (CRT) and the (RRT) credential. Opportunities to secure more specialized credentials in pulmonary diagnostics, neonatal and pediatrics, adult critical care and asthma education can be realized without further formal education.

## SONOGRAPHY (ULTRASOUND) (DMIS)

Program Length: Associate in Applied Science: 24 months full time; Advanced Certificate: 18 months full time  
 Class Time: Days and evenings  
 Degree/Certificate: Associate in Applied Science or Advanced Certificate   
 Entry Salary: AAS: \$30-\$35 an hour  
 Advanced Certificate: \$30-\$35 an hour  
 Students in the Advanced Certificate and DMIS AAS degree programs are trained in the use of ultrasound to create images for medical interpretation and diagnosis in abdomen and superficial structures, obstetrics and gynecology. The DMIS AAS degree program also includes training in vascular sonography. Advanced Certificate applicants need to already be currently licensed healthcare professionals with a completed degree in their respective field.

 Two-year associate degrees are required for most advanced certificates.

 Selective enrollment program



# HEALTH CAREER PROGRAM ADMISSION

At College of DuPage, Health Career programs may or may not require a separate admissions process. Many also require the completion of several prerequisite courses before a student is accepted into classroom and clinical education.

**Please note:** The Nursing and Health Sciences Information Session does not take place of or meet the prerequisite advising session requirements for our Health Career programs.

## Nursing and Health Sciences Information Session

College of DuPage offers an information session for individuals looking to learn more about the Health Career programs. To register for a Nursing and Health Sciences Information Session, go to [cod.edu/visit](http://cod.edu/visit).

Learn more about advising session dates, program prerequisites and application deadlines by visiting [cod.edu/healthscience\\_packets](http://cod.edu/healthscience_packets).

For ADA accommodations call (630) 942- 2141 or email [access@cod.edu](mailto:access@cod.edu). Please request accommodations two weeks in advance.


# TYPES OF PROGRAMS

**3+1 Programs:** College of DuPage has partnered with prominent universities to offer high-caliber bachelor's degree programs at a greatly reduced cost. The programs are affordable, accessible, high quality, and offered on College of DuPage campus.

**Enhanced 2+2:** Enhanced 2+2 programs allow College of DuPage students to complete an associate degree, with emphasis on General Education courses plus additional credits toward a baccalaureate degree.

**2+2 Articulation Agreements:** 2+2 articulation agreements are signed between College of DuPage and four-year colleges and universities

that allow students to complete the first two years of a baccalaureate degree at College of DuPage.

 **Selective Enrollment:** Selective enrollment programs require either a separate application and/or the completion of specific prerequisites before acceptance into the program. These programs have limited availability.

**IAI Courses:** IAI is the acronym for the Illinois Articulation Initiative. The Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) works best for students who know they are going to transfer but are undecided on the college or university that will grant their baccalaureate degree. IAI is a statewide (General Education Course Curriculum (GECC) transfer

agreement, which is valid among more than 100 participating colleges or universities in Illinois.

**Transfer Coursework:** Students can take coursework for college-level credit that may transfer to a four-year college or university (depending on the four-year institution) for courses completed at College of DuPage. Transfer coursework is articulated with at least three Illinois public institutions. Typically, students can transfer up to two years of coursework from COD toward an advanced degree (such as a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science) at another school.

All salary information is based on state average. For additional information visit the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The College will not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, arrest record, military status or unfavorable military discharge, citizenship status, or physical or mental handicap or disability. For individuals who need language assistance, please contact Campus Central at (630) 942-2380.

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**HEALTH AND  
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