Frequently Asked Questions: Phlebotomy w/Clinical

What is the course description?
Training in phlebotomy prepares you for a career in drawing blood, or provides health care professionals with an additional skill. There is an increasing demand for qualified phlebotomists in a variety of medical setting: hospitals, physicians' offices, and laboratories. This two-part course, approved by the ASCP (American Society of Clinical Pathologists, Route 2), provides the knowledge and training necessary to earn national certification in the field. Students complete 44 hours of classroom instruction, followed by up to 120 hours of clinical experience at a medical facility located in Onondaga, Oswego, or Cortland County. With those 120 hours, students need to complete 100 successful blood draws. Upon completion of the course, students are eligible to take the certification exam.

Classes meet in the evenings; clinical hours are during the day. Clinical placements are assigned in the order in which completed health forms are turned in, on a first-come, first-served basis. Only two missed classes are permitted.

Jobs in this field in Syracuse pay $20,000 - $25,000.

How do I register for the course?
Registration is in-person only and is on a first-come, first-served basis. The class is limited to 16 students. Registration occurs about one month prior to the start of the course. The registration date and location will be posted on the phlebotomy course description web page.

Proof of a high school diploma or equivalent (GED), proof of current medical insurance, and full tuition payment must be provided at time of registration. Course refunds will be granted up to three business days prior to class start date.

What is the course fee & do I need to pay when I register for the course?
The course fee is $899. You must pay for the course at registration. We will accept cash, check or money order made payable to OCC, or Visa, MasterCard and Discover Card credit cards. The course fee includes the class textbook. This course is not eligible for Federal Student Aid (FASFA).

Are there any additional fees?
Health forms will need to be completed by your physician prior to the start of your clinical experience. You may need to pay for a physical exam and/or immunizations. Also, if you sit for the certification exam, there is a separate fee charged by the American Society for Clinical Pathologists. You can the most up-to date information at www.ascp.org/PDF/BOC-PDFs/procedures/Examination-Procedures.aspx.
When and where can I complete my clinical experience?
Onondaga Community College maintains agreements with clinical sites in Onondaga, Oswego, and Cortland counties. The clinical sites require students to carry medical insurance throughout their clinical experience. Clinical experiences begin upon the completion of the 44 hours of classroom instruction. Clinical placements are assigned in the order in which the completed health forms are turned in. You must complete 100 successful blood draws within 120 hours of clinical experience. You have 2 ½ months from the start of your clinical assignment to complete the 120 hours.

What type of certification will I be eligible for upon completion of the course?
Upon successful completion of the course and clinical experience, you will be eligible to sit for the Technician Certification Exam in Phlebotomy through the American Society for Clinical Pathologists (ASCP). ASCP requires proof of high school diploma or equivalent (GED.) You do not automatically receive a certification as a phlebotomy technician upon completion of the course.

When do I take the certification exam?
Upon completion of the course and clinical experience, you will receive instructions and application for the ASCP Board of Certification for Phlebotomy Technician (PBT). You have five years from the date of course completion to apply for the certification exam. Students must complete the application and submit it to the American Society for Clinical Pathologists. Onondaga Community College has no involvement in the certification examination other than submitting a Phlebotomy Structured Training Reference Form Route 2 to ASCP.

Lifelong Learning at Onondaga Community College
Questions? Please contact us:
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