



Office of Institutional Research

Impact of Community College of Philadelphia
Health Care Programs on the
Philadelphia Region

-2007-

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Community
College
of Philadelphia

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Health Care Programs at Community College of Philadelphia

Since 1965 Community College of Philadelphia has provided the citizens of Philadelphia with an affordable, comprehensive, urban educational experience. Community College of Philadelphia is the only public institution of higher education in the City of Philadelphia. The College presently offers six Allied Health programs and a Registered Nursing Program that lead to an A.A.S. degree. In addition, one program offers a four-credit course in phlebotomy that terminates in a certificate. The following are brief descriptions of these programs.

Clinical Laboratory Technician - Clinical Lab Technician graduates are prepared to begin work as technicians in hospital laboratories, physicians' offices, pharmaceutical companies, forensic or police laboratories, research laboratories, and reference laboratories. The Clinical Laboratory Technician Program at Community College of Philadelphia is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences. Graduates of this program are eligible to take a national certification examination offered by the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP) and the National Certification Agency (NCA) in Clinical Laboratory Science.

Phlebotomy- The Clinical Lab Technician Program offers a one-course certificate program in Phlebotomy. The Phlebotomist is the member of the laboratory team most directly involved with patients. The Program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences. Students who successfully complete the Program are eligible to take the PBT Certification exam offered by ASCP.

Dental Hygiene - Graduates of the Dental Hygiene Program are prepared as oral health educators, clinicians, and vital members of the Dental profession. The clinical training is conducted on campus in a 16-chair, free dental hygiene clinic. Students have the opportunity to treat diverse patient populations, many with advanced periodontal disease. The Dental Hygiene Program is designed so that students, upon matriculation, can complete the program in 24 consecutive months. Graduates are eligible to take the North East Regional Board Examination and the Dental Hygiene National Board to obtain Dental Hygiene licensure. The Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation.

Diagnostic Medical Imaging - Graduates of this program learn the entry-level skills to use ionizing radiation in both diagnostic radiographic and fluoroscopic procedures. The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology has accredited the Program and Diagnostic Medical Imaging graduates are eligible to take the national certifying examination of the American Registry of Radiologic Technology.

Health Services Management- A career as a health services manager offers the student the opportunity to plan, direct, coordinate and supervise the delivery of health care. An associate's degree in Health Services Management enables the student to work in multiple health care organizations such as hospitals and physicians' offices, public and mental health organizations, and nursing homes. Designed as a transfer curriculum, this program prepares the student for entry level and middle management opportunities upon completion of a baccalaureate degree.

Medical Assisting and Office Management - The Medical Assisting and Office Management (MAOM) Curriculum prepares students to become valuable members of the

health care professional team, of prime importance in helping physicians respond successfully to a rapidly changing environment. Graduates can secure positions as medical assistants in physicians' offices, medical clinics, and hospitals. Other employment opportunities include working as a phlebotomist, insurance billing specialist, procedural coder, and an entry-level medical office manager. This program qualifies graduates to take the national certification examination of the American Association of Medical Assistants. The Medical Assisting and Office Management program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs on recommendation of the Curriculum Review Board of the American Association of Medical Assistants Endowment. Nationally, medical assistants have ranked in the top ten fastest growing occupations over the past two decades. The Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that change in employment in medical assisting is projected to grow faster than all other occupations through 2010.

Nursing - The Nursing curriculum prepares students for beginning R.N. staff nurse positions in hospitals, long-term care facilities and community-based agencies. Graduates of the Nursing program are prepared to sit for the national licensure examination (NCLEX-RN) to become a Registered Nurse (RN). Community College of Philadelphia's nursing program is accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission and approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing. The National League of Nursing recognized the Nursing program's commitment to creating environments that enhance student learning by designating Community College of Philadelphia's Nursing program as a Center for Excellence in Education. Since the first class graduated in 1968, Community College of Philadelphia has graduated over 3,500 R.N.s.

Respiratory Care Technology - This curriculum prepares students as beginning practitioners in respiratory care technology. Graduates of this program are prepared to assume advanced respiratory care responsibilities as Registered Respiratory Therapists, performing both diagnostic and therapeutic procedures up to and including operation of life support equipment. The Respiratory Care Technology Program is accredited by the Committee for Accreditation of Respiratory Care. Graduates are eligible to sit for all credentialing examinations administered by the National Board for Respiratory Care including specialty exams in Pulmonary Function Technology and Pediatrics/Perinatal Respiratory Care and are eligible for Pennsylvania State Certification. The College offers the only Respiratory Care program in the City.

Students Served by the College

During fall 2006, 667 Community College of Philadelphia students were enrolled in the College's Health Care programs. Figure 1 contains the numbers of students enrolled in each program during this term.

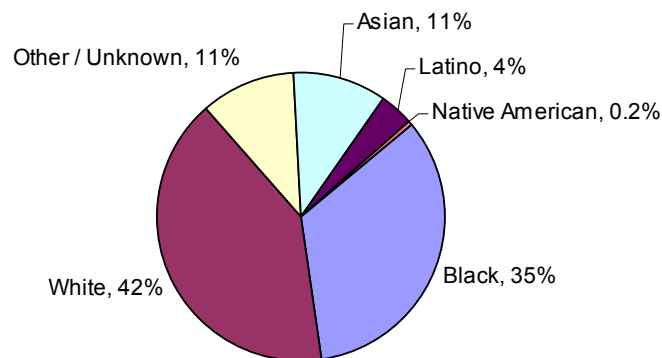
Figure 1

Enrollments in Health Care Programs During Fall 2006

Clinical Laboratory Technician	48
Dental Hygiene	52
Diagnostic Medical Imaging	60
Health Information Technology	46
Medical Assisting - Office Management	45
Nursing	350
Respiratory Care Technology	65
Total	667

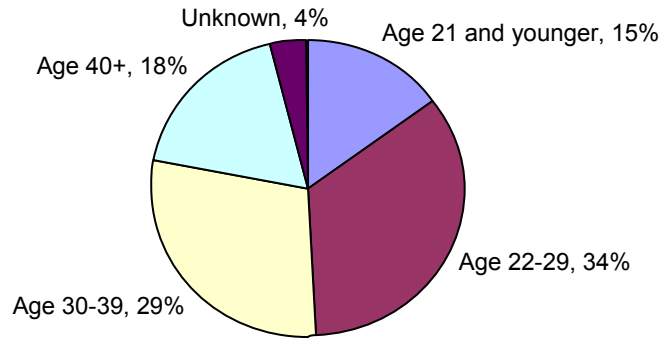
Eighty-one percent (81%) of students enrolled in Health Care programs during the Fall 2006 semester were females and 19% were males. Students enrolled in these programs at the College reflect the racial/ethnic diversity of the City of Philadelphia (Figure 2).

Figure 2
Racial/Ethnic Distribution of Students in Health Care Programs Fall 2006



Fall 2006 students were diverse in terms of age (Figure 3). Forty-nine percent (49%) were under the age of 30 while 47 % were 30 years and older.

Figure 3
Age Distribution of Students in Health Care Programs
Fall 2006



The College has awarded 7196 Health Care-related associate degrees and certificates. Figure 4 contains the numbers of graduates in these programs since 1967, the first year that Health Care degrees were awarded by the College.

Figure 4
CCP Graduates in Health Care Programs
1967-2007

Clinical Laboratory Technician	394
Dental Assisting *	495
Dental Hygiene	456
Diagnostic Medical Imaging	431
Dietary Manager *	207
Dietetic Technician *	421
Health Information Technology	340
Medical Assisting – Office Management	271
Nursing	3568
Respiratory Care Technology	613
Total	7196

* Discontinued program

Many of these graduates would have been unable to pursue higher education if the opportunities provided by the College did not exist. In the 2005 Survey of Graduates, 39 % of graduates from the last several years indicated they would have been unable to participate in higher education were it not for Community College of Philadelphia.

Student Accomplishments

After earning certificates or associates degrees, many graduates continue their studies. On average, 23.3 % of the Colleges' recent graduates of Health Care programs pursued their studies at another college or university within one year of graduation. Many of these graduates attend institutions within the Philadelphia region (Figure 5).

Figure 5

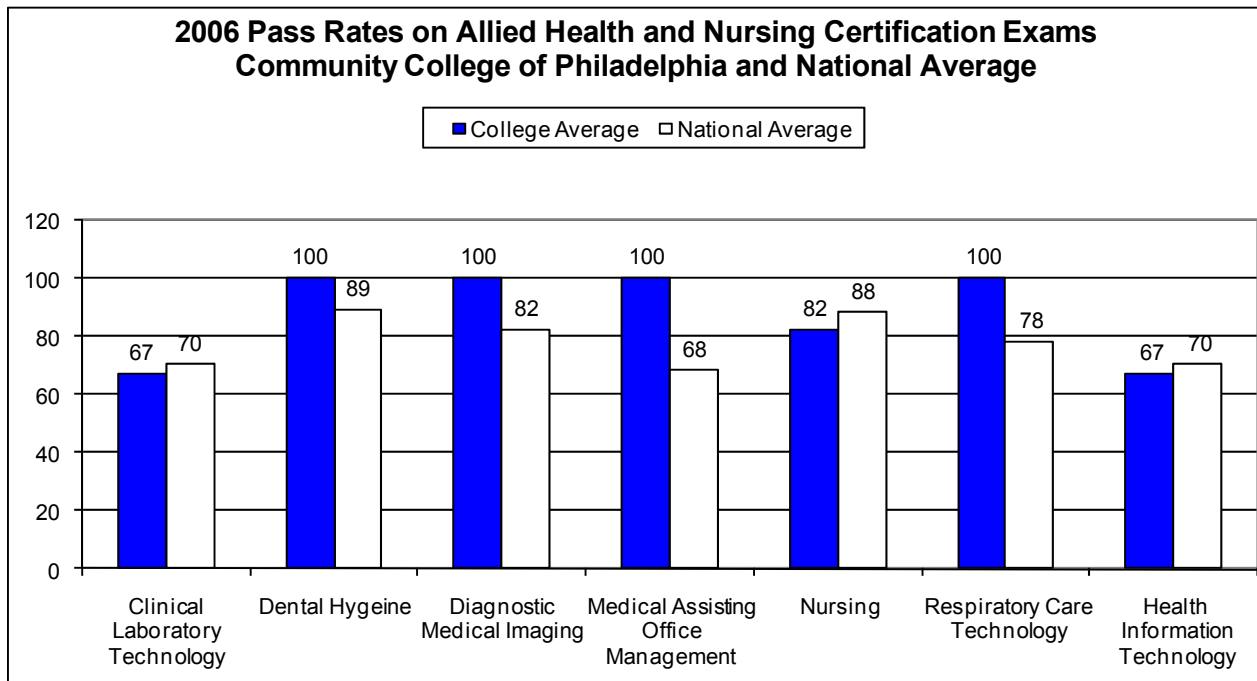
Higher Education Institutions Community College of Philadelphia Health Care Graduates Were Most Likely to Transfer to Over the Last Six Years

Drexel University	MCP Hahnemann University
Episcopal Hospital	Presbyterian Hospital
Frankford Hospital	Peirce College
Gwynedd Mercy	Temple University
College Holy Family College	Thomas Jefferson University
Immaculata College	West Chester University
LaSalle University	Widener University

Several collaborative projects have been designed to provide Health Care students at the College with seamless opportunities to continue their education. For example, Research Models for Change is a partnership between CCP, Drexel University's College of Nursing and Health Professions, and the National Institutes of Health that facilitates the acquisition of baccalaureate degrees for graduates of the College's Nursing program.

The Colleges' graduates have performed well on certification exams. Pass rates for Community College of Philadelphia graduates have been higher than national averages for several programs (Figure 6).

Figure 6



After earning their degrees, a majority of graduates remain in the Philadelphia region as active contributing members of the regional economy. Within one year of leaving the College, approximately 84% of graduates of Health Care Programs were employed in the Philadelphia area, 92% in positions directly related to their Community College of Philadelphia studies. Those not employed had typically transferred to other colleges and universities. Hospitals, long term care facilities, sub-acute care/rehabilitation centers, and private physician and dental offices are typical employers who have hired recent Community College of Philadelphia graduates (Figure 7). In addition, many graduates are working at dental and physician private practice sites, contract food companies, and social and community-based programs.

Figure 7

Employers¹ of Recent Community College of Philadelphia Health Care Graduates

Abington Memorial Hospital	North Pennsylvania Hospital
Albert Einstein Medical Center (JHS) ²	Northeastern Hospital (TUHS)
Bayada Nurses	North Philadelphia Health System
Boulevard Nursing Home	Northwestern Health Services
Bryn Mawr Hospital	Parkview Hospital (TENET)
Care Pavilion of Walnut Park	Paul's Run Retirement Community
Cathedral Village	Pennsylvania Hospital (UPHS)
Cheltenham Nursing and Rehabilitation Center	Philadelphia Nursing Home
Chestnut Hill Hospital	Philadelphia Protestant Home
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	Presbyterian Medical Center (UPHS) ³
Elkins Park Hospital	Quadrangle
Episcopal Hospital (TUHS) ⁴	Quest Diagnostic
Evangelical Home	Redeemer Health System
Fox Chase Cancer Center	Reimbursement Technologies, Inc.
Frankford Health Care System (JHS)	Sacred Heart Manor
Graduate Hospital (TENET)	Saunders House
Hahnemann University Hospital (TENET)	Service Master, Inc.
Holy Family Nursing Home	Simpson House
Immaculate Mary Home	St. Agnes Medical Center
Jeanes Hospital (TUHS)	St. Christopher's Hospital (TENET)
Lankenau Hospital	St. Ignatius Nursing Home
Lion's Eye Bank	St. Joseph's Manor
Lower Bucks Hospital (TUHS)	Stapely in Germantown
Magee Rehabilitation Center (JHS)	Suburban General Hospital (MHS) ⁵
Masonic Home of Philadelphia	Temple Continuing Care Center
Mayo Nursing and Convalescent Center	Temple University Hospital (TUHS)
Medical College of Pennsylvania (TENET)	The Fountains at Logan Square
Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital (MHS)	Township Manor Health and Rehabilitation Center
Methodist Hospital (JHS)	University Of Pennsylvania Dental Care Centers
Montgomery Hospital	University of Penn Medical Center (UPHS)
Moss Rehabilitation (JHS)	Veterans Administration Medical Center
Nazareth Hospital	Visiting Nurses Association
Neumann Medical Center (TUHS)	Wills Eye Hospital

¹ The employers in Table 7 are a sample of the many businesses that hire CCP Health Care Program graduates.

² Jefferson Health System

³ University of Pennsylvania Health System

⁴ Temple University Health System

⁵ Mercy Health System

Figure 8 contains the annual salaries earned by Community College of Philadelphia graduates shortly after earning their degrees. The average salary earned for 2005 and 2006 graduates of Health Care programs was \$44,775.

Figure 8
Average Annual Salaries Earned by 2005 and 2006
Community College of Philadelphia Health Care Graduates

Dental Hygiene	\$68,142.80
Nursing	\$54,257.33
Respiratory Care Technology	\$49,666.67
Diagnostic Medical Imaging	\$49,330.00
Clinical Laboratory Technician	\$35,562.50
Health Information Technology	\$36,175.00
Medical Assisting and Office Management	NOT AVAILABLE
 Overall Average	 \$44,775.00

As illustrated in Figures 9 and 10, health care occupations have been projected to be some of the fastest growing employment areas for the Philadelphia Region and the United States in the near future.

Figure 9
Occupations Projected to Experience Growth in the Philadelphia Region⁶
2002-2012

- Computer Support Specialists
- Paralegals and Legal Assistants
- Medical Records and Health Information Technicians
- Physical Therapy Assistants
- Respiratory Therapists
- Dental Hygienists and Assistants
- Occupational Therapy Assistants and Aides
- Teachers Assistants
- Registered Nurses
- Radiologic Technologists and Technicians
- Radiation Therapists
- Veterinary Technologists and Technicians
- Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians
- Home Health Aides
- Medical Assistants

⁶ High Priority Occupations for Philadelphia County Workforce Investment Area.
 <<http://www.paworkforce.state.pa.us>>

**Figure 10
Occupations Projected to Experience Growth in the United States
2002-2014**

- Medical Assistants
- Network Systems/Data Communications Analysts
- Physicians Assistants
- Social/Human Service Assistants
- Home Health Aides
- Medical Records/Health Information Technicians
- Physical Therapy Aides
- Computer Software Engineers, Applications
- Compute Software Engineers
- Physical Therapy Assistants
- Fitness Trainers/Aerobics Instructors
- Database Administrators
- Veterinary Technologists & Technicians
- Hazardous Materials Removal Workers
- Dental Hygienists
- Dental Assistants

Community College of Philadelphia Health Care graduates have been a critical source of employees for the Philadelphia Metropolitan Area health care network. Figure 11 contains the estimated percentages of annual occupational openings filled by Community College of Philadelphia graduates over the last several years. These percentages ranged from 5.3% for the Medical Assistants field to 19.4% for Respiratory Therapists.

**Figure 11
Philadelphia Region Health Care Job Openings Filled by CCP Graduates
1994 to 2007**

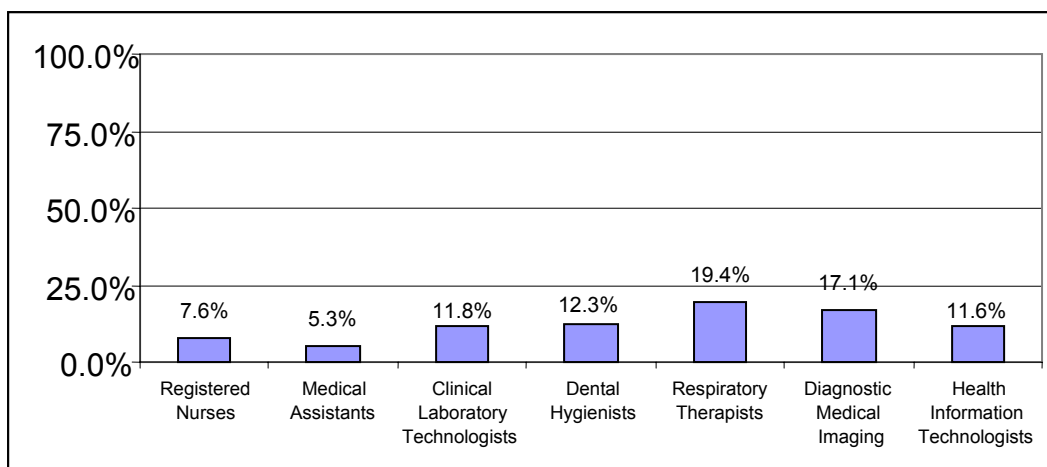


Figure 11 continued
Philadelphia Region Health Care Job Openings Filled by CCP Graduates
1994 to 2007

Occupation	Number of Job Openings⁷	Number of Job Openings Filled by CCP Graduates
Registered Nurses	16426	1250 (7.6%)
Medical Assistants	3044	161 (5.3%)
Clinical Laboratory Technologists	1288	152 (11.8%)
Dental Hygienists	1626	200 (12.3%)
Respiratory Therapists	1084	210 (19.4%)
Diagnostic Medical Imaging	1209	207 (17.1%)
Health Information Technologists	1336	155 (11.6%)

Initiatives with Special Impact on the Community

Community College of Philadelphia has committed itself through its educational programs and services to addressing a wide range of special needs in the City of Philadelphia. The College's Allied Health and Nursing programs make unique contributions to the community. In addition to attending classes, Allied Health and Nursing students participate in clinical experiences at a variety of health care agencies in the Philadelphia area. These experiences not only provide students with an opportunity to apply classroom learning in direct client care situations but also provide them with an opportunity to participate in community service. The following are some examples of the impacts of these experiences.

- The Dental Hygiene Clinic at the College's Spring Garden campus provides preventive dental hygiene care to approximately 1,000 patients per year. The clinic services the surrounding community by providing care to clients referred by the City of Philadelphia

⁷ This information was extracted from the following resource... High Priority Occupations in Philadelphia, (2006). <http://www.paworkforce.state.pa.us/professionals/cwp/view.asp?a=467&q=153128>
 Estimated job openings are based on both new job openings and replacement openings.

District Health Centers. The Dental Hygiene Clinic also services the College community by providing oral health care and dental health screenings to students, faculty, staff, and children from the Community College of Philadelphia's Child Development Center. All Dental Hygiene services are provided at no cost to the clients.

- All second-year nursing students, approximately 130 in the 2006-07 academic year, spend two days each week in clinical settings, such as hospitals and community based care agencies. Approximately 15 hospitals, eight schools, and six community agencies in the Philadelphia area participated as clinical sites. The student hours, which include supervised delivery of patient care, expand the City's health care service delivery resources.
- Over the last ten years, the Zip Code 19130 Nursing Project has provided health promotion, health education and preventative services to targeted populations in community agencies within the Philadelphia neighborhood shared by the College's Spring Garden Street campus. Senior nursing students provided services, such as blood pressure screenings, immunizations, family planning education, dental care education, substance abuse education, fitness and nutrition education, and women's health education, to approximately 6,000 individuals in community agencies. This project is supported by the Independence Foundation.
- The Nursing Program is leading a national effort to foster geriatrics in associate degree nursing with support from the John A. Hartford Foundation.
- The Nursing program, with support from the National Institute of Health, offers a Bridges to the Baccalaureate, a project to encourage minority student nurses to consider a career in biomedical research.
- Students in the Diagnostic Medical Imaging Program participate in seven clinical

education courses in which they have the opportunity to interact with patients in affiliate hospitals. A total of over 1600 hours is devoted to clinical education.

- Students in the Clinical Laboratory Technician Program participated in several Health Fairs performing Diabetes Screenings for the College population. They tested glucose levels from a small blood sample taken from the participants' fingers. Approximately 250 members of the college community were screened and several students and staff members who were not aware that they had diabetes were referred to follow up with their physician.
- Clinical Lab Technician faculty and students participated in cholesterol screening for the senior citizens in Philadelphia at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. Approximately 500 seniors received cholesterol screening through this outreach effort.
- As the only program of its kind in Philadelphia, Respiratory Care graduates are intensely involved in all aspects of patient care. They are also in the enviable position of spearheading an expanding pulmonary rehabilitation initiative in the area, and are developing and initiating programs in sleep apnea and other sleep studies, smoking cessation, and asthma management.
- Medical Assisting and Office Management second-year students participated in the health fairs held at the College, providing cholesterol, glucose, and blood pressure screening as well as dispensing information on CHIP, Pennsylvania's program to provide health insurance for children of working families who can not otherwise afford it. For three years, both first and second year MAOM students participated in the "Breast Cancer Awareness" walks and have raised over \$2,000.00 for the cause. Students have also been involved in community outreach projects collecting toys for children at the holidays, delivering Thanksgiving meals to families in need, and donating clothing and food to homeless shelters.

- Medical Assisting and Office Management graduates have participated in three different clinical education courses throughout the curriculum where they contribute an excess of 400 hours of interaction and service with patients at various hospitals, cardiology practices, and physicians' offices.