

# HEALTH OCCUPATIONS

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## COURSE OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of the Health Occupations program at Western Area Career and Technology Center (CTC) is to equip students with the essential skills and knowledge needed for entry-level positions in healthcare settings. Additionally, the program aims to prepare students to successfully earn the various certifications offered, thereby enhancing their qualifications and employability in the healthcare industry.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Health Occupations program at Western Area Career and Technology Center (CTC) thoroughly prepares students for the healthcare industry by offering a balanced curriculum that integrates hands-on training with theoretical knowledge. In the classroom, students delve into essential subjects such as anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, and basic nursing skills, building a solid foundation of theoretical understanding. This knowledge is then reinforced through practical, hands-on experiences in real-world healthcare settings, such as hospitals and nursing homes, where students apply what they've learned in a supervised, professional environment. This dual approach ensures that graduates are not only well-versed in the necessary medical concepts but also proficient in the practical skills required for patient care. By combining rigorous academic study with immersive clinical practice, the program equips students with the comprehensive skill set needed to excel in the healthcare industry, whether they pursue immediate employment or further education.

## COURSE TOPICS

The students cover essential topics to prepare for entry-level positions in healthcare. This includes learning anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, and infection control procedures. Students develop skills in basic patient care, vital signs measurement, and performing procedures like wound care and electrocardiography (EKG). They also receive training in CPR and basic life support, along with understanding patient rights and ethical considerations. Documentation and electronic health records management are emphasized, along with specialized patient care areas like geriatrics and pediatrics. Overall, the program equips students with the knowledge and skills needed to provide competent and compassionate care to patients across various healthcare settings.

## TEXTBOOKS/WORKBOOKS

*Dean Vaughn Medical Terminology 350, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition; Workbook & Videotape Series*  
*Diversified Health Occupations Textbook, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition; Louise Simmers; 2014*  
*Diversified Health Occupations Workbook, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition; Louise Simmers; 2014*

## **COOPERATING COMPANIES**

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Allegheny Health Network  
Canonsburg Hospital  
Concordia  
Cornerstone Community Care  
Premier Washington Rehab and Nursing Center  
Presbyterian Senior Care  
St. Clair Hospital  
Vitalant  
Washington Hospital and Medical Center