

Health Professions Institute: Medication Aide

This 144-hour course prepares Certified Nurse Aides to administer routine medications to persons in a Skilled Nursing Facility, an MHMR facility or a correctional institution or a personal care facility. This comprehensive program follows the Texas Department of Human Services Course Curriculum and provides an in-depth review of all aspects of administering medications through competency-based education. All of the body systems are covered, stressing human anatomy and physiology as well as the absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion of drugs. This program is designed for individuals who wish to work directly with patients in a healthcare setting under the supervision of a licensed nurse.

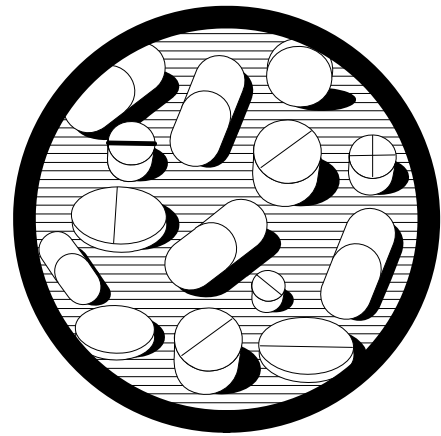
Program/Course Goals...

Upon satisfactory completion of this program and state testing, the Medication Aide permit holder will:

- Observe and report reactions and side effects to medications
- Take and record vital signs
- Administer and document regularly prescribed medications.
- Administer oxygen in an emergency.

The Medication Aide permit holder will NOT be allowed to:

- Administer medications by the injection route.
- Administer medications used for breathing treatments.
- Administer initial doses.
- Calculate medication dosages.
- Crush medications with authorization.
- Administer medications through tubes into body cavities.
- Receive verbal or telephone orders from a physician.
- Order medications from a pharmacy.
- Apply topical medications to broken skin.
- Administer PRN medications without authorization of a licensed nurse.



Program/Course Topics...

1. Procedures for preparation and administration of medications.
2. Responsibility, control, accountability, storage of medications.
3. Use of reference materials.
4. Documentation of medication in clinical records.
5. Minimum licensing and certification standards for facilities.
6. Lines of authority.
7. Responsibilities and liabilities associated with safeguarding and administration of medications.
8. Allowable and prohibited practices.
9. Drug reactions and side effects of common medications.
10. Rules covering the medication aide program.

Admission Requirements...

- Prerequisite courses-Certified Nurse Aide or waiver experience.
- Respect confidential nature of resident information.
- Strong attention to detail.
- Reasonable level of manual dexterity and visual acuity.
- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Must have high school diploma or equivalent GED prior to the start of class.
- Must be employed in a state approved Long-Term Care, MHMR or assisted living facility on the first official day of class.
- Must be able to read & write English.
- Complete application (found at <http://austincc.edu/ce/hpi>) and mail to Medication Aide Coordinator, 5930 Middle Fiskville Rd, Austin TX 78752.

English as a Second Language Assessment...

Students wishing to take the Medication Aide Certification Examination upon completion of the program must show evidence of adequate English reading and writing skills prior to registration. If the High School Diploma or GED is issued from a non-English speaking country, potential students must show a passing score on Reading Placement, Writing & Grammar Placement, and Oral Communication components of the English as a Second Language Assessment Tests.

Sufficient performance on these components is defined as: ESL 3 (77-85) on the Reading or higher; ESL 3, (72-78 Grammar) or higher on the Writing/Grammar; and ESL 3 (Interview score3) on the Oral Assessment. Students with sufficient performance scores from a previous TASP or COMPASS, will not be required to complete additional assessment. For referral information, go to <http://www3.austincc.edu/evpcss/rss/assess/esl.htm>.

If you are an **International Student**, contact [ACC's Admissions & Records International Student Office](#) at the Riverside Campus, Building G, Room 8105, (512) 223-6247, before testing. Take your high school transcript or GED to be translated and for assistance in obtaining a permanent U.S. Social Security Number.

Campus	Schedule Information
<u>Eastview</u>	512/223-5188
<u>Northridge</u>	512/223-4807
<u>Rio Grande</u>	512/223-3139
<u>Riverside</u>	512/223-6015



For sample questions for the ESL computerized test, go to <http://www.act.org/esl/sample.html>

Immunizations & Criminal Background Check...

Medication Aide students must be free of communicable diseases and in suitable physical and emotional health to safely administer medications. Students working in Long Term Care Facilities will be assisting in the treatment of patients during the course, NURA 1013, Medication Administration in Long Term Care. All ACC students who assist in the treatment of patients must meet "Community Standards" concerning state vaccinations requirements. The required vaccinations are listed below. **Vaccinations can take up to 4 months to complete, so students are urged to plan accordingly.** Additional information on immunizations may be obtained at (512) 223-7271 or at www.austincc.edu/ce/hpi.

The Texas Department of Human Resources does not allow anyone to take the Medication Aide Examination if they have been convicted of a felony or animal abuse. All ACC students who assist in the treatment of patients must meet "Community Standards" concerning criminal background screening. For additional information visit www.austincc.edu/ce/hpi.

Tuition and Fees...

For specific dates, times, and fees check the *Medication Aide* section of the current ACC Course Schedule or go to www.austincc.edu/ce/hpi. For registration questions, call (512) 223-7542. A \$25.00 testing fee, payable to Texas Department of Human Services is required during the first two weeks of class.

Financial Aid...

For Texas Public Education Grant (TPEG) Financial Aid inquiries, call (512) 223-7547 or www.austincc.edu/finaid. Forms may be obtained from www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Books & Supplies...

Books are available at the ACC bookstore, 12th & Rio Grande. *Gauwitz; Administering Medications. Herlihy & Maebius; The Human Body in Health & Illness; Saunders.*

Accommodations Requests...

Students requiring special accommodations during class or clinical time for disabilities are required to self-disclose to the Office for Students with Disabilities. <http://www2.austincc.edu/osd/index.html>.

Registration...

Registration occurs after the application is accepted. You may register in person (cash, check, credit card), by phone (credit card only), or mail (check). Payment is due at time of registration. To register in person, visit ACC Highland Business Center, 5930 Middle Fiskville Rd., Continuing Education, 4th floor. We are open from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. from Monday to Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday. To register by phone, call (512)-407-3087. To register by mail, complete the registration form found on the last page of the current course schedule (or download and print from austincc.edu/ce), and mail to: Austin Community College, Continuing Education, 5930 Middle Fiskville Rd., Austin, TX 78752-4390. Clear instructions may be found at www.austincc.edu/ce/hpi.

NOTE: Generally, you will not be notified that your registration and payment have been received by mail, unless the workshop you requested is cancelled or filled. You may confirm your registration by calling (512) 223-7542. Refund of tuition can only be made if ACC cancels the course, or if you request a refund by calling the above number 24 hours prior to the start of the course.