

# MEDICAL ASSISTANT CERTIFICATE

(Currently Not Accepting Enrollments)

## Description and Outcomes

**Effective April 15, 2026, this program will no longer be accepting enrollments or reentries.** Students interested in a similar program may consider the Medical Billing/Coding Certificate (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/medical-billing-coding-certificate/>).

The objective of the Medical Assistant Certificate program is to prepare medical assistants who are competent in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains to enter the profession. This program concentrates on helping you acquire knowledge and develop skills in performing clinical and administrative procedures in a medical office or ambulatory care setting.

Prior to or upon graduation from the program, you may be eligible to take the Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) examination given by the American Association of Medical Assistants, the Registered Medical Assistant (RMA) examination given by the American Medical Technologists, the National Certified Medical Assistant (NCMA) examination given by the National Center for Competency Testing (NCCT), the Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) examination given by the National Healthcareer Association (NHA), and the Clinical Medical Assistant Certification (CMAC) examination given by the American Medical Certification Association (AMCA). A choice of one of these national credentialing exams is included as part of your program and expected to be completed during MA295 Medical Assisting Externship and Evaluation. Prospective and current students must review Purdue Global's State Licensure and Certifications (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/about/accreditation/licensure-state-authorizations/>) site to view program and state-specific licensure information. Refer to the Certification, State Board, and National Board Exams (p. 1) section for additional program disclosure information.

Workplace duties may include taking medical histories, scheduling appointments, answering telephones, collecting specimens, performing basic laboratory tests, venipuncture, electrocardiograms, and preparing and administering medications. You may also explain treatment procedures to patients and assist the physician during examinations.

### Clinical Experiences

The program blends online coursework with on-ground experiences. You will need to complete clinical experiences at an approved clinical site for MA280 Clinical Competencies III. You must also complete a supervised externship (160 hours) in a medical office or ambulatory care setting to complete the course of study.

### Program Length

The Medical Assistant Certificate program consists of a minimum of 46 quarter credit hours. Upon successful completion of this program, you will be awarded a certificate.

### Program Outcomes

1. Clinical: Demonstrate the core competencies of medical assisting clinical practice.

2. Administrative: Perform clerical and administrative functions required of a medical assistant.
3. Standards, Laws, and Ethics: Practice professional, ethical, and legal standards in health care settings.
4. Professionalism: Exhibit professional behavior as defined by the health care industry.

## Program Availability

For program availability, please refer to the U.S. State and Other Approvals (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/accreditation-approvals-memberships/>) section and Program Availability Information (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf>).

## Policies

### Admissions Requirements

You must meet the following admission requirement in addition to the Purdue Global general requirements (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/admissions/>).

Enrollment in the Medical Assistant Certificate is available exclusively to students enrolled through approved partnerships.

### Progression Requirements

1. You will be withdrawn from the program if you are unable to successfully complete the following courses on the second attempt:

Code	Title	Credits
MA280	Clinical Competencies III	1
MA295	Medical Assisting Externship and Evaluation	5

2. If you are a medical assisting student and drop, are dismissed, or take a leave of absence longer than 6 months after beginning and prior to completing clinical coursework (MA265 Clinical Competencies I, MA275 Clinical Competencies II, MA280 Clinical Competencies III, and MA295 Medical Assisting Externship and Evaluation), you will be required to retake one or more of these courses to ensure currency of skills.

## Certification, State Board, and National Board Exams

Certification and licensure boards have state-specific educational requirements for programs that lead to a license or certification that is a precondition for employment. Prospective and current students must review Purdue Global's State Licensure and Certifications (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/about/accreditation/licensure-state-authorizations/>) site to view program and state-specific licensure information.

Licensure-track programs may limit enrollment to students in certain states; please see Purdue Global's Program Availability Information (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf>) to determine enrollment eligibility.


You are responsible for understanding the requirements of optional certification exams. Such requirements may change during the course of your program. You are not automatically certified in any way upon program completion. Although certain programs are designed to prepare you to take various optional certification exams, Purdue Global cannot guarantee you will be eligible to take these exams or become certified. Your eligibility may depend on your work experience, completion of

education and/or degree requirements, not having a criminal record, and meeting other certification requirements.



### Certification Examinations

The Medical Assisting Certificate program is designed to prepare you with clinical and administrative skills to provide outstanding patient care. The program is structured to provide appropriate academic preparation in pursuing national certification as a medical assistant. Prior to or upon graduation from the program, you may be eligible to take the Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) examination given by the American Association of Medical Assistants, the Registered Medical Assistant (RMA) examination given by the American Medical Technologists, the National Certified Medical Assistant (NCMA) exam given by the National Center for Competency Testing (NCCT), the Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) exam given by the National Healthcareer Association (NHA), and the Clinical Medical Assistant Certification (CMAC) examination given by the American Medical Certification Association (AMCA). A choice of one of these national credentialing exams is included as part of your program and expected to be completed during MA295 Medical Assisting Externship and Evaluation. Prospective and current students must review Purdue Global's State Licensure and Certifications (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/about/accreditation/licensure-state-authorizations/>) site to view program and state-specific licensure information.

## Degree Plan

The  icon appears in the title of traditional courses that are also available as a set of module courses. Module course availability may be limited to certain academic calendars. See Course Types (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/approach-to-learning/>) for information about module courses.

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
HS101	 Medical Law and Bioethics	5
HS111	 Medical Terminology	5
HS200	Diseases of the Human Body	5
HS210	Medical Office Management	5
HS220	Medical Coding and Insurance	5
MA265	Clinical Competencies I	5
MA275	Clinical Competencies II	5
MA280	Clinical Competencies III	1
SC116	Survey of Human Structure and Function	5
MA295	Medical Assisting Externship and Evaluation	5
Total Major Requirements		46
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>46</b>