



Degree Guide:

Medical Office Assisting, Associate in Applied Science (AAS) Degree

Program

[Medical Assisting \(MED\)](#)

Degree Type

AAS

Program Coordinator

Rachel Pairsh
(360) 417-6414
rpairsh@pencol.edu

Program Description

The Peninsula College Associate in Applied Science (AAS) Medical Office Assisting program provides training for adults seeking employment in the administrative areas of medical offices, clinics, hospitals, home health, extended care facilities, and other healthcare settings. Graduates are likely to find employment in these areas, while advanced degrees may provide access to a wider range of career opportunities in healthcare. Technology skills are integrated to prepare students for medical office employment, including electronic medical billing and coding, bookkeeping and accounting, and charting in patient records. Immunizations and background checks must be completed prior to the student being placed into a local healthcare facility for their required externship/practicum experience(s).

Program Length: 6 Quarters
Program Code: MOAMAAPT

Career Opportunities and Earnings

There is a high demand for professional medical office assistants and an increasing number of employers are seeking skilled medical office assistants. Graduates may find positions in a variety of healthcare settings including medical offices, clinics, hospitals, home health and extended care facilities. Wages often begin around \$20.71 per hour. Potential positions include:

- Medical office assistant
- Medical secretary

For current employment and wage estimates, please visit and search for Medical Office Assistant: bls.gov/oes.

Program Outcomes

Upon completion of the Medical Office Assistant program, students will be able to:

- Function professionally in a legal and ethical manner as a medical office assistant/specialist
- Use medical terminology correctly
- Effectively communicate with other healthcare team members, patients, and physicians
- Procure and distribute office supplies
- Manage documents, both paper and electronic, in a medical office
- Demonstrate knowledge and competency in ICD-10 coding and electronic medical billing of multiple insurances
- Follow laws and regulations regarding patient privacy and confidentiality
- Format and generate various documents required in a medical office setting



Goals

- Prepare students for a variety of medical office related jobs
- Offer a medical office assistant program that aligns with recommendations from local employers and industry trends
- Meet the growing need for trained Rotating Allied Health Program Planning medical office assistants

Approximate Additional Costs

- Placement test fee: \$20
- Books, supplies and miscellaneous fees: \$250-\$300

Sample Schedule

This sample schedule is provided as a guide for a full-time student starting in fall quarter whose goal is to earn the AAS. The typical student schedule is based on entering the program during the fall quarter, however some programs allow students to enter in the winter or spring as well. Since not all do, please confirm with an advisor whether this program must be started during a specific quarter or not.

First Quarter (Fall)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
ENGL& 101	English Composition I	5
INFO 101	Research in Health and Social Sciences	2
MED 102	Medical Terminology for Medical Assistants	5
MED 150	Medical Billing and Coding I	5

Second Quarter (Winter)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
AMATH 121	Applied Math for Professional & Tech Programs I	5
FA 180	First Aid for Healthcare Providers	1
MED 135	Medical Office Procedures	4
MED 151	Medical Billing and Coding II	5

Third Quarter (Spring)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
AOS 105	Introduction to Microsoft Word	5
MED 140	Medical, Ethical, Legal Communication	4
MED 155	Medical Office Assistant Extern and Capstone	6



Fourth Quarter (Fall)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
AOS 106	Introduction to Microsoft Excel	5
BUS& 101	Introduction to Business	5
ENGL& 102	Composition II	5

Fifth Quarter (Winter)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
AOS 109	Introduction to Microsoft Powerpoint	2
CMST& 210	Interpersonal Communication	5
ENGL& 235	Technical Writing	5
HUMDV 120	Human Relations	3

Sixth Quarter (Spring)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
H ED 180	Introduction to Health	5
PSYC& 100	General Psychology	5
SOC& 101	Introduction to Sociology	5

Your personal educational plan will vary based on many factors including:

- The quarter you begin
- How many classes/credits you plan to take in each quarter
- Your math and English placement; Learn more about placement options by visiting the [Assessment and Placement website](#).
- If you start in our [Transitional Studies](#) program

Total Credits **92**