NorthWest Arkansas Community College
Division of Health Professions

Course Number and Title

AHSC 1213: Certified Nursing Assistant

Catalog Description

The Certified Nursing Assistant Program is designed to meet the industry driven demand for Certified Nursing Assistants. This course provides the student with an introduction to healthcare, didactic instruction, hands on skills and clinical training. Specifically, basic nursing skills including vital signs, personal care skills and Alzheimer's and Dementia training are covered. This course prepares the successful student to sit for the Arkansas Certified Nursing Assistant Exam. The course is taught following the Arkansas Long-Term Care Facility Nursing Assistant Training Curriculum.

The demand for Certified Nursing Assistants is great. Certified Nursing Assistants have employment opportunities in assisted living organizations, long-term care facilities, long-term acute care facilities, home health care, and hospice care. Those students wishing to work in hospitals are encouraged to complete the Certified Nursing Assistant course, obtain CNA certification, and enroll in the Patient Care Assistant + Program to acquire advanced patient care skills.

Prerequisites

None

Credit hours/Contact hours/Load hours

3/90/3

Target Audience/Transferability

Adults and high school students seeking employment opportunities in assisted living organizations, long-term care facilities, long-term acute care facilities, home health care, and hospice care.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Prepare room for admission of patient.
2. Assist in admission, transfer, and discharge of patients.
3. Recognize, define, and use correct medical terminology for level of education.
4. Recognize, define, and adhere to residents rights in long-term care facilities.
5. Reports patient complaints of pain, discomfort, or abnormal behavior to appropriate licensed personnel.

6. Practice safe body mechanics.
7. Demonstrate proper use of procedures in bathing, grooming, weighing, etc. of residents.
8. Assess vital signs and record results in medical record with accuracy.
9. Assist LPN's or RN's with treatments procedures.
10. Initiates and follows proper procedures for isolation.
11. Demonstrate knowledge of proper reporting through chain of command.
12. Demonstrates knowledge of and ability to position patients ensuring surfaces in contact with the body do not promote skin abrasions, cuts or pressure ulcers.
13. Initiates lifts and turns with proper and safe body mechanics and with available resources.

Topics

1) Introduction to Healthcare
   a. Introduction to Resident Care
   b. Communication and Interpersonal Skills
   c. Infection Prevention and Control
   d. Safety and Emergency Procedures
   e. Patient Rights

2) Basic Nursing Skills
   a. Personal Care Skills
   b. Vital Signs
   c. Recognizing and Reporting Abnormal Changes
   d. Admission Transfer/Discharge
   e. Basic Restorative Services

3) Alzheimer and Dementia Training
   a. Terminology
   b. Signs of disease progression
   c. Care at specific stages
   d. Principles of nutrition and hydration
   e. Common behaviors and interventions

Forms of Assessment

1) Observation with instructor evaluation in lab setting
2) Observation with instructor evaluation in clinical setting
3) Unit exams
4) Comprehensive final exam