Medical Assistant

Overview

Medical assistants perform routine administrative and clinical tasks to keep the offices and clinics of physicians, podiatrists, chiropractors, and optometrists running smoothly.

For more information on how to become a medical assistant (http://www.aama-ntl.org/becomeCMA/how.aspx), see the American Association of Medical Assistants Website. The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (http://www.caahep.org/Find_An_Accredited_Program.aspx) website includes a database of accredited programs by state. Select “Medical Assistant” from the Profession Name dropdown list.

Working Conditions

Medical assistants work in well-lighted, clean environments. They constantly interact with other people, and may have to handle several responsibilities at once.

Academic Requirements

Most employers prefer graduates of formal programs in medical assisting. Such programs are offered in vocational-technical high schools, postsecondary vocational schools, community and junior colleges, and in colleges and universities. Postsecondary programs usually last either 1 year, resulting in a certificate or diploma, or 2 years, resulting in an associate degree.

Professional Associations

American Association of Medical Assistants (http://www.aama-ntl.org/about/what_is_a_cma.aspx)
American Medical Association (http://www.ama-assn.org/)

Funding Opportunities

Search for funding opportunities in this field (http://www.explorehealthcareers.org)

Enrichment Programs

Search for enrichment programs in this field (http://www.explorehealthcareers.org)

Source

www.aama-ntl.org

Learn more about this field:

Allied Health Professions (http://www.explorehealthcareers.org/en/Field.1.aspx)

Salary: $21,620 - $24,460
Years in school: 1 - 2 *
Job outlook: Excellent

* after high school graduation