

Collin College Dual Credit Program

Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) & Patient Care Technician (PCT) Information Sheet

Frisco ISD

CNA Overview

The **Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) Program** prepares students for a rewarding career in healthcare by providing essential skills and hands-on training. Upon completion, students will be eligible to take the Texas CNA certification exam, opening doors to job opportunities in hospitals, nursing homes, and other healthcare facilities.

Skills & Responsibilities

CNA students will learn to:

- ✓ Document and complete forms accurately
- ✓ Assist residents with personal hygiene and daily living activities
- ✓ Monitor vital signs and record intake/output information
- ✓ Properly lift, position, and transport residents
- ✓ Maintain a clean and safe environment
- ✓ Communicate effectively with residents, families, and healthcare teams
- ✓ Follow directions and demonstrate ethical, professional behavior

Coursework & Certification

Students must successfully complete the following courses:

- **NURA 1401** – 1st 8-week session (Fall Semester) - 4 credits
- **NURA 1160** – 2nd 8-week session (Fall Semester) - 1 credit

Upon completion, students can sit for the **Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) exam**, administered by **Prometric** and regulated by the **State of Texas Health and Human Services**.

PCT Overview

The **Patient Care Technician (PCT)** program is designed to prepare students with the knowledge and hands-on skills needed to provide direct patient care in a variety of healthcare settings. Students receive training in basic nursing skills, EKG monitoring, phlebotomy, vital signs, and infection control. Emphasizing compassionate, safe, and effective care, the program combines classroom instruction with clinical experiences to ensure students are ready for the workforce. Upon completion, students will be eligible to take the PCT certification exam through the National Healthcareer Association (NHA).

Skills & Responsibilities

PCT students will learn to:

- ✓ Accurately measure and document vital signs
- ✓ Draw blood samples for lab testing with proper technique and infection control
- ✓ Perform and interpret basic EKGs to monitor heart activity
- ✓ Assist patients with moving, turning, walking, and transferring safely
- ✓ Provide personal hygiene care, including bathing, grooming, toileting, and feeding.
- ✓ Practice proper hand hygiene and maintain a clean environment to prevent the spread of infection.
- ✓ Interact professionally and empathetically with patients, families, and team members.

Coursework & Certification

Students must successfully complete the following courses:

- **DSAE 1340** – 1st 8-week session (Fall Semester) – 3 credits
- **PLAB 1260** – 2nd 8-week session (Fall Semester) - 2 credits
- **NUPC 1320** – 16 weeks (Spring Semester) – 3 credits
- **NUPC 1160** – 16 weeks (Spring Semester) – 1 credit

Upon completion, students can sit for the **Patient Care Technician (PCT) certification exam**, administered by **National Healthcareers Association (NHA)**.

Program Costs

All Independent School Districts vary in their funding of these programs. Please contact your school district to determine if any costs are covered by the ISD. For more information regarding cost refer to the Dual Credit Website:
<https://www.collin.edu/express/dualcredit/>

Grading Policy

To remain in the program, students must maintain a **C (74.5%) or higher** in all courses.

| Letter Grade | Numeric Range |
|--------------|---------------|
| A | 90 – 100% |
| B | 80 – 89% |
| C | 74.5 – 79% |
| F | Below 74.5% |

Students must pass all **didactic, lab, and clinical components** to progress in the program.

Clinical Eligibility Requirements

To participate in clinical rotations, students must:

- ✓ Successfully complete all coursework with a **C (74.5%) or higher**
- ✓ Complete required **immunizations**
- ✓ Maintain **current BLS (CPR) certification** from the American Heart Association
- ✓ Provide proof of **health insurance**
- ✓ Pass a **background check** and **drug screen**
- ✓ Meet all **clinical competency requirements**

Attendance Policy

✓ Punctuality is required - tardiness impacts professionalism grade





Students enrolled in the Certified Nurse Aide, Patient Care Technician, and Phlebotomy Technician programs are required to attend scheduled lab, didactic, and clinical hours to fulfill the strict hour requirements set by the licensing organization. Attendance is critical to ensure students meet the necessary training standards for certification.

Consequences of Insufficient Attendance

Failure to meet the required hours as designated by the licensing body may result in one of the following:


- Withdrawal from the course (if the absence occurs before the official withdrawal deadline)
- Failure of the course due to unmet hour requirements
- Ineligibility to sit for the certification exam

Student Dress Code

-   Students must wear **approved medical scrubs** (clean and wrinkle-free)
-  **Collin College name badge** must be worn at all times
-  Clinical sites may require additional **photo ID badges**

Immunization Records – Due by July 31, 2025

All students must provide **official documentation** proving completion of required immunizations before participating in clinical rotations.

 **Per Title 25, Texas Administrative Code §97.64, exemptions for the Texas minimum vaccine requirements will NOT be accepted** for students enrolled in higher education health-related programs.

Required Immunizations

✓ **Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis (TDaP):** One (1) dose within the last **10 years** (must remain valid throughout the clinical course).

✓ **MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella):** Two (2) doses are required, or **positive quantitative blood titer results** for Measles, Mumps, and Rubella verifying immunity.

✓ **Hepatitis B:** Three (3) doses are required, or a **positive blood titer result** verifying immunity.

✓ **Varicella (Chickenpox):** Two (2) doses are required, or a **positive quantitative blood titer result** verifying immunity. **Medical history of chickenpox is NOT accepted.**

✓ **Annual Tuberculosis (TB) Test:** One of the following must be submitted: Negative Quantiferon-TB Gold blood test, negative T-Spot blood test, OR, negative PPD TB skin test. A follow-up **chest X-ray will be required IF** any of the test results are positive. **Must remain valid throughout clinical rotations.** (Please do not complete this test prior to 5/31/25)

✓ **Annual Influenza (Flu) Vaccine:** Required and **must be submitted by October 1st** each year.

⚠ **Failure to complete immunization requirements by the deadline of October 1, 2025, may result in not being able to attend the clinical rotation of the program and the student will not be able to obtain their designated certification.**

Students: Please continue to check your collin.edu email over the summer for important information, including:

- An invitation to the Dual Credit Boot Camp
- Instructions for purchasing and uploading your vaccine records to Complio (vaccine tracker)
- American Heart Assoc. Basic Life Support-BLS CPR course registration details

For more information, contact the **Health Professions department** at Collin College.
HealthProfessions@collin.edu