

# **Health Professions Readiness Awards Patient Care Technician Level I Certificate**

**Revised for 2025-2026**

Dallas College and the School of Health Sciences offer two levels of Health Professions Readiness Awards (HPRA) at the El Centro campus. The awards are designed to promote student success in the allied health program of their choice, prepare students for application to multiple allied health programs, and completion of the awards also results in the acquisition of demonstrable workforce skills for graduates of the award programs.

Please see the individual Allied Health [information packets](https://www.dcccd.edu/health-packets-sessions) for complete application guidelines including Health Professions Readiness Award I and II documentation and any additional entry requirement courses, additional assessment testing, etc.

After successful completion of HPRA I and II, students may then pursue the Patient Care Technician Certificate by enrolling in two additional courses: HPRS 1201 and HPRS 1191. The six courses of the HPRA I and II, HPRS 1201 and HPRS 1191 will complete the Patient Care Technician curriculum. The HPRS 1191 course is only offered in fall and spring semesters. Students interested in obtaining the Health Professions Readiness Awards I and II and the Patient Care Technician Certificate should indicate the Patient Care Technician Certificate (**C1.VN.PAT.CARE.TECH)** degree code as their program of study.

This information packet contains specific guidelines and requirements for receiving the Health Professions Readiness Awards I and II and the Patient Care Technician Certificate.

## Equal Educational Opportunity

Educational opportunities are offered by Dallas College without regard to race, color,

age, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or sexual orientation.

For questions regarding accessibility of this document ONLY, please email dgriffin@dallascollege.edu.

##  Health Professions Readiness Award I

The Health Professions Readiness Award I is comprised of a block of three HPRS courses for a total of six (6) credit hours. All courses are offered online except HPRS 1204.

The Health Professions Readiness Award I is awarded to students who complete the following courses with a minimum grade of “C” or higher.

 HPRS 1202 – Wellness and Health Promotion

 HPRS 1204 – Basic Health Professions Skills I

 HPRS 2231 – General Health Professions Management \*

\* HPRS 2231 – General Health Professions Management is the capstone experience for the Health Professions Readiness Award I.

Upon completion of the three courses of the Health Professions Readiness Award I, the student must submit the [Award Completion Application](https://apps.powerapps.com/play/e/default-d67e5453-732f-4adc-94a4-4888f2d97d5d/a/ad925189-7a64-4b0b-8b61-0e7d468309a2?tenantId=d67e5453-732f-4adc-94a4-4888f2d97d5d&source=portal&screenColor=RGBA%280%2c176%2c240%2c1%29&skipAppMetadata=true) form.

## Health Professions Readiness Award II

The Health Professions Readiness Award II is comprised of a block of three HPRS courses for a total of seven (7) credit hours. All courses are offered online except HPRS 2210.

The Health Professions Readiness Award II is awarded to students completing the following courses with a minimum grade of “C” or higher:

 HPRS 2201 – Pathophysiology

 HPRS 2210 – Basic Health Professions Skills II \*

 HPRS 2300 – Pharmacology for the Health Professions

\* HPRS 1204 – Basic Health Professions Skills I is the prerequisite for HPRS 2210.

Upon completion of the three courses for each of the Health Professions Readiness Awards, the student must submit that specific [Award Completion Application form](https://apps.powerapps.com/play/e/default-d67e5453-732f-4adc-94a4-4888f2d97d5d/a/ad925189-7a64-4b0b-8b61-0e7d468309a2?tenantId=d67e5453-732f-4adc-94a4-4888f2d97d5d&source=portal&screenColor=RGBA%280%2c176%2c240%2c1%29&skipAppMetadata=true), for the award to be posted on their transcript.

After completing the Health Professions Readiness Award II, students should complete the [HPRS 1191 Capstone Course Enrollment Request form](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=U1R-1i9z3EqUpEiI8tl9XR-JTZXG4gtGtI5xwkPieuFUNU1USzlXRkhGOVpYTFNaTklKT0dIWFlJQiQlQCNjPTEkJUAjdD1n&wdLOR=c2719B7C1-8507-40EB-BFF3-8AC058A1A5A9) if they wish to pursue the final course (HPRS 1191, offered in-person only) to complete the Patient Care Technician Certificate.

## Patient Care Technician Level I Certificate

Patient Care Technicians (PCT’s) are employed in various healthcare environments such as hospitals, clinics, and long-term care facilities. Under the supervision of nursing staff and other medical personnel, PCT’s provide direct patient care such as head-to-toe assessments and documentation; EKG’s and identifying basic arrhythmias; venipuncture, IV starts and management; administering medication; vital signs, and basic first aid skills.

After completing the six “HPRS” courses for the HPRA I and II certificates, students enroll in and complete two additional courses to fulfill the requirements for the Patient Care Technician (PCT) Level I Certificate. The successful completion of these eight courses will prepare the student to sit for the National Certified Patient Care Technician/Assistant exam for the CPCT/A credential from the National Health career Association (NHA) which is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies. The exam is administered at the conclusion of the HPRS 1191 capstone course.

Please note that the CPCT/A credential is not required to apply to a Dallas College health science program.

The curriculum of the Patient Care Technician Level I Certificate is found below.

**Patient Care Technician Level I Certificate**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Patient Care Technician Level 1 | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Ext Hrs | Contact Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| HPRS 1201 Introduction to Health Professions # |  2 | 1 | 0 | 48 |  2 |
| HPRS 1202 Wellness and Health Promotion \* |  2 | 0 | 0 | 32 |  2 |
| HPRS 1204 Basic Health Professions Skills I \*+ |  1 | 3 | 0 | 64 |  2 |
| HPRS 2231 General Health Professions Management \* |  1 | 2 | 0 | 48 |  2 |
| HPRS 2201 Pathophysiology \*\* |  2 | 1 | 0 | 48 |  2 |
| HPRS 2210 Basic Health Professions Skills II \*\* |  1 | 3 | 0 | 64 |  2 |
| HPRS 2300 Pharmacology for Health Professions \*\* |  3 | 0 | 0 | 48 |  3 |
| HPRS 1191 Special Topics in Patient Care Assistant/Aide # |  1 | 1 | 0 | 32 |  1 |
| Total Semester I Credit Hours | 13 | 11 | 0 | 384 | 16 |

*\* Health Professions Readiness Award I*

*+ HPRS 1204 – Basic Health Professions Skills I is the prerequisite for HPRS 2210.*

*\*\* Health Professions Readiness Award II*

*# HPRS 1191 Special Topics in Patient Care Assistant/Aide is the capstone experience for this award.* ***Enrollment in HPRS 1191 is by special permission only and is offered in the fall and spring semesters.*** *HPRS 1201 can be completed with other HPRS courses, separately, or with HPRS 1191.*

## General Information

1. The HPRS courses are offered throughout the academic year. Students are not required to enroll in all courses during the same semester but may enroll in one or two at a time. HPRS 1191 is offered only in the fall and spring semesters.
2. The HPRA I and II awards are processed at the end of an official graduation semester in May, December, and August. Completion of the PCT program is processed only in May and December.
3. Students must have submitted all current official transcripts (other than Dallas Colleges) electronically to studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu or mailed directly in an unopened, sealed envelope to Admissions - Eastfield campus, 3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150. The official transcripts must have a print date of less than three years prior to enrollment to be valid. Failure to submit official transcripts will void a Completion Application for the Health Professions Readiness Certificates I and II, and the Patient Care Technician and selected Allied Health Associate Degree programs.
4. The successful completion of both Health Professions Readiness Awards does not guarantee that students will be accepted to a Health Science program.
5. RNSG 1301 – Pharmacology and RNSG 1311 – Pathophysiology are acceptable substitutions for HPRS 2300 – Pharmacology for Health Professions and HPRS 2201 – Pathophysiology, respectively.
6. Dallas College students who are enrolled in 6 credit hours or more during a fall or spring semester and 3 credit hours or more during a summer semester are entitled to a free [DART Go-Pass](https://www.dcccd.edu/resources/dart-gopass/pages/default.aspx) for that semester. DART passes are available two weeks after the semester begins.
7. Individuals who were first-time college freshman students in Fall 2007 or after are subject to the guidelines of section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code which prohibits a student from dropping more than six (6) college level credit courses during their entire undergraduate career. See [Six Drop Rule](https://econnect.dcccd.edu/DroppingFacts.jsp) for more information.
8. Dallas College charges a higher tuition rate for courses in which a student registers for the third or more times. The [Third Attempt Policy](https://www.dcccd.edu/paying-for-college/cost-tuition/third-course-attempt/pages/default.aspx?utm_source=shortcut+url&utm_medium=redirect&utm_campaign=financial+aid&utm_term=thirdcourseattempt) includes courses taken at any of the Dallas College campuses since the Fall 2002 semester. Developmental courses are not considered in this policy.
9. Financial Aid: Students should apply for [financial aid](https://www.dcccd.edu/paying-for-college/financial-aid/pages/default.aspx) well in advance of program application.
10. Please contact the individuals below for assistance (physical addresses):

Success Coach Office-

El Centro Campus, Room A-110

 801 Main Street

 Dallas, TX 75202-3604

Email: successcoach@dallascollege.edu

Telephone: 214-860-2083

 Allied Health Admissions Office

 El Centro campus/Downtown Health Sciences Center

 301 North Market Street

Dallas, TX 75202

 Email: AlliedHealthAdmissions@dallascollege.edu

 Telephone: 214-860-2415

**Official transcripts should be mailed to:**

 Admissions – Eastfield campus

3737 Motley Drive

Mesquite, TX 75150**Electronic transcripts must be sent directly to:**

 studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu

**Program information packets are revised June 1st of each year and other times as needed when program guidelines are subject to change. Students are responsible for ensuring they have the latest program information packet available at that time from the website below:**

[**Allied Health Information Packets**](https://www.dcccd.edu/health-packets-sessions)

**Visit the** [**Health Professions Readiness Awards/Patient Care Technician**](https://www.dcccd.edu/cd/credit/health-professions/pages/default.aspx) **webpage.**

## Estimated Expenses for the HPRA Award

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County Texas Resident | Out of State/Country Resident |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Health Professions Readiness Award I** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  Tuition/Textbooks (6 credit hours) \* | $ 594.00 | $ 1,014.00 | $ 1,500.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Health Professions** **Readiness Award II** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  Tuition/Textbooks (7 credit hours) | $ 693.00 | $ 1,183.00 | $ 1,750.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Patient Care Technician** **(in addition to HPRA I & II totals above)** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  Tuition/Textbooks (3 credit hours) \*\* | $ 297.00 | $ 507.00 | $ 750.00 |
|  CPCT/A exam \*\*\*  |  155.00 |  155.00 |  155.00 |
|  Total | $ 452.00 | $ 662.00 | $ 905.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Grand Total for PCT Program** | $ 1,739.00 | $ 2,859.00 | $ 4,155.00 |

\* Tuition now includes textbook costs. These and other fees are subject to change. See official catalog for tuition table. A [Tuition Payment Plan](https://www.dcccd.edu/paying-for-college/payments/pages/payment-plans.aspx) option is available in fall and spring semesters.

\*\* Tuition and credit hours for HPRS 1201 and HPRS 1191 if taken concurrently. HPRS 1201 may be taken with other HPRS courses prior to HPRS 1191.

\*\*\* CPCT/A exam is after completion of the PCT program. This fee is not paid to Dallas College. For those students who participate in the IncludEd program, the study guide, practice test, and certification exam cost are included in the tuition.

Other costs to consider: Transportation and Parking Fees to the El Centro campus.

## Health Professions Readiness Award Checklist

This checklist is provided to assist you in following the steps toward completing the Health Professions Readiness Awards and the Patient Care Technician Certificate.

### Health Professions Readiness Award I

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Review the [Health Professions Readiness Award/Patient Care Technician information packet.](https://www.dcccd.edu/health-packets-sessions)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete an application for college admission if you are not currently enrolled at a Dallas College campus.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Submit official transcripts from all previously attended colleges and universities electronically to studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu or to Admissions – Eastfield campus, 3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150. Print dates of transcripts must be within the last three years to be valid.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Enroll in and complete the following courses with a minimum grade of “C” or higher:

\_\_\_\_\_ HPRS 1202 \_\_\_\_\_ HPRS 1204 \_\_\_\_\_ HPRS 2231

1. \_\_\_\_\_ ***After successfully completing the above three courses*** with a grade of “C” or higher in each, complete the [Award Completion form](https://apps.powerapps.com/play/e/default-d67e5453-732f-4adc-94a4-4888f2d97d5d/a/ad925189-7a64-4b0b-8b61-0e7d468309a2?tenantId=d67e5453-732f-4adc-94a4-4888f2d97d5d&source=portal&screenColor=RGBA%280%2c176%2c240%2c1%29&skipAppMetadata=true) for HPRA I.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ The Health Professions Readiness Award I is awarded at the end of the regular semester.

### Health Professions Readiness Award II

1. \_\_\_\_\_ After successfully completing the Health Professions Readiness Award I, enroll in and complete the following courses with a minimum grade of “C” or higher;

 \_\_\_\_\_ HPRS 2201 \_\_\_\_\_ HPRS 2210 \_\_\_\_\_ HPRS 2300

1. \_\_\_\_\_ ***After successfully completing the above three courses*** with a minimum grade of “C” or higher

in each, complete the [Award Completion form](https://apps.powerapps.com/play/e/default-d67e5453-732f-4adc-94a4-4888f2d97d5d/a/ad925189-7a64-4b0b-8b61-0e7d468309a2?tenantId=d67e5453-732f-4adc-94a4-4888f2d97d5d&source=portal&screenColor=RGBA%280%2c176%2c240%2c1%29&skipAppMetadata=true) for HPRA II.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ The Health Professions Readiness Award II is awarded at the end of the regular semester.

### Patient Care Technician Certificate

1. ­\_\_\_\_\_ ***After successfully completing the six courses in HPRA I and HPRA II, and the additional***

***courses HPRS 1201 and HPRS 1191*** with a minimum grade of “C” or higher in each course, complete an [Award Completion form](https://apps.powerapps.com/play/e/default-d67e5453-732f-4adc-94a4-4888f2d97d5d/a/ad925189-7a64-4b0b-8b61-0e7d468309a2?tenantId=d67e5453-732f-4adc-94a4-4888f2d97d5d&source=portal&screenColor=RGBA%280%2c176%2c240%2c1%29&skipAppMetadata=true). PCT certificates of completion are processed during standard graduation processing in May and December each year.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ After completing the Health Professions Readiness Awards I and II, complete the following [HPRS 1191 Capstone Course Enrollment Request form](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=U1R-1i9z3EqUpEiI8tl9XR-JTZXG4gtGtI5xwkPieuFUNU1USzlXRkhGOVpYTFNaTklKT0dIWFlJQiQlQCNjPTEkJUAjdD1n&wdLOR=c2719B7C1-8507-40EB-BFF3-8AC058A1A5A9) for permission to enroll in and complete HPRS 1191 with a minimum grade of “C” or higher.

 **HPRS 1191 Capstone Enrollment**

After successfully completing both HPRA I and II awards, students may then pursue the Patient Care Technician Certificate. Ideally, the student interested in being enrolled into HPRS 1191 should request enrollment as soon as the last semester ends for which they completed the last of the 6 HRPS courses.

To enroll in HPRS 1191, complete the following [HPRS 1191 Capstone Course Enrollment Request form](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=U1R-1i9z3EqUpEiI8tl9XR-JTZXG4gtGtI5xwkPieuFUNU1USzlXRkhGOVpYTFNaTklKT0dIWFlJQiQlQCNjPTEkJUAjdD1n&wdLOR=c2719B7C1-8507-40EB-BFF3-8AC058A1A5A9), as this course is restricted and requires departmental approval.

