

# Polysomnography Certificate 2012\*



\*Subject to change; for additional information, see [www.cvcc.edu/health\\_services](http://www.cvcc.edu/health_services)

# A word about criminal background checks for health programs...

SOME FACILITIES WILL REQUIRE STUDENTS TO UNDERGO CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS AND/OR DRUG TESTING; STUDENTS MAY BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THESE SCREENINGS.

CLINICAL FACILITIES MAY REFUSE ACCESS TO CLINICAL EXPERIENCES BASED ON THE CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS AND/OR DRUG TESTING, WHICH WOULD RESULT IN THE STUDENT BEING UNABLE TO CONTINUE IN THE PROGRAM.

**CATAWBA VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**Polysomnography Certificate - Fall Semester 2012**  
**(Admission criteria outlined in this packet are subject to change.)**

We are glad you have chosen CVCC to further your educational goals. This packet provides information to assist you with the admissions process for the Polysomnography Certificate program. Please **carefully review all information** provided in this packet. If you have questions regarding any of the information provided, please contact Sarah Hoffman, Department Head for Polysomnography, at [shoffman@cvcc.edu](mailto:shoffman@cvcc.edu), or contact Caroline Farmer, Director of Health Services Admissions, at [cfarmer@cvcc.edu](mailto:cfarmer@cvcc.edu).

**General Information**

**What is a polysomnographic technologist?** Polysomnographic technologists prepare patients for procedures, obtain medical histories, and perform diagnostic sleep studies. They develop a good rapport with their patients and comfort them and treat problems encountered during the recording procedure, which can last 8 hours for an overnight sleep study. They act as eyes and ears for specially trained doctors who later review and interpret the data. Considerable individual initiative, reasoning skill, and sound judgment are expected of the polysomnographic technologist.

**What employment opportunities are available?** Polysomnographic technologists can work in hospitals, sleep labs, home settings, or physician's offices. Entry level salaries average around \$35,000 per year, working 3 nights per week, ranging up to around \$45,000 with one year experience and earned credentials. Most positions are evening only and involve working alone/independently overnight with patients.

**What is the class schedule/length for the Polysomnography Certificate Program?** Polysomnography classes will be held during the day. Students are expected to participate in classroom, laboratory, and clinical experiences\*. Clinical experiences will be held at night. The program consists of two semesters. Graduates of the Polysomnography Certificate program are eligible to apply to take the registry exam offered by the Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologists (BRPT).

**\*Criminal Background Check:** Some clinical facilities will require students to undergo criminal background checks and/or drug testing. Clinical facilities may refuse access to clinical experiences based on the results of the criminal background checks and/or drug testing, which could result in the student being unable to continue in the Polysomnography Certificate program.

**Admission:** The program begins in the Summer Second Session. Admission to the program is based upon completion of all minimum requirements, as listed on the attached "Minimum Requirements" sheet, the date of application, the date admission requirements are completed, and the number of vacancies in the program. To begin the admission process, complete the CVCC Application for Admission and return it to the College.

**Costs:** College tuition is set by the North Carolina State Legislature and is subject to change. The approximate cost for the program is \$1,600.00. (This figure is based upon in-state tuition rates and is an approximate cost only.) Please see the enclosed cost sheet for additional information. Fees are subject to change.

**Financial Aid:** All applicants are encouraged to apply for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For information about financial aid, contact the Financial Aid Office at 828-327-7000.

**Computer Access:** Coursework requires ready access to a reliable computer with Word, PowerPoint and Excel. Upon application to CVCC, students are assigned a CVCC email address. **It is the responsibility of the student to open their email account and read it frequently as the College provides crucial program information through this email account.** You may be notified via your CVCC email account concerning your status in the program.

# POLYSOMNOGRAPHY CERTIFICATE

## Minimum Requirements

*These minimum requirements must be met prior to being considered for the Polysomnography Certificate program*

**Applicants must complete ALL the following requirements by August 12, 2012, to be considered for admission for Fall Semester 2012.**

1. Applicants must complete the CVCC application for admission and the application must be received in Student Services. Applications completed on-line will **NOT** be processed until applicant comes in and meets with a Student Services counselor **prior** to the deadline stated above.
2. Applicants must provide official transcripts from all previously attended colleges. **To be considered official, transcripts must be received by the College in a sealed envelope or they will not be accepted.** Grades less than C are not transferable. Transcripts will not be evaluated for transfer credit until all transcripts are received in Student Records.
3. **Applicants who do not meet testing exemptions must take the required Math placement tests.** Applicants must either place out of or take the following courses to be considered for the Polysomnography program: MAT 050, 060, 070.
4. Applicants must complete or have completed a course in Anatomy & Physiology with a minimum grade of "C" on each course. (official transcript must be provided for any courses completed at another college)
5. Applicants, who have taken coursework at CVCC or are currently enrolled in coursework at CVCC must have a minimum cumulative (overall) grade point average of 2.00 on all CVCC coursework.
6. Applicants must provide proof of current BCLS certification.
7. Applicants must hold an earned degree\* (A.A.S or higher) in one of the following areas:

Associate Degree Nursing	Cardiovascular Sonography	Emergency Medical Science	Cardiovascular Technology
Electroneurodiagnostic Tech	Medical Laboratory Tech.	Medical Sonography	Medical Assisting Technology
Nuclear Medicine Tech.	Occupational Therapy Assistant	Physical Therapy Assistant	Interventional Cardiac
Radiation Therapy	Radiography	Respiratory Therapy	&Vascular Technology

\*(official transcript must be provided for any degree completed at another college)

**Completion of the admission requirements is not a guarantee of acceptance.** Admission is based on completion of all minimum requirements by the deadline date. **Applicants meeting minimum admission requirements will be conditionally accepted into the program until the class fills or until the deadline date, whichever comes first. CVCC expects to accept 10 students.** (Students who will graduate Spring 2012 with one of the above A.A.S. degrees are eligible for consideration for admission into the 2012 Polysomnography certificate program.)

Applicants who complete all minimum admission requirements by the deadline date, and who are conditionally accepted into the program will be required to successfully complete an advance placement exam (minimum grade of 86) for PSG 189 – Polysomnography Transition. Those applicants who do not meet the minimum score will be required to successfully complete PSG 189 during the summer semester. (Minimum grade of "C")

**AFTER initial acceptance, applicants are required to:**

- (1) Attend a mandatory orientation session with the Polysomnography Dept. Head/Instructor
- (2) Submit a completed health examination form certifying that he/she appears to be able to participate in the activities of a health profession in a clinical setting

**Applicants not admitted for Fall 2012 must see a counselor in Student Services to re-apply if they wish to be considered for the next fall class. CVCC does NOT use waiting lists for any allied health program. Health program applicants must re-apply for each year they wish to be considered for admission.**

## **POLYSOMNOGRAPHY — Certificate Course Requirements**

**PSG 189                      Polysomnography Transition                      1    3    3    3**

This course introduces the basic fundamentals for polysomnography. Emphasis is placed on cardiopulmonary assessment and monitoring, medical gas therapy, principles of case management, wellness promotion, recordkeeping, reimbursement, and exposure to the clinical setting. Upon completion, students should be prepared to apply the above concepts to the field of polysomnography.  
Prerequisites: None            Corequisites: None

**PSG 210                      Polysomnography I    3    2    9    7**

This course provides entry-level didactic, laboratory, and clinical training in polysomnography. Emphasis is placed on medical terminology, instrumentation setup and calibration, recording and monitoring techniques, and patient-technologist interactions. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate competence in concepts and procedures through written, laboratory and clinical evaluations.  
Prerequisites: PSG 111 or PSG 189            Corequisites: None

**PSG 211                      Polysomnography II    2    6    9    7**

This course provides advanced-level didactic, laboratory, and clinical training in polysomnography. Emphasis is placed on the knowledge and skills necessary to obtain and evaluate high quality sleep recordings. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate competence in concepts and procedures through written, laboratory and clinical evaluations.  
Prerequisites: PSG 210            Corequisites: None

## Polysomnography Certificate Technical Standards

The following activities are examples of the kind of activities which a student in the Polysomnography program will be required to perform in order to successfully complete the program.

1. **Critical Thinking:** The PSG student should possess critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment. For example: student must be able to identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations.
2. **Interpersonal Skills:** The PSG student shall possess interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, groups, etc. from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds. For example: student shall establish rapport with clients/patients and health care team members.
3. **Communication Skills:** The PSG student shall possess communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form. For example: explain procedures, document and interpret technical actions and patient/client responses.
4. **Mobility:** The PSG student shall possess physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces, stand and walk for extensive periods of time. For example: moves around in patient's rooms, work spaces and treatment areas, administer cardiopulmonary procedures.
5. **Motor Skills:** The PSG student shall possess gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective care. For example: calibrate and use equipment, position patients/clients.
6. **Hearing:** The PSG student shall possess auditory ability, sufficient to monitor and assess health needs. For example: hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, cries for help.
7. **Visual:** The PSG student shall possess visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in care. For example: observe patient/client responses, see calibration of equipment, assess patient.
8. **Tactile:** The PSG student shall possess tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment. For example: perform palpation, application of electrodes.
9. **Weight-Bearing:** The PSG student shall possess ability to lift and manipulate/move 45-50 pounds, weekly and sometimes daily. For example: position patients/clients, move equipment.
10. **Cognitive Abilities:** The PSG student shall possess ability to be oriented to time, place and person and organize responsibilities, make decisions. For example: student shall assess client/patient complaints and implement appropriate plans.
11. **Occupational Exposures:** The allied health/PSG student may be exposed to communicable diseases and/or body fluids, toxic substances, medical preparations and latex. Students shall use appropriate precautions at all times. For example: student may be assigned a client/patient with a communicable disease and shall provide total care using universal precautions.

**Please note: Examples are not all inclusive.**

**Polysomnography – Certificate**  
**Additional Program Costs**  
(Fees are subject to change)

**General Fees**

Malpractice Insurance

**Estimated Cost**

\$27.50 per year – payable each Fall Semester

**Required Uniform\***

Scrub Top

**Estimated Cost**

\$27.50

Scrub Pant

\$21.75

Vinyl or Leather Shoes

\$50.00 - \$60.00

**\* Each student will need to purchase 2 complete sets of scrubs at the beginning of the program.**

**Other Required Items**

Lab Coat

**Estimated Cost**

\$25.00

Watch with second hand

\$20.00

Measuring Tape (w/mm)

\$ 5.00

Grease Pencils

\$ .99 each – approximate

**Other Costs**

Hepatitis Vaccine

**Estimated Cost**

\$102.00

Physical Exam

\$165.00

APT Review Course

\$300.00

Travel to clinical sites

Will vary according to location

(Students may be traveling to Charlotte,

Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Boone, Asheville, Statesville, Lenoir etc. **daily** for Clinical Experience.)

Criminal Background Check/Drug Screening

Approximately @85.00

**Please Note: These cost estimates are in addition to the costs that any student attending CVCC will incur each semester, such as tuition, activity fees, accident insurance, books and class supplies such as pens, paper, etc. Students applying for graduation will also pay graduation fees. Estimates for these costs may be found in the CVCC general catalog.**