

# PATIENT CARE TECHNICIAN

## Program Description

The PCT program is a short-term career training followed by clinical practice. The curriculum combines face-to-face lectures, hands-on skill labs and independent online activities. The labs feature the Basic Life Support course for health care providers through the American Heart Association.

By completing this program, you'll learn the skills to collaborate with nurses, physicians and other health care professionals to deliver quality care. You'll be equipped to perform a variety of essential tasks, including:

- Ensuring patients' comfort, hygiene and dietary needs are met.
- Monitoring and recording temperatures and vital signs.
- Maintaining cleanliness in patient rooms and beds.
- Assisting patients with mobility.
- Promptly reporting any changes in patients' conditions or behaviors to the attending nurses or physicians.

This training program satisfies the requirement of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for unlicensed assistive personnel (UAP) in Missouri hospitals. Graduates are eligible to challenge the certified nursing assistant (CNA) exam when working as a UAP.

## Program Schedule

The PCT program is 9-11 weeks in length. Students should be available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Clinical practice hours will include 12-hour shifts at a partnering hospital location. Please see below for more details.

- **Classroom Instruction (5-7 weeks):** Mondays through Fridays. Classroom instruction from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at an STLCC campus followed by 3 hours of independent online activities. Skill labs take place one day per week from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at an STLCC campus.
- **Clinical Practice (3-4 weeks):** Three 12-hour shifts weekly at a clinical partner location as assigned. May involve weekends.

## Program Location

- STLCC-Forest Park
- Florissant Valley
- William J. Harrison Education Center

## Admission Requirements

Enrollment for the PCT program is selective. Candidates must apply directly with the employer partner and meet all eligibility requirements to be considered

### Before you apply you must:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent
- Meet the transfer eligibility requirements if currently employed with the employer partner

### To Apply:

This earn-as-you-learn program is delivered in collaboration with BJC HealthCare or SSM Health. You must apply directly with the employer partner and meet the eligibility requirements to be considered.

### To get started:

1. Apply with BJC HealthCare or SSM Health during an open application period.
2. Qualified applicants will complete a screening interview with the employer partner.
3. Updates are provided via email or phone, or sign into the employer's career portal to check your application status.
4. If selected to move forward, the employer partner will provide instructions to complete remaining eligibility steps.

### After you apply you will be required to:

- Demonstrate academic and career readiness
- Complete a screening interview with the employer partner
- Complete the STLCC training application
- Complete a full interview and be selected by the employer partner
- Pass a criminal background check, drug screen panel, and physical exam with proof of immunizations or titers

## Technology Requirements

This is a hybrid training program. To participate, you will need:

- A computer with an external keyboard
- Reliable internet access.
- The ability to operate a computer and work with files
- The ability to navigate the internet and use online applications.

## Program Cost

Funding is available for individuals selected for the program. Funding may require a 1-2 year employment commitment to the clinical partner.

## Financial Aid Eligibility

This program is not Federal Financial Aid/Pell Eligible.

## Interested in this program?

Start the enrollment process by visiting the Patient Care Technician (<https://stlcc.edu/programs-academics/pathways/health-professions/patient-care-technician/>) page.