

FAQ



Medical Assistant Apprenticeship Program (MAAP)

1) So, how does this work?

The MAAP is considered on the job training. If you join us, you'll be a full time employee of CHAS Health. The program includes 12 months of training followed by a 2-year employment commitment with CHAS Health, but we would love it if you stayed longer! 2,000 hours of paid training is supplemented off line by 364 hours of schoolwork and three lab days on a Saturday. This supplemental training is unpaid and online – so you will need access to a computer or tablet with Wi-Fi.

2) Paid? How much?

The current starting wage for the MAAP program is \$15.67. At 6 months, there may be a bump in pay for apprentices meeting expectations, and once you've passed your certification test, your wage will be increased to the starting wage for Medical Assistant – Certified (currently \$18.73). As a full time employee, you will also be eligible for all CHAS Health benefits including medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401k, paid time off and more!

3) Wait? Certified?

The last part of this program is passing the Certified Clinical Medical Assistant exam to become a CCMA. This will be scheduled in a group setting after all required hours and coursework have been completed. Once you have passed this exam, you will apply for certification through the Department of Health. The testing fees for one attempt of certification are included in the tuition CHAS pays. Any apprentice that does not pass the test will be responsible for additional fees for new attempts. But don't worry, we have never had an apprentice fail.

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4) How much does the program cost?

All costs of tuition are covered by CHAS Health! Because of this investment, if you leave during your 3-year commitment, the \$3,750 tuition fee is immediately due for repayment to CHAS.

5) Where will I work?

Each apprentice will be assigned to a MA-C currently employed by CHAS for 1-on-1 training. Your coach will have been certified and working for at least two years and you will follow their schedule, spending at least 75% of your time together. In the final months of your program, you'll be placed in your final location based on clinic need. This could be the clinic you've been working in, or you could be moving to an entirely new clinic with a new schedule.

6) Where do I get my supplies?

The Washington Association for Community Health, our program sponsor, will supply all necessary educational materials, and CHAS provides each employee with a uniform allowance twice per year.

7) Why does CHAS offer this program?

There is a huge need for Medical Assistants - projected growth is 29% between 2016 and 2026. At CHAS, we know that support staff like Medical Assistants are the backbone of health care. By investing in you, we invest in our patients, our region, and our organization.