

OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS

Agenda Item 3.7     Lorain County Community College, Associate of Applied  
Science degree in Medical Assisting

**RESOLUTION**

BE IT RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Chancellor and with the concurrence of the Initiatives Committee of the Ohio Board of Regents that the following new degree program is approved:

Lorain County Community College, Associate of Applied Science degree in  
Medical Assisting

## **BACKGROUND**

### **LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Associate of Applied Science degree in Medical Assisting

As manufacturing jobs once a staple of employment within Lorain County and the Northeast region of the state have diminished, employment opportunities in the health care field have increased. Health care career opportunities have expanded to include positions in doctor's offices, outpatient clinics, ambulatory facilities and other health care settings. The Bureau of Labor Statistics in a recent report identified medical assistants as one of the 15 fastest-growing occupations and projected a 57% growth rate between 2000-2010.

The current 1-year certificate program offered at Lorain County Community College provides students with the education and training needed to obtain entry-level positions in a variety of health care settings. As the health care industry continues to advanced and change, opportunities for medical assistants with advanced knowledge and skills are needed in this growing industry.

The degree program will maintain the campuses' 1-year certificate program and will also allow interested students the opportunity to advance their education and learning to obtain more diverse and potentially higher paid positions in the medical assisting field. Students enrolling in this program have the opportunity to select an administrative focus track for employment in office management or a clinic focus track for employment as phlebotomists.

A survey conducted of medical offices in Lorain County indicated strong support for the adding the second year of related course work to obtain an associate degree. Many of the current students enrolled in the 1-year certificate program indicated an interest in pursuing their associate degree.

Graduates of the Medical Assisting program will find career opportunities as medical office personnel, insurance claims clerks, office managers, and others in physician and dental offices, outpatient clinics, hospitals, and in other health care related facilities.