

Health and Public Safety Division

Division Office: Health Professions Building Room 312, Clifton Campus

Division Phone Number: (513) 569-1670

The mission of the Health and Public Safety Division is to work collaboratively with its stakeholders to achieve excellence in allied health, nursing, public safety, and biology education that is accessible, student focused, and incorporates experiential learning.

The Health and Public Safety Division offers academically rigorous **associate's degree and certificate programs** that prepare students to earn professional credentials and seek employment in their chosen field of study immediately following graduation. These academic programs provide the theory and practice required for entry into a variety of nursing, allied health, and public safety careers.

The Health and Public Safety Division programs have accreditation or approval by national and state agencies when available, so graduates are qualified to sit for credentialing exams offered by certification or licensure organizations and agencies. Many programs have articulation agreements with bachelor's degree programs in the area to facilitate transfer of credits.

The **Biological Sciences department** offers a range of courses to meet the needs of health programs and to provide science requirements for students seeking the Associate of Science degree. When applicable, these courses can be used in transfer to bachelor's degree programs.

The **Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS)** programs offer associate's degrees, certificates, and special courses that allow participants to learn new skills or update the knowledge and skills needed to perform effectively on the job.

The Health and Public Safety Division works closely with hundreds of community partners such as area hospitals, health care agencies, fire service organizations, and other educational programs to provide clinical and experiential learning opportunities for health and public safety students.

College Orientation

To prepare for success in college, degree-seeking students are required to complete a college First Year Experience (FYE) course within the first 12 credit hours taken at Cincinnati State.

Entrance Competencies

To ensure success in academic studies in Health and Public Safety, entering students must meet established academic levels in mathematics, written communication skills, and reading comprehension. As part of the admission process, entering students meet with an academic advisor who may identify academic foundations-level classes to help the student reach needed levels. Preparatory classes are available year-round, and are designed to increase students' opportunities for success in their courses.

Many Health and Public Safety Division programs receive more applications than space allows. Therefore, students may need to

complete an additional application process by a designated deadline and complete the steps of a Selective Admission process (sometimes referred to as "Progression") to qualify for all of the courses needed to earn a degree. It is important to keep this information in mind as you create your education plan with your academic advisor.

Selective Admission steps may include successfully completing designated courses (in addition to any needed academic foundations-level classes), taking a program-specific admissions test, and/or maintaining a specified grade point average while taking required courses at the College. A rating system is used to determine which students will progress into the selected program.

Many health programs have physical and cognitive requirements for those entering their professions. Information about these requirements can be found with the description of the program on the College website, on program information sheets available in the Division office, and in program handbooks available from the program chair.

Experiential Learning

The Health and Public Safety Division supports the College's mission of providing educational programs with a combination of theory and practice. For many programs in the Health and Public Safety Division, experience in the clinical setting is an integral part of the educational process. Both clinical and cooperative education components provide students with the practical experience they need to begin work immediately upon graduation.

Individual program descriptions in this section of the Catalog provide specific information about requirements for clinical experience, cooperative education, or internship in Health and Public Safety fields.

To ensure the safety of students and others, our affiliated partners in the health and public safety community require students to comply with certain criteria prior to beginning clinical and experiential learning. Requirements will vary, but generally include a health examination, immunizations, background screenings, and relevant training. Proof of coverage under a policy of health insurance may also be required. Drug testing may be required at any time during student enrollment in a Health and Public Safety program, depending on the requirements of the clinical or practicum site.

Cincinnati State strongly recommends that students obtain personal health insurance coverage. Please be aware that lack of coverage under a policy of health insurance may affect a student's eligibility to participate in the clinical learning experience. Information about an optional health insurance plan for purchase by students is available in the Student Activities Office.

Health Student Support Services

Cincinnati State Health and Public Safety Division students can obtain comprehensive educational and professional support services to enhance classroom learning and assist in professional development. Support services available to students include special seminars; individualized tutorial assistance; career, personal, and financial counseling; job shadowing opportunities; mentoring; writing and study skills assistance; and assistance developing a re-entry plan following failure in a technical program.

Transfer Module

The Ohio Department of Higher Education developed the Ohio Transfer Module to facilitate transfer of credits from one Ohio

public college or university to another. The transfer module contains 36 to 40 semester hours of course credits in the areas of communication, mathematics, arts and humanities, social and behavioral sciences, and natural and physical sciences. A transfer module completed at one college or university automatically meets the requirements for the transfer module at another college or university once the student is admitted. For additional information, see the State of Ohio Policy for Institutional Transfer (<http://catalog.cincinnati.state.edu/archives/2020-2021/admissioninformation/institutionaltransfer/>) and the Transfer Module (<http://catalog.cincinnati.state.edu/archives/2020-2021/academicdivisionsanddegreeampcertificateprograms/transfermodule/>) sections of this Catalog.

Associate's degree programs in the Health and Public Safety Division contain in their curriculums many of the required courses for the transfer module. Students who wish to complete the transfer module should schedule the additional courses at their convenience. Students who transfer to an Ohio public university for baccalaureate degrees will find that the Cincinnati State Associate of Applied Science degree, combined with a transfer module showing grades of C or higher, receives preferential consideration at the receiving institution.