

**Common Course Outline**  
**MDAS 253**  
**Clinical Medical Assisting I: Fundamentals of Clinical Practice**  
**4 Credits**

**The Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

**MDAS 253 – Clinical Medical Assisting I: Fundamentals of Clinical Practice** develops clinical competence for medical assistants by introducing and practicing techniques for technical skills that assist healthcare providers in the medical office and other ambulatory care facilities. Students will obtain vital signs, prepare patients for physical examinations, assist providers with medical exams, and perform other fundamental skills using Universal and Standard Precautions. Students are required to recognize emergency situations and respond appropriately. Physician's office lab tests are introduced and performed. This course is the same as OFAD 253.

**4 Credits:** 2 lecture hours, 3 laboratory hours

**Prerequisites:** MDAS 153 or OFAD 153 and BIOL 109 both with a "C" or better

**Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. review the basic clinical competencies required to obtain medical assistant certification;
2. obtain vital signs and document them accurately;
3. prepare and maintain examination and treatment areas;
4. prepare a patient for a physical exam;
5. identify instruments used for medical procedures;
6. wrap medical instruments for sterilization in autoclave;
7. assist physician with routine and specialty examinations;
8. prepare a sterile field;
9. demonstrate ability to respond to an emergency;
10. utilize standard precautions;
11. provide effective wound care;
12. obtain and record patient history;
13. organize a patient's medical record;
14. collect routine specimens;
15. perform electrocardiograms; and
16. identify community resources to meet patient needs.

**Major Topics**

- I. Medical emergencies and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)
- II. Vital signs
- III. Medical history

- IV. Patient examinations
- V. Specialty examinations
- VI. Medical instruments
- VII. Prepare a patient for procedures and/or treatments
- VIII. Sterile fields
- IX. Wound care
- X. Autoclave principles
- XI. Patient teaching materials and community resources
- XII. Document accurately in a patient record
- XIII. Electrocardiogram
- XIV. Urine analysis
- XV. Rapid strep tests
- XVI. Microscope basics
- XVII. Medical assistant clinical credentials

### **Course Requirements**

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but at a minimum will include the following:

### **Grading/exams**

- 4 written papers, each one on any disease or condition discussed in class. Papers must include pathophysiology of the disease or condition, signs and symptoms, medications and treatment options. (Disease or condition must be approved by instructor).
- Midterm exam
- Comprehensive final exam
- Clinical skills demonstration and documentation.

Written Assignments: should be typed, double spaced, with one inch margins. Students are required to use credible sources and or/databases to gather information. Documentation using the Modern Language Association (MLA) style is required on all written assignments.