Clinical Affiliate Requirements

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Accepted students must document compliance with the Clinical Affiliates requirements of the DCC Ophthalmic Medical Assisting Program prior in order to remain enrolled in the program. Failure to document proof of compliance will result in loss of placement in program. The Ophthalmic Assisting program utilizes Castle Branch to serve as a portal for students to upload and maintain their admission and health requirement documentation, along with background check and drug screening. Health admission requirements are mandated by requirements of the clinical education centers. See below, in this section, for more detailed information pertaining to requirements.

Applicants must present evidence of good health and be able to perform the physical requirements of the Program Technical Standards..

Students who appear too ill to function may be dismissed from the clinical area. The student must call someone for transportation. Students may not consult a physician in the clinical area. Faculty may request medical clearance from the health care provider so that the student can return to the Program and perform in the clinical area without restrictions. In order to be in compliance with contractual agreements with facilities that provide student clinical experience and Federal Guidelines, the Delgado Community College School of Allied Health will require students to meet all health requirements and provide proof. **As a student of the Delgado Community College – Ophthalmic Medical Assisting program, the following immunizations and screenings are required(*):**

SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION*

Annual flu vaccinations are required. Students who decline the vaccination must sign a declination form and follow the clinical affiliate's policy regarding patient care.

Clinical placement of students who are unable to receive vaccinations is not guaranteed and the student's progression in the program may be affected.

TITERS*

Students must demonstrate positive titers confirming immunity from:

Varicella (IgG blood titers)*
Rubella, Rubeola, Mumps (MMR) (IgG blood titers)*
Hepatitis B (Surface Antibody titer)**

*If the titer is reported as equivocal or negative, two (2) booster vaccines, 30 days apart is required. **Submit copy of the vaccination records to Castle Branch**.

If the Hepatitis B titer is reported as equivocal or negative, you will need to complete the series (3 vaccinations) again, plus repeat titer one month after final dose. Submit proof of each vaccination to Castle Branch as they are completed **OR Hepatitis B Booster vaccine, plus titer one-month post injection. Students who have not completed the series (3 vaccinations) must have the series done and a titer drawn one month after completion of the series. As each vaccination is completed, submit verification to Castle Branch.

TUBERCULOSIS SCREENING * (Required Annually)

For Fall admission, TB tests must be completed prior to the beginning of the Program.

Tuberculosis Tests acceptable for the Sonography Program are QuantiFERON TB Gold blood test, T-Spot blood test or Two-step skin test.

The Two-step process requires two skin tests to be done 1 month apart. Two-step skin testing is required only for the initial TB screening.

If you have had a positive TB test in the past, you would need to submit clearance from the physician, along with proof.

- Students who have a <u>positive TB test</u> must submit a copy of the Chest X-Ray (CXR) report following conversion and complete the TB Questionnaire. Both documents will need to be uploaded to Castle Branch.
- Annually after that, if a blood test was performed initially, the student must submit a TB Questionnaire which is on the Castle Branch site. If the skin test was performed initially (positive), a blood test must be performed. If that blood test result is positive, then a TB questionnaire must be completed and submitted to Castle Branch.

Any student who has received the Two-step TB skin test, within 6 months of the start of the Program may submit those results upon Admission. Annually after that, they will need to submit QuantiFERON TB Gold blood test, T-Spot blood test or TB skin test results.

BACKGROUND CHECKS*

Students must undergo background testing provided through the Castle Branch portal system used by the OMA Program. A positive background check may impact the ability to place a student in the clinical setting.

DRUG SCREENING*

Drug screening must be performed provided through the Castle Branch portal system used by the OMA Program. Final acceptance into the program is dependent upon a negative drug screen report.

ANY OF THE ABOVE MAY NEED TO BE REPEATED PER CLINICAL SITE REQUEST

CPR*

Students accepted into the DMS Program must be certified in American Heart Association (AHA) CPR and Basic Life Support (BLS) prior to the beginning of Fall Semester clinical rotations. Students must maintain CPR certification throughout the program. Level of certification is the American Heart Association: Basic Life Support (BLS)

COVID-19 VACCINATION

It is mandated by the affiliated clinical education centers that students receive the Covid-19 Vaccination prior to the start of the Program. Students must provide current immunization record and/or evidence of an approved Exemption.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

All students accepted to the Delgado Community College Ophthalmic Assisting Program are **required** <u>to obtain and furnish proof that they have their own medical insurance</u>. Students enrolled in the Delgado Community College OMA Program are responsible for all personal health care expenses, including expenses resulting from accident or sickness, illness or injury while engaged in learning experiences required by the

DMS Program. Neither the College, nor the clinical agency is responsible for these expenses. Therefore, students are encouraged to maintain a personal health care insurance policy.