New River Medical Assisting students assist a patient during a hospital rotation.

TRAINING FOR “IN DEMAND” MEDICAL ASSISTING JOBS AVAILABLE AT NEW RIVER GVC

[Lewisburg, WV] Leading career websites list medical assistants as high as number two in the nation in “careers in demand,” and all the training necessary to achieve an Associate in Medical Assistants degree is available on the New River Community and Technical College Greenbrier Valley Campus, according to Roger Griffith, dean of the New River GVC.

The website, Search for Career Colleges, adds, “Most employers prefer graduates of formal programs in medical assisting.” The website suggests a 52 per cent growth in the field in the next 10 years and a salary range of $20,650 to $28,930.
A report in the *Wonderful West Virginia* reunion issue this summer lists medical assistants in the top five most-in-demand careers in the state, based on statistics from the WV Development Office.

At New River, Griffith reports, the medical assisting program prepares students to work in a variety of healthcare settings, incorporating a mix of clinical and administrative responsibilities which may include carrying out procedures, performing basic laboratory tests, administering medications, documenting patient records, and medical billing.

“Our own survey information shows in southern West Virginia, medical assistants can expect between $7.50 and $15 per hour,” Griffith noted.

This fall, New River Greenbrier Valley Campus will offer a variety of classes in the medical-related fields of study. They include Basic Skills and Pharmacological Principles, Medical Terminology, Fundamentals of Medical Assisting, Clinical Procedures, Diseases of Human Body, Medical Coding/ICD-9-CM, Medical Insurance Billing, Medical Coding/CPT & HERS, Principles of Phlebotomy, EMT-basic, Introduction to Emergency Medical Services, Pharmacology, Aerobics, Strength Training, General Psychology, Life Span and Human Development, Health Promotion and Protection, and Safety and First Aid.

For information on medical assistants or any other programs of study offered at New River Community and Technical College Greenbrier Valley Campus, telephone 304-647-6560 or write or visit the campus, 101 Church Street, Lewisburg, WV, 24901. The college offices are open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There is still time to apply and register for the fall semester which begins August 17. Some financial aid is still available.

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