

Course Accredited Is First In State

The Medical Office Assistants Program at Western Piedmont Community College is now fully accredited by the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association.

The accreditation was announced today by H. P. Olsen, director of occupational programs at WPCC, and Miss Mary Jane Michaels, coordinator of the program from its start.

This is the first such program in the state to receive AMA accreditation.

It is a two year program leading to an associate in applied science degree. The WPCC program was started four years

ago and has graduated three classes.

The curriculum is designed to prepare a qualified person to work as an assistant to the physician in medical office or clinic. The assistant is under direct supervision of the physician.

The program provides a foundation of knowledge in biological and social sciences. There are specialized medical office assisting courses in both administrative and clinical areas.

Sophomore students in the accredited program are eligible to sit for the certified medical

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Course At WPCC Is Accredited

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assistants examination given by the American Association of Medical Assistants.

Accreditation came following careful study of WPCC facilities and how they are being used.

In March a survey team visited the campus to see if the program here met criteria for accreditation. The team consisted of a certified medical assistant (CMA) and a physician.

They examined classroom, laboratory, library, and audio-visual facilities. Faculty, curriculum, student records, and administration of the program were evaluated. Then an in depth report was submitted by the team to the American Association of Medical Assistants which in turn made the recommendation to the AMA to accredit the program.

Anyone interested in the program should contact Student Services or Miss Michaels.



Discussing Role Of Medical Office Assistants

Miss Mary Jane Michaels (left), coordinator of the Medical Office Assistants Program at Western Piedmont Community College, talks with students who find the two year study

program an open door to worthwhile careers. The WPCC program has just received accreditation by the American Medical Association. (WPCC Photo)