

PSYCHIATRIC TECHNOLOGY

The Psychiatric Technology Program prepares students to become licensed Psychiatric Technicians (PTs) who provide compassionate, evidence-based care to individuals with mental health disorders, developmental disabilities, and medical conditions. The program equips students with the skills necessary to support patients in achieving their highest level of wellness.

Graduates are eligible to take the California Psychiatric Technician Licensing Examination. The program is accredited by:

California State Board of Vocational Nurses and Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT)
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205
Sacramento, CA 95833

The program admits students in the Fall and Spring semesters. Admission requires the completion of all prerequisites, support courses, and required coursework, as well as an application and acceptance into the program.

To enroll, students must:

- Pass a Live Scan background check
- Meet health requirements

Important Notice: Under California law, the Board of Vocational Nurses and Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT) may deny licensure based on prior convictions or legal actions related to Psychiatric Technician practice.

Required Prerequisite Courses:

- High school completion (official transcript or Diploma or G.E.D., AA Degree, BS Degree, or foreign graduate that has been evaluated by AERC (American Educational Research Corporation), or IERF (International Education Research Foundation), or World Education Services.
- Complete the following courses with a grade of C or higher:

Code	Title	Units
ENGL C1000	Academic Reading and Writing	4
or ENGL C1000H	Academic Reading and Writing - Honors	
PSYC C1000	Introduction to Psychology	3
or PSYC C1000H	Introduction to Psychology - Honors	
PSYC 105	Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	4
or STAT C1000	Introduction to Statistics	
Human Anatomy and Physiology - Select one series from the following:		
BIOL 155	Introductory Anatomy and Physiology ¹	4
BIOL 250 & BIOL 251	Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Human Anatomy and Physiology II	8
BIOL 260 & BIOL 261	Human Anatomy and Human Physiology	8

- Students have the option to enroll in PSYC 110, PSYC 111, or PSYC 112 if PSYC C1000 or PSYC C1000H was completed more than 5 years ago.
- BIOL 155 and PSYC C1000 or PSYC C1000H must be completed within 5 years of starting the program. Foreign transcripts must

be evaluated for equivalency by an approved agency. See program Director/Department Chair.

¹ BIOL 155, BIOL 261 (<https://catalog.valleycollege.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20261>) (or BIOL 250 (<https://catalog.valleycollege.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20250>) & BIOL 251 (<https://catalog.valleycollege.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20251>)) must be taken within 5 years of application to the program; Fully online sciences will not be accepted. BIOL 250 (<https://catalog.valleycollege.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20250>) & BIOL 251 (<https://catalog.valleycollege.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20251>) must be completed at the same regionally accredited institution.

Application to the Psychiatric Technician

Applications to the Psychiatric Technician program may only be submitted when all program prerequisites have been completed. Applications must be submitted online via the link provided on the SBVC Psychiatric Technician webpage. The applications will be accepted March 1 – 15 for entry in the fall and September 1-15 for entry in the Spring. The application will not be accepted if falsification or inaccurate information is provided. Submit the following to Admission & Records prior to submitting the application:

- Official college transcripts from all colleges or universities attended except for SBVC or Crafton Hills College. Transcripts must be issued within the last 6 months and document that the program prerequisites have been completed. If transcripts are from a foreign country, they must be evaluated for equivalency - see Admission Clerk.
- High School completion document.

Acceptance Procedure

Effective Fall 2019 the Psychiatric Technology Program will select students through a point system. All prerequisites must be completed prior to applying, no exceptions. Once the application period has closed, the acceptance committee will review all completed applications. Students ranked with the highest points will then be selected for entry. Applicants will be notified via email and Canvas of their application status.

Contact Information

Department: Health and Life Sciences (HLS - 101)

Department Phone Number: (909) 384-4550

Director of Nursing and Associate Dean of Health Science: Denise Valle (dvalle@sbccd.edu), M.S.N. Ed., M.H.A., R.N.

Faculty Chair: MiChelle Jackson (mijackson@sbccd.edu), B.S.

Counselor Liaisons: Elizabeth Banuelos (ebanuelos@sbccd.edu), M.S. and Erica Begg (ebegg@sbccd.edu), M.S.

- Psychiatric Technology Associate of Science Degree
- Psychiatric Technology Certificate of Achievement

PSYTCH 084 19 Units**Introduction to Psychiatric Technology****Lecture:** 225 contact hours**Lab:** 351 contact hours

Limitation on Enrollment: Registration is limited to students who have completed program prerequisites and have been accepted into the Psychiatric Technology program.

This course is an introduction to psychiatric technology emphasizing basic therapeutic communication, pharmacology, growth and development, developmental disabilities, behavior modification, nutrition, and nursing care, including application of basic nursing skills to the care of clients with developmental disabilities.

Associate Degree Applicable**PSYTCH 085 12 Units****Psychiatric Technology: Nursing Science****Lecture:** 135 contact hours**Lab:** 243 contact hours**Prerequisite:** PSYTCH 084

Limitation on Enrollment: Registration is limited to students who have completed the program prerequisites and have been accepted into the Psychiatric Technology program.

This course is the study of basic nursing science concepts and skills with emphasis on nursing care for pediatric, adult and geriatric clients with medical and surgical disorders. Application of theory to the care of physically ill clients in acute and long-term care agencies.

Associate Degree Applicable**PSYTCH 086 19 Units****Introduction to Psychiatric Technology: Behavioral Science****Lecture:** 225 contact hours**Lab:** 351 contact hours**Prerequisite:** PSYTCH 084

Limitation on Enrollment: Registration is limited to students who have completed prerequisites and have been accepted into the Psychiatric Technology program.

This course is a study of psychiatric mental disorders with emphasis on causes, clinical manifestations, diagnosis, interventions and treatments. Included is the application of mental health theory to the basic nursing care of clients in acute, long-term care, and state mental health institutional settings.

Associate Degree Applicable**PSYTCH 600 Noncredit****Psychiatric Technician Skills Lab****Lab:** 36 contact hours

Limitation on Enrollment: Students must be enrolled in at least one other Psychiatric Technology course at San Bernardino Valley College or a recent graduate of the Psychiatric Technician program.

This noncredit class offers inclusive support to students by assisting them in understanding the course-specific content within the Psychiatric Technology program. The class is designed to accommodate diverse learning styles and needs, with activities such as dosage calculation practice, demonstrations, and practice of essential psych tech skills and procedures. These activities help students develop competencies in various areas, including physical assessment, isolation techniques, oxygenation, wound care, urinary catheterization, medication administration, and other specialized medical and surgical skills. Instructional services are tailored to meet the needs of all students and may include supervised individual or group tutorials, computer-assisted instruction, and testing. Enrollment in this class is open to all students currently enrolled in the SBVC Psychiatric Technology program, ensuring equitable access to learning opportunities for all participants.

PSYTCH 601 Noncredit**Psychiatric Technician Licensure Exam Preparation****Lecture:** 18 contact hours

This noncredit course prepares students that have completed or are nearing completion of the psychiatric technology program for the state administered licensing examination for psychiatric technicians. This course is also recommended for students who desire refresher training. Topics include, but are not limited to, nursing science theory and techniques, basic nursing, developmental disabilities, medications, psychiatric mental health nursing. Also included are some basic test-taking techniques to increase proficiency on the state exam.