

Dear future phlebotomy students at Bellevue College,

Phlebotomy can be an interesting and exciting program. Many students come to the class with only a few experiences of having a blood draw performed on them. ***What is needed to perform blood draws?*** This information sheet is to help students understand what some of the physical and emotional demands are of the class.

Some things to consider before going into phlebotomy class (HPRO141):

1. **Manual dexterity** is necessary, good hand/eye coordination is needed
2. **Sensory abilities** needed:
 - Corrected eyesight for small objects/print
 - Hearing without looking at the face of the speaker
 - Ability to have feeling in the hand, *especially the fingertips*
3. Ability to **communicate freely and coherently** and appropriately in English, and respond appropriately to instructor while receiving criticism and suggestions for corrective action
4. **Physical ability to bend** at the waist and stay very still for several minutes while drawing blood
5. **Emotionally able to cope** with putting needles into other students (approx. 20 times)
6. **Emotionally able to cope** with allowing other students to put needles into one's self (about 20 times)
7. **Cope emotionally and physically** with about 20-40 tubes of blood drawn (about 2 mL blood in each tube) from one's self
8. **Execute blood draws under high performance pressure** while there is noise and distraction in the room, such as performing a draw while students are observing so they can learn additional techniques, or when performing a Skills Test
9. **Follow detailed instructions** given from instructor verbally, and physical assistance (touch) from instructor or assistant during actual draws
10. **Have emotional capability** to put effort forth to improve study skills if an exam is not passing (students are not allowed to draw until exam score is passing)
11. **Complete vaccinations** (some before class starts) and pass a thorough national background check before entering HPRO144 (externship).

This may help you get a better understanding and therefore better preparation for the phlebotomy class.

Phlebotomy Instructor