

# A.A.S. in Aging & Health Studies

## **Description of the Aging & Health Studies Program:**

The purpose of the Aging & Health Studies Program at Hostos Community College is to prepare students for careers that involve working with older adults. Qualified professionals can work in such settings as: senior citizen centers, health related and skilled nursing facilities, and home health care agencies.

The Aging & Health Studies Program awards the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree. Students who would like to further their education may then apply their courses at a four-year institution in a program of gerontology, social work, physical or recreation therapy, etc.

The Aging & Health Studies Program is interdisciplinary in nature and will draw upon faculty expertise from different departments within the College.

Students who are interested in planning a concentration in the field of Aging & Health Studies should consult the Aging & Health Studies Coordinator for further information.

## For more information, see link below

http://www.hostos.cuny.edu/Hostos/media/Office-of-Academic-Affairs/Academic-Advisement/Aging-Health-Studies-AAS 1.pdf

#### Skills:

**Emotional Skills:** An effective employee needs to be caring, understanding, non-judgmental, and have a strong ability to empathize with patients from all walks of life.

**Communication Skills:** Language and listening skills are extremely important. You will have to be able to communicate with doctors, patients, and your coworkers.

**Observational Skills:** An employee needs to be able to identify anything out of the ordinary. This includes wounds, strange behavior, or anything that just doesn't seem right.

**Physical Skills:** Gerontology will require a substantial amount of physical activity. You will be lifting, moving, adjusting, and sometimes restraining.

## **Employment Opportunities:**

Recreation Aides and Social and Human Service Assistants opportunities are available in Nursing Homes, Private Senior or Community Services Agencies, Medical and Health Services and hospitals.

## **Employment Outlook:**

Employment of social and human service assistants is projected to grow 11 percent from 2014 to 2024, faster than the average for all occupations.

Career Path: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/social-and-human-service-assistants.htm

The median annual wage for social and human service assistants was \$31,810 in May 2016.

**Career Coach** – Search career information and current local wage data <u>https://hostos-cuny.emsicc.com/careers/personal-care-aide</u>