

PRESENTATION OF THE THREE-YEAR DEGREE COURSE IN HEALTHCARE ASSISTANCE

The Degree Course in Health Care belongs to the class of degrees in "Health Professions of Prevention" and aims to train future professionals health care assistants involved in prevention, promotion and education for health, able to perform, with technical and professional autonomy activities aimed at the person, the family and the community at all stages of life.

During the health emergency for COVID 19, the Health Assistant has a significant role in the execution of the nose-pharyngeal swab, in the education of the population for prevention, in health surveillance following the start of home quarantine, in carrying out the epidemiological investigation looking for all subjects who have had contact with a person found positive for the virus, to block the chain of contagion (Contact Tracing). At present, thanks to the availability of vaccination, the health assistant is in the front line in the organization, management and execution of vaccination sessions.

The Course prepares operators able to

- identify the health needs of the population,
- manage health surveillance for the prevention and propagation of microorganisms of infectious diseases and carry out vaccinations;
- contribute to the implementation of initiatives aimed at the protection of public health in various fields of activity.
- implements specific interventions to support the family and the community by activating network resources, also in collaboration with general practitioners and other operators on the territory;
- designs, plans, implements and evaluates health education interventions in all phases of a person's life, such as health education interventions in schools.

The degree lasts three years and you get a professional qualification. Admission is through the passing of an access test. The degree course has a national programmed number of students. The maximum number of students enrolled is decided based on the available teaching potential. To enroll in the Bachelor of Science in Health Care, the student must pass an admission test, which usually takes place at the beginning of September, according to the procedures published on the School's website (<https://www.unifi.it/cmpro-v-p-8821.html>).

The educational activities are divided into frontal teaching, laboratories and internships. The final examination consists of a practical test (discussion a case report related to the professional practice) and a thesis of theoretical-applicative-experimental.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The graduates, at the end of their training, will have to possess knowledge and skills of the future professional health care assistant. These elements will be acquired also through the understanding of the literature in their field of study; the knowledge will concern the molecular, morphological and functional bases of life, health promotion and disease prevention. Primary prevention, whether of behavioral or immune disposition, will be the basis of many of the educational interventions in the course with applications ranging from the maternal-child area to the elderly. Knowledge related to research on the epidemiology of disease risk factors and prevention activities will be developed. The learning methodologies foreseen during the course are frontal lessons and laboratories with possible verification of knowledge and skills acquired. All the didactic activities are obligatory to 60% except for the professionalizing activities that require the participation of 100%.

Graduates, at the end of the course, must be able to apply the theoretical and practical knowledge indicated by the curriculum and must possess the skills related to the functions of the professional profile: management of educational and preventive processes for both infectious and chronic degenerative diseases, research activities aimed at producing new knowledge for the continuous improvement of individual and collective health, management and evaluation of their work. Over the three years of study, internships are provided in contexts that encourage the application of knowledge developed at the theoretical level.