The College of Health Professions was established on Jan. 1, 1969, to provide an administrative structure for existing educational programs in allied health disciplines and to direct the development of new programs in response to the growing need for allied health manpower. At the outset, the college incorporated existing educational programs for hospital administration, medical technology, physical therapy, and radiologic technology and X-ray technicians.

In the years since its establishment, the college has grown significantly — developing unique, cutting-edge curricula and degree offerings in both traditional and nontraditional formats — to meet the increasing demand for allied health teachers, researchers, and practitioners. Considered a leader in distance education, VCU's College of Health Professions offers the only interdisciplinary, Internet-based doctoral program in allied health in the country: the Ph.D. in Health Related Sciences. The college currently incorporates nine departments and offers programs at the baccalaureate, certificate, master's, and doctoral levels.