



Health Science Career Cluster

The Health Science career cluster focuses on planning, managing, and providing therapeutic services, diagnostics services, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development. This career cluster includes occupations ranging from medical assistant, registered nurse, and physical therapist to forensic science technician and athletic trainer.

Statewide Program of Study: **Nursing**

The **Nursing** program of study focuses on occupational and educational opportunities associated with patient care. This program of study includes the practice of caring for patients, performing routine procedures such as monitoring vital signs, developing, and implementing care plans, maintaining medical records, and managing disease or pain.

Secondary Courses for High School Credit

Grade Level Courses

9 th	• Principles of Health Science
10 th	• Medical Terminology
11 th	• Health Science Theory + Health Science Clinical
12 th	• Practicum in Health Science

Additional Courses Offered

10 th – 12 th	• Anatomy and Physiology
10 th – 12 th	• Medical Microbiology
10 th – 12 th	• Pathophysiology
12 th	• Pharmacology
12 th	• Forensic Science

Aligned Advanced Academic Courses

AP or IB

AP Biology
IB Biology SL
IB Biology HL

AP Chemistry
IB Chemistry SL
IB Chemistry HL

Dual Credit

Dual credit offerings will vary by local education agency.

Students should be advised to consider these course opportunities to enrich their preparation. AP or IB courses not listed under the Secondary Courses for High School Credit section of this framework document do not count towards concentrator/completer status for this program of study.

Work-Based Learning and Expanded Learning Opportunities

Work-Based Learning Activities

- Intern with a medical assistant at a community clinic, hospital, or assisted living facility
- Conduct informational interviews with nurses in different departments and healthcare settings

Expanded Learning Opportunities

- Volunteer at community clinics, hospitals, assisted living and long-term care facilities
- Participate in HOSA or SkillsUSA

Aligned Industry-Based Certifications

IBC's Offered

- Patient Care Technician



Example Postsecondary Opportunities

Apprenticeships

- Registered Nurse Resident

Associate Degrees

- Medical Assisting
- Vocational Nursing

Bachelor's Degrees

- Registered Nursing
- Nursing Administration

Master's, Doctoral, and Professional Degrees

- Nursing Administration
- Nursing Science

Additional Stackable IBCs/License

- Certified Emergency Nurse

Example Aligned Occupations

Nursing Assistants

Median Wage: \$30,856
Annual Openings: 10,936
10-Year Growth: 15%

Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses

Median Wage: \$50,913
Annual Openings: 6,865
10-Year Growth: 17%

Registered Nurses

Median Wage: \$79,831
Annual Openings: 16,207
10-Year Growth: 17%

Data Source: TexasWages, Texas Workforce Commission. Retrieved 3/8/2024.



For more information visit:

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/college-career-and-military-prep/career-and-technical-education/programs-of-study-additional-resources>