Revised–Oct 2024

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: Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services

The Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services program of study focuses on occupational and educational opportunities associated with diagnosing and treating acute, episodic, or chronic illness independently or as part of a healthcare team. This program of study includes exploration of patient treatment and rehabilitative programs that help build or restore daily living skills to persons with disabilities or developmental delays.

THS Course Offerings for Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services

Level 1 Freshman	• Principles of Health Science The Principles of Health Science course is designed to provide an overview of the therapeutic, diagnostic, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development systems of the healthcare industry.
Level 2 Sophomore	• Medical Terminology The Medical Terminology course is designed to introduce students to the structure of medical terms, including prefixes, suffixes, word roots, singular and plural forms, and medical abbreviations. The course allows students to achieve comprehension of medical vocabulary appropriate to medical procedures, human anatomy and physiology, and pathophysiology.
Level 3 Junior	• Health Science Theory The Health Science Theory course is designed to provide for the development of advanced knowledge and skills related to a wide variety of health careers. Students will employ hands-on experiences for continued knowledge and skill development.
Level 4 Senior	• Practicum in Health Science Practicum in Health Science course is designed to give students practical application of previously studied knowledge and skills. Practicum experiences can occur in a variety of locations appropriate to the nature and level of experience.

Work-Based Learning and Expanded Learning Opportunities

Work-Based Learning Activities	• Intern with a medical assistant at a community clinic, hospital, assisted living, or long-term care facility • Participate in job shadowing experiences such as Emergency Medical Services (EMS) ride along or hospital/clinical job
Expanded Learning Opportunities	• Participate in Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) or SkillsUSA • Participate in Advanced Medical Ambulance Bus (AMBUS) event or Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) event

Aligned Industry-Based Certifications

- Certified Clinical Medical Assistant
- Certified EKG Technician
- Phlebotomy Technician



Example Postsecondary Opportunities

Apprenticeships
- Medical Assistant

Associate Degrees
- Emergency Medical Technology
- Radiologic Technology/Science

Bachelor's Degrees
- Emergency Medical Technology
- Medical Insurance Coding

Master's, Doctoral, and Professional Degrees
- Medicine
- Occupational Therapy

Additional Stackable IBCs/License
- Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer

Example Aligned Occupations

Medical Assistants
Median Wage: $36,834
Annual Openings: 11,638
10-Year Growth: 29%

Dental Hygienists
Median Wage: $79,663
Annual Openings: 1,352
10-Year Growth: 32%

Physician Assistants
Median Wage: $127,332
Annual Openings: 974
10-Year Growth: 41%

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

Successful completion of the Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services program of study will fulfill requirements of the Public Services endorsement.

Texas Education Agency

Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services