



SECTOR SPOTLIGHT: HEALTH SCIENCE & MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

APRIL 2025

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STUDENT QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Why did you pick this pathway?

I chose this pathway because I wanted to deepen my understanding of the medical field. My interest in pursuing a medical career, specifically neurology, began in sixth grade. Entering high school, I knew I had to take advantage of every educational opportunity available to me. This academy would help me step into the world of medicine and set me up for future success.

Favorite thing you learned in your pathway?

Some of my favorite topics I have learned in my pathway include the body systems, particularly the nervous system, as well as the structure and function of bones and muscles. Understanding how the body works and how its different components interact is fascinating to me. In my junior year, I took AP Psychology and Sports Anatomy and Physiology, both of which provided a deeper insight into the brain and nervous system. Since I plan to pursue a career in neurology, exploring these subjects was especially exciting.

Briefly describe your participation in activities and experiences related to your pathway.

I have been an active member of my pathway throughout high school. For all four years, I have competed in HOSA events and attended the state leadership conference annually. I have served as a HOSA officer for two years and dedicated over 300 hours to community service. I have led various events, with my favorite being our food distribution. Additionally, I have organized and led initiatives such as our Blood Drive, Be the Match, Adopt a Family, and Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Favorite memory of being a part of the pathway.

My favorite memory of being part of MED is going on our overnight college trips. From sophomore to senior year, we visited various colleges to explore potential schools we might one day attend. These trips started early in the morning with campus tours, followed by group dinners and an overnight stay at a hotel. Through these experiences, I have created unforgettable memories with my friends, strengthening our bond while taking a break from school and simply enjoying time together. These trips also allowed me to build stronger connections with our academy teachers—whether it was asking them nonsense questions or just having fun. Beyond the memories, these trips helped prepare me for the future, as touring these schools sparked my interest and even influenced my college applications.

Advice to students interested in your pathway.

If you're considering joining the MED Academy, my advice is simple—go for it! While it can be challenging, it's a decision you won't regret. Always give your best effort, communicate openly, and most importantly, enjoy the journey. As the first in my family to join the academy, I was initially nervous, but I quickly found a supportive and amazing group of people. The teachers are incredible, they genuinely care about your success, always offer the best guidance, and encourage you every step of the way. Your class grows together, forming lasting friendships and shared experiences. The academy provides incredible opportunities, so make the most of them. Prioritize your academics, stay dedicated, and never hesitate to ask questions. This program is designed to help you grow and prepare for your future, so embrace it fully!

Do your future goals include what you learned in your pathway?

My future goals align closely with the knowledge and experience I've gained through my pathway. The academy has provided me with a strong foundation in medicine, exposing me to a wide range of essential information. Currently, I am enrolled in college courses, earning credits in medical terminology and medical ethics. This puts me at an advantage by allowing me to complete necessary coursework early. Through this program, I have gained valuable insights into what I will study during my undergraduate years and as I advance to medical school.

What are your plans after high school?

After high school, I plan to attend a UC majoring in biology or neurology while on the pre-med track. I aspire to become either an emergency room or a child neurologist. I have always found the brain fascinating and love helping others. I hope to make a difference in the lives of others and give families more moments together. I know that the journey ahead won't be easy but it will be worth it.



ABIGAIL SOTO TOSCANO
SENIOR



How has this pathway prepared you for the future?

This pathway has played a crucial role in preparing me for my future by exposing me to various colleges, careers, and networking opportunities. Each year, our college visits introduced me to potential schools, allowing me to experience different campuses firsthand and envision where I might begin my journey. We've also had the privilege of hearing from numerous guest speakers who shared their career paths and personal experiences. Many of their stories sparked my interest, broadening my perspective on the different routes I could take in the medical field. Additionally, this program has provided me with invaluable internship opportunities, helping me build meaningful connections. During my junior year, I interned with our athletic trainer, which gave me insight into sports medicine and connected me with a mentor who continues to guide me. In my senior year, I interned at the Dinuba Fire Department, where I had the opportunity to ride along on emergency calls and assist when possible. This experience reinforced my passion for a medical career and allowed me to form valuable relationships with paramedics and EMTs, who provided me with essential advice for my future.



PATHWAYS AT A GLANCE



The Health Science and Medical Technology Industry Sector is designed to prepare students for future careers in the healthcare industry. These pathways typically offer a combination of academic coursework and hands-on experiences related to healthcare and medical sciences. Students learn about topics such as anatomy, physiology, medical terminology, and patient care. Additionally, they have opportunities for internships, job shadowing, and certification in areas like CPR and nursing assistant roles.

Dinuba High School offers three pathway options within the Health Science and Patient Care career sector: Medical Enrichment Development (MED) Academy, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), and MED Academy with the CNA option. If you are passionate about ensuring people receive the highest quality healthcare, this industry may be the perfect fit for you.

- MED Academy
- Patient Care Pathway (CNA)
- MED Academy w/CNA option



PATHWAYS AT DHS

CONTACT US : collegeandcareer@dinuba.k12.ca.us





COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE

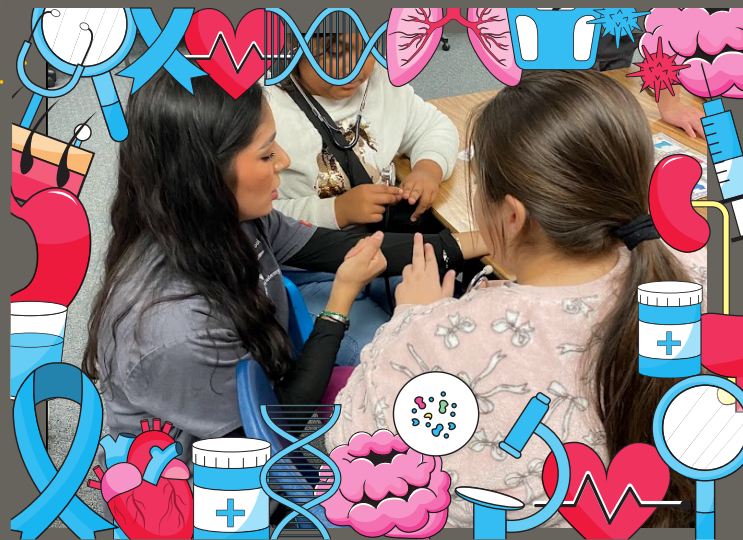
Opportunities within the health science field span from direct patient care to laboratory work, operating rooms, computer-based tasks, and even television roles, showcasing the wide array of options available. Roughly half of the jobs in this field require specialized training, such as obtaining a certificate or degree. Healthcare professions typically demand knowledge in chemistry, physics, math, and biology, alongside strong communication, problem-solving, and critical thinking abilities.

According to the Workplace Investment Board of Tulare County, in 2023, there were a total of 102,543 jobs in the Fresno, Tulare, and Kings County region, and nearly 30 percent of those jobs were in the Individual and Family Services industry. Top programs in our area include [Fresno City College](#), [San Joaquin Valley College](#), [California Health Sciences University](#) and [Fresno State](#).

If you are interested in programs outside of the local region, consider looking at these prestigious institutions:

- [USC Keck School of Medicine](#)
- [UCSF School of Dentistry](#)
- [Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy at UOP](#)
- [Stanford Medicine at Stanford University](#)

Click on the links above or use the QR codes below to explore the programs at each college and university.



UPCOMING events

- **April 1 & 3**
State Testing - ELA
- **April 5**
DHS Prom
- **April 8 & 10**
State Testing - Math
- **April 9**
Springfest
- **April 10**
Tiger Romp
- **April 11**
Special Olympics
- **April 14-21**
Spring Break
- **April 25**
Emperor of the Month Breakfast
- **April 25**
ASB Election
- **April 28**
MED Academy Banquet

EDUCATION LEVEL & RELATED OCCUPATIONS

Entry Level Careers (High School Diploma)

- Certified Nursing Assistant 💰 \$34,000-\$60,000 ➡ Increasing Demand
- Medical Assistant 💰 35,000-\$50,000 ➡ Stable Demand
- Home Health Aide 💰 \$34,000-\$50,000 ➡ Increasing Demand
- Pharmacy Technician 💰 \$35,000-\$50,000 ➡ Increasing Demand
- Medical Biller & Coder 💰 \$37,000-\$55,000 ➡ Stable Demand
- Dental Assistant 💰 \$45,000-\$55,000 ➡ Increasing Demand
- EMT 💰 \$45,000-\$55,000 ➡ Increasing Demand
- Phlebotomist 💰 \$35,000-\$47,000 ➡ Stable Demand
- Medical Secretary 💰 \$37,000-\$47,000 ➡ Stable Demand



Technical Level Careers (Certificate and/or Associate Degree)

- Respiratory Therapist 💰 \$65,000-\$85,000 ➡ Increasing Demand
- Licensed Practical Nurse 💰 \$50,000-\$67,000 ➡ Stable Demand
- Medical Sonographer 💰 \$70,000-\$90,000 ➡ Increasing Demand
- Physical Therapy Assistant 💰 \$57,000-\$70,000 ➡ Increasing Demand
- Radiology Technician 💰 \$60,000-\$80,000 ➡ Stable Demand
- Lab Technician 💰 \$50,000-\$68,000 ➡ Stable Demand

Professional Level Careers (Bachelor's Degree or higher)

- Registered Nurse 💰 \$65,000-\$100,000 ➡ Stable Demand
- Medical Sales Rep 💰 \$63,000-\$105,000 ➡ Stable Demand
- Pharmacist 💰 \$120,00-\$150,000 ➡ Stable Demand
- General Dentist 💰 \$150,280-\$200,000 ➡ Increasing Demand
- Physician Assistant 💰 \$115,000-\$145,000 ➡ Increasing Demand
- Physical Therapist 💰 \$80,000-\$95,000 ➡ Increasing Demand
- Primary Care Physician 💰 \$200,000-\$275,000 ➡ Increasing Demand



Tulare | Kings | Fresno Counties Labor Markets

HEALTH SCIENCE & MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

COLLEGE CAREER
Dinuba Unified School District

Career Cluster:

Health Science & Medical Technology

Jobs in this cluster focus on keep us healthy using special tools and machines. They use science and technology to make sure we feel our best when we're sick or hurt.

College & Career Resources

Majors:

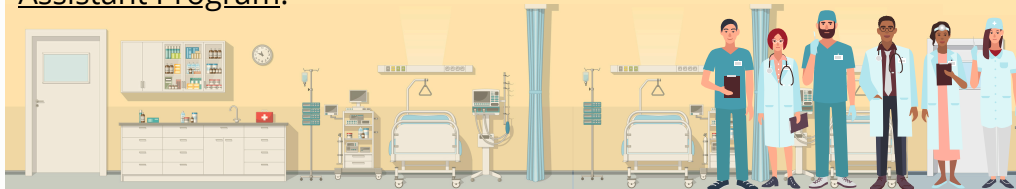
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Pharmacology
- Anatomy

College & Universities:

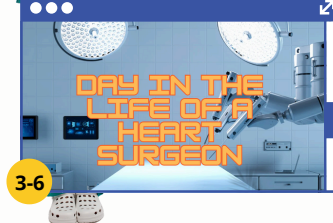
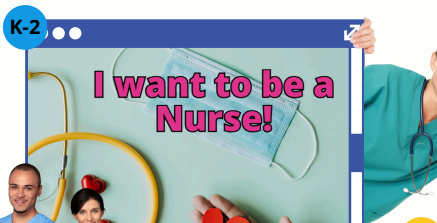
- [UC San Francisco](#)
 - [School of Medicine](#) ▶
- [Fresno State](#) [CLICK HERE](#)
 - [Biology](#) ▶
 - [Chemistry](#) ▶
- [College of the Sequoias](#)
 - [Nursing](#) ▶
- [Fresno City College](#)
 - [Nursing](#) ▶
 - [Radiologic Technology](#) ▶

Health Science & Medical Technology

This industry prepares students for careers in the healthcare field. There are many career options available. You can work directly with patients, in a laboratory, operating room, on computers, and even on television! The opportunities are endless in the medical field. If you are interested in helping people to become healthy, this industry may hold a great career for you! At Dinuba High School you can study and take classes in the MED Academy and Certified Nursing Assistant Program.

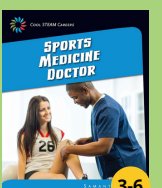
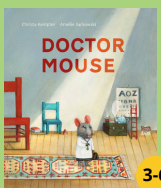
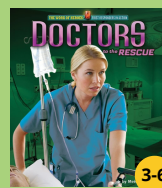
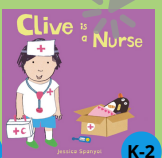


ZOOM INTO CAREERS



epic! SCHOOL Books to READ!

Sign-in to Clever & click on the book to read!



The mission of the College & Career Department is to empower all students with educational and work-based experiences to ensure that they are college, career, & life ready.

For more information visit our [website!](#)