



2025-2026

Health Science Academy School Profile

ABOUT THE HEALTH SCIENCE ACADEMY

The Health Science Academy is a full-time, 4-year program offered by the Mercer County Technical School District. The Health Science Academy offers self-motivated students comprehensive preparation for careers in the health, medical, and biological sciences. Students work and study in a creative environment enhanced by contact with specialists in the healthcare field. Personal and career counseling, coupled with field experiences, prepares each student for college and careers. The Health Science Academy is affiliated with colleges, universities, private practitioners, and medical and research facilities in order to enhance the highly technical program we offer.

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Health Science Academy to provide a highly specialized learning environment that promotes the development of a confident, well-rounded healthcare professional through unique academic experiences specific to the field of healthcare.

This will be achieved by:

- implementing challenging cross-curricular experiences that promote critical thinking skills and foster opportunities for leadership
- embracing high professional standards in ethics and character development
- providing authentic clinical experiences and internships through professional and community partnerships
- utilizing state-of-the-art equipment technology that will enhance employment and academic opportunities in an ever-changing environment

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Matthew Carey, Superintendent

Dr. Phillip L. Crisostomo, Principal

GUIDANCE

Gabriella Stinger, School Counselor

Marcia Calle, School Social Worker

Catherine Kloss, Psychologist

LOCATION

Health Science Academy

Assunpink Center

1085 Old Trenton Road

Trenton, NJ 08690

T: 609.586.5144

www.mcts.edu



ACCREDITATION

The Mercer County Technical School District is certified by the New Jersey State Department of Education and accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

CERTIFICATIONS

Students will work toward certifications in the American Red Cross, Heart Saver CPR/AED-(AHA), and bloodborne pathogens.

CLASS LENGTH

Classes are 80 minutes in length and are offered on a rotating A/B block schedule.

CLASS RANK

The Health Science Academy does not rank its students.

CURRICULUM

The Health Science Academy provides students with a focused program in the medical and biological sciences. Options are afforded for a Health Science Academy student to pursue goals of post-secondary education at the college or university level, or to enter the workforce directly upon high school graduation. Students receive a solid foundation in the core subjects and a rigorous health sciences program of study. A major learning component of the program is the opportunity for students to attain practical experience in the workplace as well as in academic settings. In 12th grade, all HSA students participate in dual enrollment classes at Mercer County Community College.

ENROLLMENT

More than 150 students are enrolled in grades 9-12 at the Health Science Academy.

COLLEGE CREDIT

MCTS has an articulation agreement with Mercer County Community College (MCCC) for students to obtain college credit for several classes offered on campus. College credit can also be obtained through the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) for two courses and Rutgers University for four courses.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Every student may complete a minimum of forty (40) hours of community service at the end of Senior year.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Students have the opportunity to demonstrate what they've learned by participating in co-curricular student organizations such as HOSA: Future Health Professionals. In addition, students may elect to participate in the Debate Team, Student Council, Yearbook, Math League, MCTS Wizards Gaming Team, and Red Cross Club.

OUR GRADUATES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO THESE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Arcadia University
Boston University
Bradley University
Brown University
Capital Technology
University
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western University
Centenary College
Cheney University of
Pennsylvania
Coastal Carolina University
Coppin State University
Cornell University
Dixie State College
Drew University
Drexel University
Duke University
Duquesne University
Emory University
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Fashion Institute of Technology
Florida Southern College
Georgian Court University
Georgetown University
Hollins University
Howard University
Huntsman School of Business
Johns Hopkins University
Juniata College
Kean University
Keiser University
Lehigh University
Lemoyne College
Louisiana State University
Massachusetts College of
Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Massachusetts Institute of
Technology
Mercer County Community
College
Monmouth University
Montclair State University
New England College
New Jersey Institute of
Technology
New York Institute of
Technology
New York University
Norfolk State University
Northeastern University
NOVA Southeastern
University
Oxford University
Pace University
Pennsylvania State University
Philadelphia University
Princeton University
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University
Ramapo College
Rensselaer Polytechnic
Institute
Richard Stockton College of
New Jersey
Rider University
Roanoke College
Rowan University
Rutgers University, New
Brunswick
Saint Bonaventure University
Saint Peter's University
Seton Hall University
Smith College

Stern University
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stockton University
Syracuse University
Temple University
The College of New Jersey
The George Washington
University
University of Bridgeport
University of Delaware
University of Illinois
University of Maryland College
Park
University of Massachusetts
Amherst
University of Michigan
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of the Sciences
University of Virginia
University of Washington
Ursinus College
US Military Academy West
Point
Vanderbilt
Villanova University
Virginia Commonwealth
University
Washington College
West Chester University
West Virginia State University
Western Washington University
Westminster College
Widener University
William Patterson University
York College of Pennsylvania

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

2024-2025

- One student was named as a Commended Student in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program.
- One student earned their Associate's degree from Mercer County Community College.
- One student won an award for Best Newswriting from the New Jersey Press Foundation.
- The Health Sciences Academy had the 20th-highest average SAT scores in New Jersey.
- The Health Sciences Academy is the highest-performing high school in Mercer County, according to the New Jersey School Performance Report.

2023-2024

- Two have been named Commended Students in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program.

2022-2023

- Two juniors were elected to serve as the NJHOSA: Future Health Professionals 2023-2024 State Secretary and 2023-2024 State Southern Regional Vice President.
- One senior was named as a Commended Student in the National Merit Scholarship Program.
- One Junior had an article published in a research journal with a 2% acceptance rate.
- One Student was named a Commended Student in the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program.
- One student was a 2023 semifinalist for the National Merit Scholarship competition.

Health Science Academy

Course Sequence

Core	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English Language Arts	English I	AP Seminar: English II	English III	English IV
Mathematics (*)	Algebra I or Geometry	Geometry or Algebra II	Algebra II, or AP Precalculus	MAT125 Elementary Statistics I
Science	Biology	Chemistry	Physics	CHE107 General Chemistry
Social Studies	World History	US History I	AP US History	PSY101 Intro to Psychology
				PSY207 Developmental Psychology
Financial, Economic Business, and Entrepreneurial Business Literacy			Foundations in Personal Finance	CSW100 College Success & Wellness
Health, Safety, and Physical Education	Physical Education & Health I	Physical Education, Health II, & Drivers Education	Physical Education & Health III	Physical Education & Health IV
Visual and Performing Arts		Visual & Performing Arts Seminar		
World Languages	Spanish I / Spanish II	Spanish II		
Career Technical Education (CTE)	Dynamics of Healthcare	Medical Terminology	Anatomy & Physiology I	BIO104 Anatomy & Physiology II*
				BIO201 Microbiology
Interdisciplinary Studies	Principles of Biomedical Science (PLTW)	Human Body Systems (PLTW)	Emergency & Clinical Care	HPE101 Nutrition
Technology	Integrated throughout all courses			

Students have the opportunity to earn up to sixty (60) credits at Mercer County Community College, per the requirements in the articulation agreement. **Bolded courses** provide an opportunity for students to earn dual enrollment credit on MCTS's campus. See specific course descriptions detailed below. All post-secondary agreements are reviewed annually.

All courses **may be subject to change***

GRADING

Mercer County Technical School holds the door to student achievement wide open at all times. Students are invited to assess and reassess until each reaches the level of achievement in which he or she is willing to invest. Subjective factors are removed from the equation. When students are judged on academic achievement, they commit to academic excellence.

MCTS has adopted the following grading calculation guidelines:

- 50% Measurements of Achievement
- 40% Measurements of Process
- 10% Measurements of Practice

All teachers will use the following Grading System in determining student grades.

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade Range	Explanation
A	93-100	Mastery Demonstrates excellence in skills and course expectations.
A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	Proficiency Demonstrates competence in skills and course expectations.
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	Emerging Demonstrates progress in skills and course expectations.
C	70-76	
D	60-69	Difficulty Demonstrates limited progress in skills and course expectations.
F	0-59	Failing: Does not demonstrate necessary skills and does not meet the requirements to earn course credit.

Students who fail to earn at least a 60 final average in a non-elective course as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1 and attend and receive a passing grade in an approved summer school make-up program will receive the grade they earn. Both grades will appear on the student's transcript. Both grades will be used to calculate the student's grade point average.

A grade point average (GPA) is a standard scale used by many schools to calculate student academic achievement. Each range of number grades assigned to students will correspond to a scale number. Calculation of the GPA will take into consideration the number of credits associated with each course, the weight of the course, and the grade received by the student. The grading scale can be seen below:

Grade Scale Chart

Numerical Grade Range	Letter Grade	Non-Weight scale number	Half-Weight scale number	Full-Weight scale number
93-100	A	4.00	4.50	5.00
90-92	A-	3.75	4.25	4.75
87-89	B+	3.25	3.75	4.25
83-86	B	3.00	3.50	4.00
80-82	B-	2.75	3.25	3.75
77-79	C+	2.25	2.75	3.25
70-76	C	2.00	2.50	3.00
67-69	D+	1.25	1.75	2.25
60-66	D	1.00	1.50	2.00
0-59	F	0.00	0.00	0.00

The GPA can be calculated as weighted or unweighted. For the final GPA, MCTS will utilize the weighted GPA.

CALCULATING GPA

Weighted GPA

Determine which types of weighting each of your classes are categorized as (non-weighted, half-weighted, or full-weighted). Match the numerical grade to the corresponding scale number in the Grade Scale Chart. Determine the number of course credits allotted for each course. Multiply the course credits by the scale number for each class to get a final score number for each class. Add all the final score numbers together and divide that number by the total number of credits. This will give you your weighted GPA.

*The current 2023-2024 senior class is weighted out of a 4.0 grading scale. The grading scale above was implemented during the 2023-2024 school year.

Unweighted GPA

Match the numerical grades received in each class to the non-weighted scale number. Determine the number of course credits allotted for each course. Multiply the course credits by the non-weighted scale number for each course to get a final score number per class. Add all of the final score numbers together and divide that number by the total number of credits. This will provide you with your unweighted GPA.

Courses in the various subject areas will be categorized into one of the following levels.

Weighted Levels:	Full-Weighted (AP)	Half-Weighted (Honors)	Non-Weighted
Weight:	5.0	4.5	4.0
Courses:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → AP Precalculus → AP Seminar → AP US History 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → English I, III, IV → Algebra I, II → Geometry → Biology → Chemistry → Physics → Spanish II → World History → US History I → Visual & Performing Arts Seminar → All CTE-related courses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Spanish I → Health and PE → Foundations in Personal Finance

NAVIANCE

Naviance is a comprehensive student-centered life planning service available to all Mercer County Technical High School students. Family Connection empowers the student, family, and counselor to work together in planning for success during and beyond high school. All students can use Family Connection for college searches, career searches, and portfolio building for senior year. All college common applications will be sent electronically through Naviance: Parent Connection. Any student who is not familiar with the program should contact his/her school counselor.