



Cooper River Center for Advanced Studies
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Media Release

Cooper River Center for Advanced Studies Celebrates First Cohort of Certified Clinical Medical Assistants

North Charleston, SC (February 25, 2026) - Cooper River Center for Advanced Studies is proud to announce a historic achievement for Charleston County School District (CCSD): the successful completion of the district's first cohort of Certified Clinical Medical Assistants (CCMA).

At the start of the school year, Principal Vanessa Brown set an ambitious goal to prepare students to earn the Certified Clinical Medical Assistant credential through the National Healthcareer Association (NHA). To qualify for certification, students completed the rigorous Health Science curriculum at Cooper River, committed to independent study of the NHA curriculum beyond the school day, and participated in an intensive internship program with Roper Hospital.

The national passing score for the NHA Certified Clinical Medical Assistant exam is 390 out of 500. Cooper River is proud to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of three seniors who surpassed this benchmark:

- **Sanaai Spillers** (North Charleston High School) — Score: 447
- **Litzly Rivera Reyes** (R.B. Stall High School) — Score: 412
- **Kamora Green** (North Charleston High School) — Score: 404

"These students are graduating not only career-ready, but 'career-launched,' equipped with industry-recognized credentials that position them for immediate employment in the healthcare field," said Principal Vanessa Brown.

This milestone would not have been possible without the dedication and expertise of the Cooper River Health Science Department. School leaders credit Linda Smith, Natasha Bratton, and Kelly Kelleher for their commitment to student success and excellence in healthcare education.

Cooper River Center for Advanced Studies remains committed to expanding opportunities for students to earn industry certifications and gain real-world experience that prepares them for high-demand careers.

For more information, contact Principal Brown at (843) 953-3132.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 51,000 students in 90 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse portfolio of educational options and specialized programs delivered to the students of CCSD through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools and programs. Rich educational opportunities for students include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; military; dual credit; and many more.