

Foundations of Health Science

Foundations of Health Science is a required one-credit course that introduces students to a wide range of health careers. Integrated academics combined with health care knowledge and skills provide the framework for a strong health care delivery system in the twenty-first century. This course is the prerequisite for all the health science courses. It is recommended for students who want to prepare for further study in an array of health-related fields at the postsecondary level.

Career and technical student organizations are integral, cocurricular components of each career and technical education course. These organizations serve as a means to enhance classroom instruction while helping students develop leadership abilities, expand workplace-readiness skills, and broaden opportunities for personal and professional growth.

Career Opportunities

Students will:

1. Describe health science pathways and careers.
Examples: therapeutic services, health informatics, support services, biotechnology research and development, diagnostic services
2. Describe roles and responsibilities of individuals as members of a health care team.
Examples: communication, leadership, adaptability, diversity

Safety

3. Compare health care delivery systems for services, types of facilities, and access to care.
4. Demonstrate safe work practices in health care, including adherence to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards, observance of emergency procedures and protocol, and knowledge of body mechanics as related to the field of ergonomics.
Examples: washing hands, using personal protective equipment, preparing for fire safety

Medical Terminology

5. Identify basic medical symbols and terms, including pronunciation, abbreviations, prefixes, suffixes, and root words.

Anatomy Overview

6. Describe basic structures and functions of human body systems.

Communication Skills

7. Use effective communication skills in the field of health care, including addressing clients respectfully.
8. Use information technology applications required for health science careers.
Examples: using the Internet, transcribing, communicating information

Employability Skills

9. Demonstrate employability traits needed in health science careers.
Examples: personal appearance and hygiene, interpersonal skills, interview skills, completion of job applications

Legal and Ethical Implications

10. Recognize legal responsibilities, limitations, and implications within the health care delivery setting.
Examples: Patients' Bill of Rights, legal documentation requirements, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
11. Explain ethical practices and issues required within the health care setting.

Health and Wellness

12. Describe fundamentals of health promotion and wellness.
Examples: disease prevention, exercise, proper diet, avoiding at-risk behaviors

Technical Skills

13. Demonstrate common technical skills required in the health care industry.
Examples: assessing vital signs, demonstrating cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), administering first aid, practicing infection control
14. Use mathematics concepts in a health-related setting.

Financial Literacy

15. Create a personal career plan in a chosen health science pathway.
 - Identifying skills needed for personal financial literacy