

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS TECHNICIANS

Health Occupations Technicians is a two-year program, five days per week, two hours and forty minutes per day. Starting with the Health Occupations Core giving the students their High School Health Credit, the curriculum will be expanded to allow the student experience and exposure to multiple health fields. Being *multi-skilled* in the health fields is beneficial to job opportunities.

The H.O.T. class will allow the student employment in multiple entry level jobs within the health field, as well as provide the foundation to pursue further education in one of the over 400 health care professionals.

There will be experiences in multiple clinical settings in the local health care facilities -- hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation facilities, SASH program, ARC programs, etc. This includes exposure and exploration in a multitude of ancillary areas such as Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Laboratory, Pharmacy, Operating Room, Pediatrics, Speech Therapy, Dietary, Cardiac Rehabilitation and much more. Our students will work with healthy, as well as the ill or injured clients, from newborn on up to include all stages of the life cycle. The students will receive the basic knowledge to continue their education in the Health fields plus the benefit of exploring their chosen interest career. They will be employable for well over minimum wage (\$7.50-\$8.50 per hour).

A small sampling of some of the skills that the student will be able to perform include taking blood pressures, pulses, respiration and temperature (vital signs), use of proper body mechanics, safe transferring of patients, use of oxygen, applying dressings and bandages, gloving and isolation techniques, proper hand washing, measuring and recording height and weight, and preparing a patient for an examination or for surgery, knowledge of the chart, putting a chart together, and filling out requisition forms. Also included is introduction to anatomy and physiology, medial terminology, ethics and legalities, Geriatric Aide, and the basic fundamentals to begin a career in a health occupation.

In addition, the curriculum includes the skills necessary to take the exams for certification as a Certified Nursing Assistant in long-term care, a Certified Nursing Assistant in acute care, a Certified Health Unit Coordinator, Certification in CPR and in First Aid, and certification in Child Abuse Recognition.

These competencies will be achieved via theory in the classroom, simulated practice with clinical equipment in a lab setting, and hands-on learning in clinical settings with the community.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

H.O.T. I:

Health Occupations Education Core
High School Health Credit
Introduction to Certified Health Unit Coordinator
Introduction to the Clinical Settings
Exploration of Health Fields

H.O.T. II:

Certified Nurse's Assistant -- Long Term Care (State Certification Examination)
Certified Acute Care Nurse's Assistant (National League of Nursing Examination)
Certified Geriatric Aide
Certification in CPR

UNITS OF STUDY

Nutrition
Infant and Child
Community Health
Rehabilitation
Home Health Care
Ethics & Legalities
Body Systems & Their Functions
Geriatric Care
Vocational Adjustments
Intro. to Medical Science
Job Management Skills
Personal Health
Patient Care
Common Diseases
Interpersonal Skills
Safety
Medical Terminology

SUGGESTED EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND & QUALITIES

A student who successfully applies for this course will have to demonstrate the following:

1. Ability to maintain good interpersonal relationships.
2. An interest in the health field and caring for people, infants – adults.
3. The maturity to be responsible for patient care in a clinical situation.
4. Math skills necessary to fulfill patient care requirements including pulse, blood pressure, fluid intake, reading of calibrated devices, etc.
5. Reading ability sufficient to comprehend written directions, publications, and theory explanations.
6. Good moral character and discipline

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The students should expect classroom time to be spent with theory, related activities, and skills practiced in the classroom clinical lab.

In the first year, the student will begin to spend time in a number of health related ancillary departments for clinical experience to round out their health career education. The second year expands on this experience. This clinical experience will include traditional hospitals, nursing homes, and non-traditional schools, rehabilitation centers, clinics, health and wellness centers – utilizing departments such as central supply, laboratory, physical therapy, occupational therapy, cardiac rehabilitation, nursing floors, emergency room, intensive care unit, pediatrics, maternity, operating room, recovery room, recreational therapy, respiratory, EKG, X-ray, ultra sounds, and cat-scan.

SUGGESTED HOME SCHOOL COURSES

1. Biology or Health – for basic body systems, personal and public hygiene, bacteriology, and sanitation.
2. Mathematics – for understanding units of measurements as in height, weight, and fluid measurement, etc.
3. Art – for crafts and creative skills helpful in occupational therapy.

COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES:

No current articulation agreements