



600 Edmund Street, Bedford, VA 24523 Phone: (540) 586-3933 FAX: (540)586-7711

Program Overview

The Governor's Health Sciences Academy was established in 2014 as a joint initiative between the Virginia Department of Education and the Bedford County School System to support the academic and career goals of students interested in entering the Healthcare field. The school serves students in grades 9-12 from each of the district's three high schools in half day programs. The GHSA is housed within the Bedford Science and Technology Center located within the town of Bedford.

Curriculum

Students are selected for this program based on a combination of academic achievement, faculty recommendations, attendance patterns, and behavioral records. Students have the opportunity to earn dual enrollment college credits toward the completion of post-secondary certificate and degree programs.

Grading System

Grades earned at the Governor's Health Sciences Academy are reported to the student's base school to be placed on the student's official transcript. The base high school computes class rank and grade point average based on the following scale:

- A: 90-100
- B: 80-90
- C: 70-79
- D: 60-69
- F: below 60

End of Year grades are used to compute GPA and class rank. Credits are expressed in Carnegie Units. Averages are computed on a four-point scale (A=4; B=3; C=2; D=1; F=0). Dual-enrollment Community College courses are weighted on a 5 point scale (A=5; B=4; C=3; D=1; F=0). Report cards are issued four times a year.

Licensing and Credentials

Upon successful program completion, students are eligible to sit for the following industry credentials;

LPN, EMR/EMT, CNA

All students sit for the Commonwealth of Virginia Workplace Readiness Exam.

School Staff

Barbara Rezzonico	Administrator
Angela Beasley	Director PN program
Sherri Andrews	Instructor
Susan Burnette	Instructor
Jodi Shirey	Instructor
Tara Smith	Instructor
Cindy Smith	Paraprofessional

Community Opportunities

Students in the LPN and CNA programs serve clinical rotations at the Centra Bedford Memorial Hospital/ Centra Oakwood Health and Rehabilitation Center and other local facilities. EMT students complete a rotation in the Centra Bedford Memorial Hospital Emergency Room and with the Bedford Rescue Squad. Students in all programs participate in healthcare facility tours, community health fairs, and job shadowing opportunities.

Extracurricular Programs

Students are encouraged to participate in the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) organization at the local, regional, state, and national levels. Students participate in a variety of career and leadership competition, attend conferences, participate in public service projects and fill leadership roles as a function of their membership.

The National Technical Honor Society selects members based on the criteria of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. All students recommended by faculty and meeting the performance, attendance and character criteria are candidates.



Course Offerings

Introduction to Health and Medical Sciences (8302)

This course introduces the student to a variety of health care careers and develops basic skills required in all health and medical sciences. It is designed to help students understand the key elements of the U.S. health care system and to learn basic health care terminology, anatomy and physiology for each body system, pathologies, diagnostic and clinical procedures, therapeutic interventions, and the fundamentals of traumatic and medical emergency care. Throughout the course, instruction emphasizes safety, cleanliness, asepsis, professionalism, accountability, and efficiency within the health care environment. Students also begin gaining job-seeking skills for entry into the health and medical sciences field. In addition, instruction may include the basics of medical laboratory procedures, pharmacology fundamentals, biotechnology concepts, and communication skills essential for providing quality patient care. Students interested in medical careers are encouraged to take this course and may take this class and Medical Terminology for a completer sequence.

Nurse Aide A and B (8360, 8362)

The Nurse Aide Program is offered to eleventh or twelfth grade students interested in health careers and who have a desire to work with others. Students learn basic patient care skills and are provided with on-the-job experience in a nursing home setting. The program is designed so that completers can sit for the Certified Nurse Aide examination. An application and drug screening are required.

Practical Nursing I & II (8357, 8358)

Practical nursing is a vocation in which the qualified person is prepared to provide nursing care for patients in relatively stable situations with a minimum amount of supervision from the registered nurse and to function as an assistant to the registered nurse in more complex nursing situations. The practical nursing program is 18 months in length. The first nine months of instruction is received at Bedford Science and Technology Center during the senior year in high school, which earns the student three units of high school credit for the year. In the fall of the following year, the student begins a nine month combined classroom and clinical work experience at Carillion Bedford Memorial Hospital. Criminal background check and drug screening are required. Students will have assigned learning experiences in the care of medical, surgical, pediatric, mental health, obstetric patients, and newborn infants. Graduates of the school are eligible to take the State Board Examination for a Practical Nursing license.

Emergency Medical Technician/Basic A and B (8333, 8334)

This course prepares students for certification as a Virginia and National Registry EMR and EMT/B and including all aspects of pre-hospital basic life support as defined by the national Highway Traffic Safety Administration's National curriculum for Emergency Medical Technician/Basic. Students focus on the roles and responsibilities of emergency rescue workers, basic medical terminology, and health care skills that include first aid; cardiopulmonary resuscitation; aseptic technique; and related anatomy, physiology, and disease knowledge. Supervised work education at a rescue squad is a component of this course. Students will complete certification requirements for CPR/First Aid. Upon completion, students are eligible to sit for the EMR or EMT credentialing exam and seek employment within the community.

Biotechnical Foundations in Health and Medical Sciences (8344)

This course focuses on various techniques that are used to modify living organisms, parts of organisms, to improve plants and animals, and the development of microorganisms for specific purposes. Student activities range from bio-processing and DNA analysis, to medicine, bio-mechanical systems, and the environment. Students gain insight and understanding about biotechnology career fields.

Medical Terminology (8383)

Medical Terminology is designed to help students learn health care language. Topics are presented in logical order, beginning with each body system's anatomy and physiology and progressing through pathology, diagnostic procedures, therapeutic interventions, and finally pharmacology. Students learn concepts, terms, and abbreviations for each topic. Students interested in medical careers may take this class in conjunction with Intro to Health and Medical Science for a completer sequence. The course includes an examination that confers certification from a recognized industry, trade, or professional association or a professional license from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Forensic Technology (8409)

Forensic science plays a crucial role in today's civil and criminal cases by establishing facts through scientific analysis, using current technologies and techniques. This course provides an introduction to students who might be interested in careers in toxicology, serology, entomology, forensic pathology, forensic psychology, death investigation, and document analysis, among others.