What is the Governor’s Health Sciences Academy?

The Governor’s Health Sciences Academy at Warwick High School combines academic course-work and clinical experiences in a challenging and collaborative school environment to prepare students for careers in the Health Sciences.

The Governor’s Health Sciences Academy will address impending workforce needs identified by the state of Virginia. According to the Virginia Employment Commission, between 2012 and 2022, there is expected to be an increase of 7,304 available health care positions on the Greater Peninsula.

Health Sciences Academy Career Pathways

Therapeutic Services - Care and treat patients to improve their health over time. Counsel patients and provide them the tools needed to live a healthier and problem-free lifestyle.

Support Services and Health Informatics - Manage and assist health care professionals with a range of administrative and maintenance duties to ensure that the health care environment is maintained, in addition to overseeing all patient data, financial information and technological applications to health care processes and procedures.

Diagnostic Services - Use tests and evaluations to aid in the detection, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases, injuries or other physical conditions.

Biotechnology Research and Development - Discover new treatments and medical technologies to improve human health and advance the overall health science field.

What is distinctive about the magnet program?

- The Health Sciences curriculum helps students establish connections between mathematics, science, and technology.
- The Project Lead the Way curriculum allows biomedical sciences students to explore concepts of biology and medicine as they take on roles of different medical professionals to solve real-world problems.
- Dedicated labs offer clinical instruction and biomedical exploration.
- Anatomage 3D software offers anatomy visualization and virtual dissection system.
- Students learn about careers through mentors, career and technical education student organizations, career clubs, work site visits, guest speakers, internships and job shadowing experiences.
- Students participate in health-related school and community events.
- The program partners with Hampton University, Old Dominion University, The College of William and Mary, Christopher Newport University, Riverside Regional Medical Center, ECPI/Medical Careers Institute, Pivot Physical Therapy and Virginia Living Museum.
- The Riverside Medical Careers Club meets monthly and focuses on medical careers and related medical skills.
Getting Started

Rising ninth grade students interested in participating in the Governor’s Health Sciences Academy will be required to complete a Governor’s Health Sciences Academy application. Contact your guidance office for more information.

Students in the Academy will be expected to meet the following criteria:

• Complete an advanced mathematics course beyond Algebra II;
• Maintain a minimum of a 2.7 grade point average;
• Take a mathematics, science and health science course each year;
• Complete a Health Sciences work-based internship (minimum of 15 hours) during senior magnet course;
• Complete courses within a specific pathway in the Health Sciences Career Cluster;
• Earn an industry certification or at least nine transferable college credits; and
• Complete 200 hours of school/community service (50 hours per school year).

Assessments/Certifications offered to Health Sciences Academy students:

• NOCTI Health Assisting Assessment
• NOCTI Nurse Assisting Assessment
• National Registered Certified Phlebotomy Technician Exam
• Electronic Health Record Certification (EHRC Exam)
• All Pathways offer Virginia Workplace and Readiness Skills Assessments

How can I find additional information?

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Assessments/Certifications offered to Health Sciences Academy students:

• Career Pathway Therapeutic Services
• Diagnostic Services
• Health Informatics & Support Services
• Biotechnology Research

How do I apply for the program?

All students who wish to attend magnet programs must submit a Magnet School Application by the December deadline. Applications are available on the Newport News Public Schools website at www.nnschools.org/magnet. Online applications are preferred; however, if you are unable to access the online application, please contact the NNPS Magnet office at 757-283-7850 ext. #10314 for a paper copy.

Transportation is provided to all magnet program students who reside in Newport News.