



What Health Science Academy Participants Have Said:

"Being held to a high standard in HSA has led me to significantly outscore my peers in college. The surgical mentorship and the job shadows I participated in have truly changed my life. Prior to HSA, I didn't know what I wanted to do as a career. However, after my first medical experience, I knew that becoming a physician was and still is my dream."

-Devin Bocook, Class of 2020

"The Health Science Academy provided me with a plethora of opportunities to build a solid foundation of knowledge which has helped me so far with my college classes. The job shadows, field experiences and volunteering opportunities were very beneficial. I applied and was accepted to the physical therapy program at Marquette University, and out of 1000 applicants there were only 60 spots. There is no doubt that I got into this program because of the opportunities that HSA has provided me. It was even mentioned in my acceptance letter that my experiences that I have had were outstanding."

-Charles Masewicz, Class of 2020



Health Science Academy

Mission Statement

To provide students with opportunities and experiences in a healthcare driven curriculum designed to inspire and prepare them to be future members of the healthcare workforce.

How to Apply

High school sophomores interested in applying to the Health Science Academy can obtain an application from their high school student services office. Once applications are reviewed, potential students are contacted for an interview by the Academy's staff.

Or, you can apply online: <https://www.lacrosseschools.org/programs-services/career-choice-education/health-science-academy/>

Participating Schools

- Aquinas
- Bangor
- Coulee Christian
- Holmen
- La Crosse School District (Central, Logan, 7RCHS)
- Onalaska
- Viroqua
- West Salem

For More Information Contact:

Your guidance counselor OR
Annette O'Hern, Director
Health Science Academy
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Health Science Academy

A two-year program preparing high school juniors and seniors for education and careers in the health science industry

- Career Exploration
- Job Shadowing
- Mentoring
- Internships
- Field Experiences
- Certifications
- Dual Credit

About the Health Science Academy

The Health Science Academy provides thematic instruction, dual credit, career exploration, job shadowing opportunities, clinical experiences, health science labs, mentoring by health professionals and certification opportunities for participating students. Each day students spend three hours at the Academy and then return to their high school campus for the remainder of the school day. The integrated curriculum offers students real world applications of the knowledge and skills needed in the health science industry. Data shows that over 90% of Academy graduates are either working in or pursuing a degree in healthcare.



"The Health Science Academy gave me real world knowledge, professional acquaintances and healthcare certifications that I continue to use today. My experiences in the Health Science Academy helped shape the road to my career path, even when I had to change it while in college. Now, I am fortunate enough to work with many of my mentors as colleagues"

– Carley Buisman
Interim Manager, Integrated Center for Education
Gundersen Health System
Class of 2011



"The Health Science Academy is a great opportunity for students to explore career options firsthand within our institution. The Academy also provides a strategic solution to our future workforce needs."

– Mason Quackenbush
Director, HR Operations
Gundersen Health System

Academy Courses

Junior Year

- Anatomy & Physiology
- Health Occupations 1
- Exercise Physiology
- AP Psychology

Senior Year

- Medical Terminology*
- Advanced Anatomy & Physiology*
- Global Issues in Healthcare
- Global Partners Experience
- Health Occupations*

Your choice of:

- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Advanced Health Topics
- Health Science Apprenticeship
- Medical Mentorship (variety of areas)

*Dual credit opportunity

Academy Location

Instruction for the La Crosse Health Science Academy takes place at the Health Science Center adjacent to UW-La Crosse Campus. Field experiences and tours at the area's medical facilities and institutions of higher education are a regular part of the Academy's curriculum.

Academy Partners

- American Red Cross
- Gundersen Health System
- Health Science Consortium
- La Crosse School District
- Mayo Clinic Health System Franciscan Healthcare
- Scenic Rivers AHEC
- UW-La Crosse
- Viterbo University
- Western Technical College
- YMCA



"The Health Science Academy offers students the opportunity to learn about the many careers offered in healthcare. Through field experiences, job shadows and learning experiences focused on healthcare, students can get a jump start on their future goals and gain an understanding of the joys a career in healthcare offers."

– Nahmie George
La Crosse Health Science Academy Instructor

Pine Ridge Opportunity

Health Science Academy students have an opportunity to participate as a volunteer through Gundersen's Global Partners trips to Pine Ridge Reservation in Pine Ridge, South Dakota. Three times per year groups of Academy students and instructors work with Lakota youth from five tribal schools, conducting health fairs, first aid fairs and a youth leadership camp. Academy students learn about the culture and healthcare practices of the Lakota while interacting with the youth on Pine Ridge Reservation.