

Competencies – National Consortium for Health Science Education (Adopted by the Iowa Department of Education as State competencies for secondary programs)

Please note that districts are not required to use these, but if they do not, a DACUM process must occur to develop local standards and benchmarks.

Health Science Courses: (Minimum of 2 Carnegie Units)

Course 1

Course 2

Course 3

Course 4

Core Courses – 1 Unit – recommend Introduction to Computers/Computer Applications (through the Business Program and Nutrition through the FCS Program. Districts can also use Careers, Internships, etc.

Competency	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Course 4
Classify the basic structural and functional organization of the human body (tissue, organ, and system)				
Recognize body planes, directional terms, quadrants, and cavities				
Analyze the basic structure and function of the human body				
Describe common diseases and disorders of each body system (prevention, pathology, diagnosis, and treatment).				
Recognize emerging diseases and disorders				
Investigate biomedical therapies as they relate to the prevention, pathology, and treatment of disease				
Apply mathematical computations related to healthcare procedures (metric and household, conversions and measurements)				
Analyze diagrams, charts, graphs, and tables to interpret healthcare results				
Record time using the 24-hour clock				
Interpret verbal and nonverbal communication				
Recognize barriers to communication				
Report subjective and objective information				
Recognize the elements of communication using a sender-receiver model				
Apply speaking and active listening skills				
Use roots, prefixes, and suffixes to communicate information				
Use medical abbreviations to communicate information				
Recognize elements of written and electronic communication (spelling, grammar, and formatting)				

Understand the healthcare delivery system (public, private, government, and non-profit)				
Explain the factors influencing healthcare delivery systems				
Describe the responsibilities of consumers within the healthcare system				
Explain the impact of emerging issues such as technology, epidemiology, bioethics, and socioeconomics on healthcare delivery systems				
Discuss common methods of payment for healthcare				
Classify the personal traits and attitudes desirable in a member of the healthcare team				
Summarize professional standards as they apply to hygiene, dress, language, confidentiality and behavior				
Apply employability skills in healthcare				
Discuss levels of education, credentialing requirements, and employment trends in healthcare				
Compare careers within the health science career pathways (diagnostic services, therapeutic services, health informatics, support services, or biotechnology research and development)				
Develop components of a personal portfolio				
Demonstrate the process of obtaining employment				
Analyze legal responsibilities				
Apply procedures for accurate documentation and record keeping				
Apply standards for Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)				
Describe advance directives				
Summarize the Patient's Bill of Rights				
Understand informed consent				
Explain laws governing harassment, labor and scope of practice				
Differentiate between ethical and legal issues impacting healthcare				
Recognize ethical issues and their implications related to healthcare				
Apply procedures for reporting activities and behaviors that affect the health, safety, and welfare of others				
Understand religious and cultural values as they impact healthcare				

Demonstrate respectful and empathetic treatment of all patients/clients (customer service)				
Explain principles of infection control				
Describe methods of controlling the spread and growth of microorganisms				
Apply personal safety procedures based on Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) regulations				
Apply principles of body mechanics				
Apply safety techniques in the work environment				
Comply with safety signs, symbols, and labels				
Understand implications of hazardous materials				
Practice fire safety in a healthcare setting				
Apply principles of basic emergency response in natural disasters and other emergencies				
Understand roles and responsibilities of team members				
Recognize characteristics of effective teams				
Recognize methods for building positive team relationships				
Analyze attributes and attitudes of an effective leader				
Apply effective techniques for managing team conflict				
Apply behaviors that promote health and wellness				
Describe strategies for the prevention of diseases including health screenings and examinations				
Discuss complementary (alternative) health practices as they relate to wellness and disease prevention				
Apply procedures for measuring and recording vital signs including the normal ranges				
Apply skills to obtain training or certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), automated external defibrillator (AED), foreign body airway obstruction (FBA()) and first aid				
Utilize current computer hardware and software				
Identify records, files and technology applications common to healthcare				
Enter data into computer files using reference tools to ensure accuracy				
Communicate using technology to access and distribute data and other information				
Maintain security and confidentiality of electronic patient information adhering to workplace policies.				