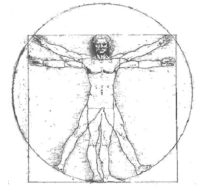




Venice High School Medical Academy

www. VHSMA.com

Frequently Asked Questions



Q: Is the Medical Academy program right for me? Who should apply to the Medical Academy?

A: Students who are interested in a career in health care including: Future Medical Doctors, Physical Therapists, Nurses, Occupational Therapists, Veterinarians, Radiology Techs, EMTs, Paramedics, Speech and Language Pathologist, Dentists, Biomedical Engineers, and more.

Q: What will I learn in academy classes and what certifications can be earned?

Medical Skills and Services (9th grade) is an introductory course which focuses on career exploration, medical terminology and basic health care skills including bystander CPR/AED and First Aid which will be built upon throughout the program. This course include vocabulary and reading and therefore it is suggested that students be reading at or above grade level. **We ask that students fill out the online Interest Survey.**

Health Science Anatomy and Physiology (10th grade) is an honors level and equally rigorous science course that takes students on an in-depth look at the human body systems. Students will learn how the structures in each body system work to perform various functions to sustain life. Students will have the opportunity to perform lab skills such as taking measurements, making predictions and observations, and utilizing tools to perform dissection. **Students must be accepted into the Medical Academy through the application process to take this course.**

Health Science Foundations (11th grade) is an honors level course that covers a broad range of healthcare-related topics including medical terminology, ethics and legal responsibilities, professional level first aid/CPR, infection control, and vital signs. Prerequisite 80% or better in Health Science Anatomy and Physiology (or equivalent course).

EKG Technician (12th grade) is an honors level course that focuses on in-depth instruction of the cardiovascular system including training in the appropriate theories, instrumentation and pharmaceuticals used in by health care providers. Students in this course will take the **NHA EKG Technician Certification** exam. In addition to EKG technician content, other skills such as sterile technique and phlebotomy may be covered. Prerequisite 80% or better in Health Science Foundations (or equivalent course).

Q: How do I apply to the Medical Academy?

A: Students apply to the Medical Academy in the spring of 9th grade for acceptance into the Sophomore Anatomy and Physiology class. **Students who are successful in our 9th grade Medical Skills and Services course will receive priority when applications are reviewed.**

Q: Why should I sign up for Medical Skills and Services class in 9th grade?

A: This class will set you up for success. The focus on medical terminology in 9th grade will help you prepare for the honors level Anatomy and Physiology class you are required to take in 10th grade. There is a lot of vocabulary in Anatomy and Physiology, we teach you study techniques as well as the basics of the medical language that you will use in Anatomy and Physiology as well as the rest of your medical career. There is an online Interest Survey that we ask you to complete to be assured you are selecting the correct course.

Also, if you are successful in Medical Skills and Services you will have priority in the application for acceptance into Health Science Anatomy and Physiology.

Q: How many new members are accepted each year?

A: This number varies with the number of periods our teachers have available for each level of the course progression. This year we have 90 freshmen, 81 sophomores, 67 juniors and 57 seniors. There are almost always more applicants than available seats.

Q: What are the admission requirements?

A: Due to the rigorous nature of the courses in the academy program a **minimum** grade of 70% in English, Math and Science is required as well as a grade of 80% or better in Medical Skills if the course was taken. In addition, applicants should be **on-grade-level or above reading and math scores**.

Q: What are the requirements to stay in the academy once I'm accepted?

A: Academy students and parents sign a contract that outlines grade and behavior requirements. This contract can be viewed on our website.

Q: Are there opportunities for community service as a member of the Medical Academy?

A: We provide opportunities for students to give back to the community through monthly service projects related to health issues.

Q: Which accelerated academic programs offered at Venice High School can academy student participate in?

A: Venice High School offers several options for accelerated academic course work. Students in the academy are preparing for entry into competitive college majors and need to build academic resumes that reflect their ability to succeed. Participation in Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and Dual Enrollment course work is an excellent way to meet this challenge. Students who chose to apply to the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program for their junior and senior years will not be able to complete the Medical Academy program. However, students who choose any of the other accelerated pathways, including the International Baccalaureate Career Program, which offer more flexibility, can complete the academy program while potentially earning college credit.

Q: What opportunities will Medical Academy students have that will allow them to interact with the Health Care System in our community?

A: Starting in the 2022-2023 school year we have partnered with SMH to increase the opportunities for students To interact with healthcare professionals. SMH is providing guest speakers to increase knowledge about healthcare careers, present case studies, provide interactive skill-based training. In addition, seniors in our program have been invited to shadow professionals at the Venice Campus.

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