



2020-2021 Health Science Academy School Profile

ABOUT THE HEALTH SCIENCE ACADEMY

The Health Science Academy is a full-time, 4-year program offered by the Mercer County Technical School District. The Health Science Academy offers self-motivated students comprehensive preparation for careers in the health, medical and biological sciences. Students work and study in a creative environment enhanced by contact with specialists in the health care fields. Personal and career counseling coupled with field experiences prepares each student for college and careers. The Health Science Academy is affiliated with colleges, universities, private practitioners and medical and research facilities in order to enhance the highly technical program we offer.

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Health Science Academy to provide a highly specialized learning environment which promotes the development of a confident, well-rounded health care professional through unique academic experiences specific to the field of health care.

This will be achieved by:

- implementing challenging cross curricula experiences that promote critical thinking skills and foster opportunities for leadership,
- embracing high professional standards in ethics and character development,
- providing authentic clinical experiences and internships through professional and community partnerships and
- utilizing state-of-the-art equipment technology that will enhance employment and academic opportunities in an ever-changing environment.

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Kimberly J. Schneider, Superintendent
Dana Hice DePugh, Assistant Superintendent
Gary Mattia, Interim Principal
Lori Russo, Supervisor of Secondary Education

GUIDANCE

Megan Ferdetta, School Counselor

LOCATION

Health Science Academy
Assunpink Center
1085 Old Trenton Road
Trenton, NJ 08690
T: 609.586.5144
www.mcts.edu



ACCREDITATION

The Mercer County Technical School District is certified by the New Jersey State Department of Education and accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

CERTIFICATIONS

Students will work toward certifications in American Red Cross First Aid and American Heart Association's Health Care Provider CPR.

CLASS LENGTH

Classes are 80 minutes in length and are offered on a rotating A/B block schedule.

CLASS RANK

The Health Science Academy does not rank its students.

CURRICULUM

The Health Science Academy provides students with a focused program in the medical and biological sciences. Options are afforded for a Health Science Academy student to pursue goals of post-secondary education at the college or university level, or to enter the workforce directly upon high school graduation. Students receive a solid foundation in the core subjects and a rigorous health sciences program of study. A major learning component of the program is the opportunity for students to attain practical experience in the workplace as well as in academic settings. In 12th grade all HSA students participate in dual enrollment classes at Mercer County Community College.

ENROLLMENT

More than 100 students are enrolled in grades 9-12 at the Health Science Academy.

FACULTY

The average teacher-to-student ratio is 1:13.

LOCATION

The Health Science Academy is located at the Assunpink Center in Trenton, New Jersey.

COLLEGE CREDIT

Articulation Agreements with Mercer County Community College (MCCC) and Rutgers School of Health Related Professions allow students to earn valuable college credit upon successful completion of high school classes. Students can earn up to 21 college credits.

Seniors may participate in the Career Prep program which is offered in partnership with Mercer County Community College. Students can enroll in courses at Mercer County Community College and earn up to 13 college credits. This is an exceptional elective opportunity for students to simultaneously earn high school and college credits.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Every student must complete a minimum of forty (40) hours of community service at the end of Senior year to earn Rutgers University credits.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Students have the opportunity to demonstrate what they've learned by participating in co-curricular student organizations such as HOSA: Future Health Professionals. In addition, students may elect to participate in the Debate Team, Student Council, Yearbook, Math League and Model UN.

COURSES OFFERED

BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Biology BIO113
 Global Health
 Chemistry
 Dynamics of Health Care (Rutgers)
 Anatomy and Physiology I (Rutgers)
 Physics
 Organic Chemistry

ENGLISH

English I—World Literature
 English II—American Literature
 English III—American Literature II
 Creative Writing (1/2 year)
 English Composition I ENG101 (MCCC)

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

High School Program at Princeton University
 Music Appreciation (Acellus online)
 Personal Financial Literacy (1/2 year)
 Career Prep at MCCC
 Medical Terminology (Rutgers)
 Forensic Speech
 Elective (MCCC)

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I
 Algebra II
 Geometry
 Pre-Calculus MAT 146 (MCCC)
 Calculus (MCCC)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Fitness & Health I
 Fitness & Health II and Drivers Education
 Fitness & Health III
 Fitness & Health IV
 Intro to Personal Fitness
 Concepts of Health Fitness HPE 110 (MCCC)

SOCIAL STUDIES

World History
 US History I (US History to 1865)
 US History II (US History Since 1865)
 Introduction to Sociology SOC101 (MCCC)
 Introduction to Psychology PSY101 (MCCC)

WORLD LANGUAGE

Spanish I
 Spanish II
 Spanish III

GRADING SYSTEM

Grades earned are determined by instructors at the end of each marking period and are recorded on the student's grade report which is maintained by Student Pupil Services.

Letter grades have the following quality point values: A+=4.0, A=3.9, A-=3.8, B+=3.7, B=3.5, B-=3.0, C+=2.7, C=2.5, C-=2.0, D=1 and F=0. Other grades do not count in the quality point average.

Grades	Nominal %	QPA Quality Point Average
A+ Super Achievement	97-100	4.0
A	93-96	3.9
A-	90-92	3.8
B+	87-89	3.7
B Above Average Achievement	83-86	3.5
B-	80-82	3.0
C+	77-79	2.7
C Average Achievement	74-76	2.5
C-	70-73	2.0
D Minimally Passing	60-69	1.0
F Academic Failure	0-59	0.0
S Satisfactory	60-100	
NC No Credit	0-59	
WP Withdrawn Passing—No evaluation		N/A
WF Withdrawn Failing—No evaluation		N/A
Temporary Grades		
N No grade report by the instructor		N/A
I Incomplete—no credit earned		N/A
"I" indicates that the instructor is affording extra time for a course grade to be earned. The amount of extra time is determined by the instructor, up to a maximum of two calendar weeks after grades are submitted. An "I" grade not resolved with two calendar weeks is changed to an F grade as appropriate to the course.		

OUR GRADUATES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO THESE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Arcadia University	Juniata College	Princeton University	University of Illinois
Boston University	Kean University	Purdue University	University of Maryland College Park
Bradley University	Keiser University	Quinnipiac University	University of Massachusetts Amherst
Brown University	Lehigh University	Ramapo College	University of Pennsylvania
Capital Technology University	Lemoine College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Pittsburgh
Carnegie Mellon University	Louisiana State University	Richard Stockton College of New Jersey	University of Rochester
Case Western University	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences	Rider University	University of the Sciences
Centenary College	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Roanoke College	University of Virginia
Cheney University of Pennsylvania	Mercer County Community College	Rowan University	University of Washington
Coastal Carolina University	Monmouth University	Rutgers University, New Brunswick	Ursinus College
Coppin State University	Montclair State University	Saint Bonaventure University	US Military Academy West Point
Cornell University	New England College	Saint Peter's University	Villanova University
Dixie State College	New Jersey Institute of Technology	Seton Hall University	Virginia Commonwealth University
Drew University	New York Institute of Technology	Smith College	Washington College
Drexel University	New York University	Stern University	West Chester University
Duke University	Northeastern University	Stevens Institute of Technology	West Virginia State University
Duquesne University	NOVA Southeastern University	Stockton University	Western Washington University
Emory University	Oxford University	Syracuse University	Westminster College
Fairleigh Dickinson University	Pace University	Temple University	Widener University
Fairleigh Dickinson University	Pennsylvania State University	The College of New Jersey	William Patterson University
Florida Southern College	Philadelphia University	The George Washington University	York College of Pennsylvania
Georgian Court University		University of Bridgeport	
Georgetown University		University of Delaware	
Hollins University			
Howard University			
Huntsman School of Business			
Johns Hopkins University			

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

2019–2020

- One Health Science Academy senior qualified as a US Presidential Scholars semifinalist (one of 621 nationwide).
- Two Health Science Academy juniors qualified for the first round in the National Merit Scholarship Program.
- The New Jersey Governor's School in the sciences at Drew University accepted one student.
- One student was elected to serve as the New Jersey HOSA: Future Health Professionals Southern Regional Vice President.

2018–2019

- One student was elected to serve as the NJ Future Health Professionals (HOSA) Southern Regional Vice President
- The NJ Governor's School in the Sciences at Drew University accepted one student
- A student was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout by the Boy Scouts of America. His community service project benefited the Assunpink Center.
- A Health Science Academy student was recognized as a 2019 US Presidential Scholar.
- A student was also named as a National Merit Scholarship Finalist.
- One student was awarded a joint Army ROTC/HOSA Future Health Professionals scholarship which will cover her tuition for four years at Brown University (valued at over \$200,000!).
- Three students were awarded three of only four total college scholarships by New Jersey HOSA, valued at nearly \$2000 total.
- Collectively the Class of 2019 earned 268 Rutgers credits through the School of Health Professions program, valued at over \$116,000 worth of college credit.

2017–2018

- One student was elected to serve as the NJ Association of Student Council Vice President
- One student was elected to serve as the NJ Future Health Professionals (HOSA) Vice President
- The NJ Governor's School of Engineering & Technology at Rutgers University School of Engineering accepted one student
- One graduate was accepted to the Rutgers University ODASIS (Office for Diversity and Academic Success in the Sciences) strategic planning program
- The Professional Engineering Society of Mercer County awarded Mr. Wiest the STEM teacher of the year.
- A total of 372 Mercer County Community College credits were earned this school year.
- The Class of 2018 earned 218 Rutgers credits last year.
- Assunpink Center was named as a US News and World Report America's Best High School.
- A member of the Class of 2019 attended the Governor's School in Engineering at Rutgers University.

- Three HSA students served as New Jersey HOSA State Officers. One student ran for National HOSA Executive Council at the 2018 International Leadership Conference and was also presented with the New Jersey Outstanding State Leader.
- 14 students medaled at the State Leadership Conference in Competitive Events.
- New Jersey Association of Student Councils (NJASC) Honor School: This award recognizes accumulated consecutive years that schools follow criteria recognized by NJASC as being important for developing and maintaining a successful Student Council program.
- NJASC Community Smile: This award recognizes Student Councils throughout New Jersey for their many student-hours of service to school and community throughout the school year.
- NJASC State Charity \$1,000 club: Each year, student leaders at our member schools raise thousands of dollars for a special State Charity that is chosen by their State Officers each April. At the Spring Awards Program in May the new State Charity for the coming year is announced, while awards are presented for various levels of support.
- In Spring 2017, received the highest award possible from NJASC, Standards of Excellence: The most difficult and prestigious award presented by NJASC; schools can receive it only once every five years. Participating student councils will conduct a rigorous self-evaluation and then be evaluated by a visiting team from another participating school.

2016—2017

- A Senior was named as a U.S. Presidential Scholar
- Three HOSA NJ State Officers elected
- Two students earned a summer internship with the U.S. Surgeon General
- A Senior earns diploma and MCCC Associate Degree in Mathematics
- Students earned 212 Rutgers credits
- Student Council received Standards of Excellence award from the NJ Association of Student Councils
- Sophomore student selected by First Lady Mary Pat Christie as the 49th NJ Hero

2015—2016

- US News and World Report's Best High School List—Bronze medal
- Three students were named Commended Students in the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program
- A Sophomore self-published a book about a teenage girl's journey leaving a South Asian country to live in the United States
- A Student was elected as NJ Association of Student Councils President
- Three HOSA NJ State Officers elected
- The Professional Engineers Society of Mercer County awarded Mr. Pfeffer the STEM Teacher of the Year and a senior a scholarship
- A Student won the Plainsboro Human Relations Council's Youth Award
- A Student won the Mercer County Commission on the Status of Women's Young Women of Achievement Award
- Two students earned a summer internship with the Surgeon General in Washington, D.C.