

# Career Exploration and Work-Based Learning at Hawthorne Academy of Health Sciences

A TRANSFORMATIVE HEALTH CARE JOURNEY

## Hands-On Experiences

Through a diverse range of hands-on experiences, site visits and health care focused learning opportunities, Hawthorne Academy empowers students to make informed decisions about their future in the health care industry.

## Real World Understanding

This work-based learning program lays a strong foundation for a successful career as students gain a deep appreciation for the various roles and challenges within the health care industry.

## Prepared for the Future

By the end of this comprehensive program, Hawthorne Academy students will be prepared to take the next step in their educational and professional journeys.

## 9th Grade

### Introductions and Observational Experiences

Students gain hands-on exposure to diverse health care pathways and careers through observational experiences, teambuilding exercises, introductory workshops, career panels and facility tours.

## 10th Grade

### Expanding Horizons

Students deepen their health care exploration through in-depth activities and simulations. They work with career coaches to create resumes, cover letters and participate in mock interviews. Upon completing their sophomore year, students participating in the College Bridge Year track can also participate in Atrium Health's REACH summer program, where they are eligible for a stipend.

## 11th Grade

### Paid Summer Internships

Juniors continue their courses at Hawthorne Academy and Carolinas College and can participate in paid summer internships to gain real-world experience in the health care field.

## 12th Grade

### CNA Rotation and Pathways to Healthcare

Seniors finish their courses at Hawthorne Academy and Carolinas College while completing a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) rotation. Seniors are working towards obtaining their Associate of Science in General Studies. Upon high school graduation, students can participate in the Pathways to Healthcare program at Atrium Health.

## 13th Year

### College Bridge Year

Students participating in the College Bridge Year track are eligible to join the Pathways to Healthcare program at Atrium Health. This program allows them to work part-time at Atrium Health while completing their Associate of Applied Science degree or any remaining college courses from prior years.

*Opportunities depend on the educational track students choose. Work-based learning offerings may vary based on whether students participate in the 12- or 13-year programs.*



# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Observational Experiences & Introductions

Students embark on a journey of health care exploration, starting with an orientation and introduction to a wide range of career options. They will tour Atrium Health and Carolinas College of Health Sciences facilities, learn about patient privacy and HIPAA regulations and dive deeper into specific health care pathways like nursing, radiology, simulation technology and neurodiagnostic technology.

*Please note: The calendar is subject to change.*



# 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Expanding Horizons

### First Semester

Refresh and review work-based learning offerings that were completed in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Opportunities to hear from Carolinas College faculty and administrators about college courses students will be taking sophomore year.

### Second Semester

Students are paired with a dedicated career coach and receive personalized support to guide them on their career journey. Support includes expert resume assistance, personalized cover letter guidance and valuable mock interviews.

Introduction and overview of internship opportunities for 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

## Summer Opportunity REACH

Eligible sophomore students can participate in an Atrium Health-paid summer program called REACH, designed to promote and expose high school students to health care careers. Participants will engage in a four-week program, averaging 32 hours a week. Students will receive a stipend (pre-tax) to offset any missed summer work.

- ☐ Observing a "day in the life" on a weekly rotational basis
- ☐ Daily professional engagement and development activities
- ☐ Medical skills simulation and hands-on training
- ☐ Discussions with health care professionals on how to become a practitioner and explore different practice options
- ☐ Guidance on navigating higher education pathways
- ☐ Financial fitness discussions
- ☐ Engagement with leaders and learning resources
- ☐ Educational field trips (*optional*)
- ☐ Information about career opportunities at Atrium Health

# 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Paid Summer Internships

As students complete their junior year, they can participate in a six-week paid summer internship at Atrium Health. These immersive experiences allow students to gain valuable, hands-on exposure to various health care roles and settings, further solidifying their career aspirations and providing them with real-world experience that will be invaluable as they prepare for the next steps after high school.

Students will gain valuable hands-on experience in various departments throughout Atrium Health, such as:

- ✓ Radiology
- ✓ Quality Management
- ✓ Nursing
- ✓ Simulation
- ✓ Neurodiagnostic Tech
- ✓ Pharmacy



# 12<sup>th</sup> Grade & College Bridge Year

## CNA Rotation & Pathways to Healthcare

### Hands-On Health Care Heroes

During their senior year, Hawthorne Academy students dive into the vital role of nursing assistants by participating in a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) rotation. These real-world experiences give them an up-close look at the day-to-day joys and challenges faced by health care heroes. Students gain essential skills and a deeper understanding of the crucial contributions of nursing assistants.



### Additional Pathways to Success

Upon graduation from Hawthorne Academy, students who have participated in the comprehensive health care career exploration program will be well-prepared for the next step in their educational and professional journeys. Many will be hired into the Pathways to Healthcare program and/or continue their educational journey, leveraging the valuable knowledge, skills and real-world experience they have gained throughout their high school years.

#### Option 1

##### Pathways to Healthcare

The Pathways to Healthcare program at Atrium Health offers ongoing support and opportunities for high school graduates to earn an associate's degree or certification in health care. Participants work part-time during college and commit to work an additional year at Atrium Health after graduation.

The program also encourages participants to continue their education and pursue a bachelor's degree, providing financial support of up to \$5,250 a year for their studies.

#### Option 2

##### Entering the Workforce

Students may decide not to pursue one of the identified pathways and instead enter the Atrium Health workforce directly as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), without continuing their education.

In this case, the student will receive ongoing career coaching during their first 90 days of employment. Teammates of Atrium Health are also eligible for Education Tuition Assistance to earn additional degrees while working.

#### Option 3

##### College Bridge Year

Hawthorne Academy students can take advantage of the College Bridge Year, giving them the opportunity to complete college courses and work towards earning an Associate of Science degree. Students are also allowed to pursue additional certifications or further their education, setting them on the path to future success.

Students participating in the College Bridge Year track can also receive up to \$5,250 per year in tuition support from Atrium Health.