

# HEALTH SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

## Instructional Arrangements

The HSTE curriculum may be delivered by several different instructional arrangements.

*Introduction to Health Science Technology and Health Science Technology I* are considered comprehensive courses because the student experiences a broad exposure to health careers and learns the basic skills of a multi-skilled health care worker. Career shadowing, field trips, and guest speakers should be important components of this classroom instructional arrangement. Students should master the essential knowledge and skills of these foundation courses before the student is enrolled in any work-based instructional class.

*Health Science Technology II and Health Science Technology III* may be taught by several instructional arrangements, such as laboratory, unpaid work-based learning, paid work-based learning, or apprenticeship. Each instructional arrangement is composed of classroom instruction using the TEKS as the curriculum framework and a paid or unpaid work-based learning component.

**Laboratory** is a method of instruction designed to provide knowledge and skills training in a specific career/occupation. The instruction is provided in a school-based laboratory setting utilizing tools, equipment, technology, and processes relevant to the career/occupation.

Unpaid Work-Based Learning is designed to provide **unpaid** work-based instruction where a student explores a number of health careers in a variety of clinical settings.

An affiliation agreement between the school and each health care facility is required.

A training agreement between the student, parent, facility, and school must be on file before a student can begin the work-based learning experience.

Students must have direct, professional supervision during unpaid work-based learning experiences.

Students must clearly be identified as a "Student" with an appropriate nametag.

Unpaid work-based learning experiences are NOT subject to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), i.e. wages are not paid, the student is not employed, and Federal child labor laws do not apply, if all of the following criteria are met:

training, even though it indicates actual operation of the facilities of the employer, is similar to that which would be given in a vocational school;

training is for the benefit of the trainees or students;

the training or students do not displace regular employees, but work under their close observation;

the employer that provides the training derives no immediate advantages from the activities of the trainees or students, and on occasion operations may actually be impeded;

the trainees or students are not necessarily entitled to a job at the conclusion of the training period; and

the employer and the trainees or students understand that the trainees or students are not entitled to wages for the time spent in training.

Work-Based Learning is designed to provide **paid** work-based education and training and is subject to the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Federal Child Labor Laws. The student is provided the opportunity to receive school-based instruction and occupationally-specific work-based training under the supervision of an employer. This method requires a written work-based learning training agreement with a business/industry training sponsor, the student, a parent/guardian, and the school. The student's occupationally-specific learning experiences must be planned and supervised by the school and training sponsor so that each contributes to the student's education and employability skills.

- Students must be a minimum age of 16 in order to enroll in a paid career preparation work-based learning experience.
- For two units of credits, students must have an average of 1 hour of classroom instruction each day and an average of 10 hours of work-based instruction per week.
- For three units of credit, students must have an average of 1 hour of classroom instruction each day and an average of 15 hours of work-based instruction per week.
- A training plan must be on file within 15 instructional days of the student's enrollment date.
- Teachers must visit each student's training site at least six times each school year.
- If a student is absent in the morning but attends afternoon work based training, the student is counted absent for the entire day.

**Apprenticeship** programs are designed to provide education and training instruction registered with the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training (BAT) that is conducted or sponsored by an employer, group of employers, or a joint industry committee. The Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training Officially Recognized Apprenticeshipable Occupations List identifies the following health occupations:

Biomedical Equipment Technician  
Dental Assistant  
Dental Laboratory Technician

Laboratory Assistant  
Laboratory Technician  
Medical Secretary  
Medical Laboratory Technician  
Podiatric Assistant

For more information contact:  
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