



# Gaston County Schools

# Health Sciences

## Academy

### Health Sciences Academy at East Gaston High School

#### Frequently Asked Questions

**1. What is the purpose of the Health Sciences Academy?**

The purpose of the Academy is to allow students to explore interest in the Health Science field while in high school and gain unique experience to prepare them for the workforce, community college or four year university.

**2. Will my child have to attend East Gaston for longer than 4 years?**

Students in all Health Sciences Academy courses will meet the NC High School Graduation requirements in 4 years. Students pursuing Nurse Aide II certification must take a course and exam the summer after graduation to complete credential requirements.

**3. What are the requirements for admissions to the Academy?**

Students must earn a Level III, IV, or V on the 6th grade Reading EOG and have earned a 70 “C” overall average in 7th grade, maintain a 94% attendance rate and good standing regarding conduct. Non Gaston County School applicants must also provide 7th grade final report card and 7th grade standardized test scores administered at the applicant’s school. In addition, **non-Gaston County School** applicants must provide first semester 8th grade report card and attendance records. For acceptance into the lottery, applicants must also complete an 8th grade iReady Diagnostic Assessment (Middle-of-Year Tests) in Reading and Math and be proficient at a “Early Grade Level” or higher score (*this assessment will be given at the Gaston County Schools Office of Student Assignment*).

**4. Who can apply to the Health Sciences Academy and how are students selected?**

Incoming ninth grade students may apply.

**5. What are the requirements for continued enrollment?**

Parent/legal guardian must maintain residency in Gaston County. Students must be in good standing including appropriate attendance, behavior, and academics. Students must be eligible to meet the College Now Program (formerly Career & College Promise) guidelines as outlined by Gaston College.

**6. Do I have to want to be a nurse or doctor to be in the Health Sciences Academy?**

NO! In addition to our Nurse Aid classes, the Health Sciences Academy will offer courses that include Pharmacy Technician, Foundation of Animal Medicine, Foundation of Health & Fitness Science.



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**7. Will students in the Health Science classes be in classes with students outside of the Academy?**

Students will be grouped together for specific courses in their pathways. East Gaston is a comprehensive high school, so courses are scheduled based on students' individual needs. All students will have access to a variety of courses including College Now, AP, Honors, and Fine Arts courses.

**8. What opportunities will be available because of my enrollment in the Health Sciences Academy?**

Students in the Health Sciences Academy will have unique field trip opportunities such as SciVisit at Gaston College, internships following their junior year, and volunteer opportunities with Caromont. In addition, students in the Academy will be members of HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America)/ Future Health Professionals. Students in this club compete with HOSA/Future Health Professionals Organizations from other schools at regional, state, and national levels. Students will also have the opportunity to further explore health science careers.

**9. What credentials could I earn as a part of the Health Sciences Academy?**

Certified Nursing Assistant, CPR, First Aid, Pharmacy Technician, OSHA Healthcare, Dietary Manager, Medical Assisting.

**10. What is the earliest I can drop my child off and the latest I can pick up my child?**

Students may be dropped off 30 minutes prior to the start of school and must be picked up by 4:00 PM if not involved in an after school program.

**11. Does my student have to attend face to face instruction on East Gaston campus if they are enrolled in the Health Sciences Academy?**

Due to the nature of classes and the special opportunities that are offered to students in the Health Sciences Academy (HSA), students who are in this HSA must attend classes in the face to face format.