

ELIZABETH HEALTH ACADEMY

*Elizabeth Learning Center
4811 Elizabeth Street
Cudahy, CA 90201
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MISSION:

***The Elizabeth Learning Center Health Academy is a school-to-work program.
The Health Academy uniquely prepares the students within our community
for entry into both liberal arts and vocational colleges and universities along with providing
job entry and life skills to succeed with careers in the health fields.***

The graduating seniors will have skills sufficient to:

- Enroll in a university and pursue an advanced degree in health care.
- Enroll in a technical/vocational school or community college and pursue a career in a health care profession.
- Obtain an entry-level job in the health care industry.

THE HEALTH ACADEMY TEACHING TEAM DECLARES:

1. In an environment of honesty, integrity, respect, and responsibility, we motivate our students to contribute to society and promote life skills, which enable them to establish and achieve personal and career goals.
2. We commit to the development of intellectual curiosity and skills, which facilitate exploring, accessing, utilizing and evaluating information.
3. We provide opportunities and experiences for students to acquire confidence and self-esteem to expand their personal horizons and cope with emerging obstacles.
4. Through curricular and co-curricular activities, we promote the exploration of Los Angeles' rich cultural diversity, foster tolerance and acceptance of this diversity, and reinforce personal pride in each student's unique heritage.
5. We acknowledge that education is a joint partnership of students, parents, teachers, counselors, administrators, the community, and health care industry partners, and we expect that **all** will be actively involved in the fulfillment of these goals.

ACADEMY PROCESSES INCLUDE:

1. Students voluntarily enroll in the Academy with the desire to pursue a career in health
 - *Annually 8th grade students are recruited for the 9th Grade Academy and selected through an application and interview process*
 - *8th grade students have the option to join the Health or Information Technology Academies*
2. Students are scheduled all three years in Health Careers (10th = Health Careers 1&2, 11th = Health Careers 3&4; 12th = Med Lab) and English
 - *10th Grade: World History and Biology are included*
 - *11th Grade: Chemistry, Spanish and U.S. History are added*
 - *12th Grade: Fine Arts, Psychology and Government/Economics are added.*
3. Core Academy teachers provide continuity 10th through 12th grade
 - *Core Academy team members meet at least four hours monthly after school*
 - *A lead instructor guides the team processes and has release time daily and during Summer specifically for program coordination*
4. Curriculum is thematic and interdisciplinary
 - *A wide range of instructional strategies are employed*
 - *Partnerships with the community, adjacent technical schools, colleges, universities and with the health care industry provide both paid and unpaid clinical laboratories where students learn and apply work-site skills and expand their knowledge of health careers.*
 - *An industry-based steering committee is actively involved with all aspects of the Academy including curriculum design*
5. Student career planning occurs throughout the entire Academy program
 - *Health career classes utilize the National Health Care Skill Standards occupational core clusters—Therapeutic, Diagnostic, Information and Environmental services*
 - *Students are challenged to explore career paths within each cluster as well as career paths across the educational continuum—school to work; school to vocational education; and, school to advanced education*
 - *High school counselors participate with the Steering Committee as well as interact consistently with the students 10th through 12th grade.*

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

In the 10th, 11th and 12th grades Health Career Classes, community activities related to health careers are part of the curriculum. These activities include:

COMMUNITY SERVICE: 10th grade students are required to complete 50 hours of community service. This requirement is to introduce the students to the need for volunteerism as well as to help them understand community health and wellness. *These activities are all completed on the students' own time*, either after school, during the weekends, or during Summer and Winter break.

11th and 12th grade students are encouraged to continue participating with Service Learning and students exceeding 100 and 150 total hours of Service Learning will receive special recognition at graduation. 11th graders are also required to fulfill a Service Learning Project as part of their graduation requirement.

JOB SHADOWING/MENTOR PROGRAM: 11th grade students participate in a job shadow program in which they are paired with healthcare professionals in the student's career of choice. The job shadow program is completed at an industry workplace in approximately three, two-hour sessions, usually during regular school hours. Students are *required to successfully complete Health Careers I class* prior to being accepted in the Job Shadow Program. Experiences include working in a clinic, Medical Laboratory, Emergency Department, hospital units, Plant Operations, and community social service areas.

INTERN PROGRAM: 12th grade students complete 80 hours in an intern program working in paid or non-paid entry level roles that they have demonstrated clinical competence to perform. The intern-focused roles include Central Supply Technician Assistant, Clerical, Clinic Assistant, Medical Records, Transportation Orderly, Research Assistant, and Sports Trainer Assistant.