

## National Health Science Career Pathways

The National Health Science Career Cluster model provides a continuum of learning to help create a bridge from high school to postsecondary education and/or employment in the health care industry. Through levels of awareness, exploration, and orientation activities, students begin preparation for a career within one of five pathways. All careers within health care are organized with the following Health Care Pathways. Additional information can be obtained at [www.nchste.org](http://www.nchste.org). Pathways include:

### Therapeutic Services Pathway

Maintain or change the health status of the client over time – including care management, dentistry, dietetics, home health medicine, nursing, pharmacy, rehabilitation, respiratory care, and others.  
(diseases/disorders/cancer, exercise/health – infant/child/elderly, first aid)

### Diagnostic Services Pathway

Create a picture of client health status at a single point in time – including cardiology, imaging, medical laboratory, radiography, and others.  
(V/S – temperature/pulse/respiration/ blood pressure, first aid applications, medical laboratory processes – blood cell magnification/calculation, imagery, lasers, heredity, symptoms of disease)

### Health Informatics Pathway

Document client care – including medial records management, unit coordination, utilization review, and others.  
(medical records, medical terminology, case studies, telemedicine, front office, patient interaction, bio-ethical issues, medical law, insurance, accounting, billing and collection, medical dictation, insurance issues, coordination)

### Support Services Pathway

Provide a therapeutic environment for the delivery of care – including central supply, facility maintenance, food service, and others.  
(emergency preparedness, food service, hazardous waste management, supply - purchasing/inventory, facility, equipment, hazardous waste management)

### Biotechnology Research and Development Pathway

Uses scientific and technological advances to enhance diagnostic and therapeutic abilities in health care – including biochemist, cell biologist, biostatistician, microbiologist, toxicologist, lab technician, pharmaceutical scientist, genetics, and others.  
(molecular biology of disease, quality of life, new diagnostic tools, ethical issues, statistics, DNA and genetic engineering)