

Middle School Career Investigations

Health Science Pathways

Menu



Within the Health Science Career Cluster, there are five pathways: Biotechnology Research and Development, Diagnostic Services, Health Informatics, Support Services, and Therapeutics Services. Click on each of the icons to learn more about these pathways. Make sure to visit each one.

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Biotechnology Research and Development Description



The infographic features a light blue background with a hexagonal pattern. On the left, there is an illustration of a microscope with a green and yellow cell-like structure in its lens. Below the microscope, the text 'Biotechnology Research and Development' is written. To the right of the microscope, the word 'Description' is written in bold. Below this, there are two bullet points with checkmarks. On the far right, there is a cartoon illustration of a female scientist with glasses, wearing a white lab coat over a dark skirt, holding a blue folder and pointing upwards with her right hand.

Biotechnology Research and Development Pathway

Description

- ✓ Involves bioscience research and development as it applies to human health
- ✓ May study diseases to discover new treatments or invent medical devices used to directly assist patients or to improve the accuracy of diagnostic tests

Biotechnology Research and Development

Careers in the Biotechnology Research and Development Pathway involve bioscience research and development as it applies to human health. These scientists may study diseases to discover new treatments or invent medical devices used to directly assist patients or to improve the accuracy of diagnostic tests.

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Biotechnology Research and Development Sample Careers



The infographic features a light blue background with a hexagonal pattern. On the left, there is an icon of a microscope with a green cell-like structure inside the lens. Below the icon, the text reads "Biotechnology Research and Development". To the right of the icon, the heading "Sample Careers" is followed by a list of five career titles. On the far right, there is a cartoon illustration of a female scientist in a white lab coat, holding a blue folder and pointing upwards.

Biotechnology Research and Development Pathway

Sample Careers

- Biochemist
- Cell Biologist
- Certified Registered Central Service Technician (CRCST)
- Medical or Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Research Assistant

Biotechnology Research and Development

Sample careers in the Biotechnology and Development Pathway include Biochemist, Cell Biologist, Certified Registered Central Service Technician, Medical or Clinical Laboratory Technician, and Research Assistant.

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Biotechnology Research and Development Education and Salaries

	Education and Salaries	
 Biotechnology Research and Development	Cell Biologist	Clinical Laboratory Technician
	Master's Degree Ph.D. or M.D. Annual Salary \$93,490	Associate Degree Annual Salary \$51,920

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There is a range in educational requirements and salaries in the Biotechnology Research and Development Pathway. A Cell Biologist requires at least a Master's Degree, and in many cases also requires a Ph.D. or M.D. The average salary for a Cell Biologist is \$93,490. A Clinical Laboratory Technician requires an Associate Degree and has an average salary of \$51,920.

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Diagnostic Services Description



The graphic features a light blue background with a hexagonal pattern. On the left, three test tubes with red, green, and yellow caps are shown. To their right, the text 'Diagnostic Services' is written. Further right, the title 'Diagnostic Services Pathway' is displayed in a large, bold font. Below the title, the word 'Description' is followed by a checkmark and a list item: 'Use tests and evaluations that aid in the detection, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases, injuries, or other physical conditions'. On the far right, a cartoon illustration of a female doctor in a white lab coat, holding a blue folder and pointing upwards, is shown.

Diagnostic Services Pathway

Description

- ✓ Use tests and evaluations that aid in the detection, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases, injuries, or other physical conditions

Diagnostic Services

Professionals in the Diagnostic Services Pathway use tests and evaluations that aid in the detection, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases, injuries, or other physical conditions.

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Diagnostic Services Sample Careers



The infographic features a light blue background with a hexagonal pattern. On the left, three test tubes with red, green, and yellow caps are shown. To their right, the text 'Diagnostic Services' is displayed. Further right, the heading 'Sample Careers' is followed by a list of seven professions. On the far right, a cartoon illustration of a female doctor in a white lab coat, holding a blue folder and pointing upwards, is shown.

Diagnostic Services Pathway

Diagnostic Services

Sample Careers

- Athletic Trainer
- Computer Tomography (CT) Technologist
- Nuclear Medicine Technologist
- Phlebotomist
- Radiologic Technologist or Radiographer
- Radiologist
- Respiratory Therapy Technician

Sample careers in the Diagnostics Services Pathway include Athletic Trainer, Computer Tomography Technologist, Nuclear Medicine Technologist, Phlebotomist, Radiologic Technologist or Radiographer, Radiologist, and Respiratory Therapy Technician.

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Diagnostic Services Education and Salaries



Diagnostic Services Pathway

Education and Salaries

Radiologist

- M.D.
- State License
- Annual Salary: \$224,690

Phlebotomist

- Associate Degree
- Technical Training
- Annual Salary: \$34,380

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Diagnostic Services




There is a range in educational requirements and salaries in the Diagnostic Services Pathway. A Radiologist requires a M.D., as well as a license in the state in which he or she practices. The average salary for a Radiologist is \$224,690. A Phlebotomist requires an Associate Degree, as well as technical training and has an average salary of \$34,380.

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Health Informatics Description



The graphic features a light blue background with a hexagonal pattern. At the top center, the title "Health Informatics Pathway" is written in a large, bold, black font. To the left of the center, there is an icon of a computer monitor displaying a document with a magnifying glass over it, with the text "Health Informatics" below it. To the right of the icon, the word "Description" is written in a bold, black font. Below "Description" are two bullet points, each starting with a checkmark. On the far right of the graphic, there is a cartoon illustration of a female doctor with glasses, wearing a white lab coat over a dark skirt, holding a blue folder and pointing upwards with her right hand.

Health Informatics Pathway

Health Informatics

Description

- ✓ Includes health care administrators who manage health care agencies
- ✓ Also includes individuals who are responsible for managing all of the patient data and information, financial information, and computer applications related to health care processes and procedures

The Health Informatics Pathway includes health care administrators who manage health care agencies as well as those individuals who are responsible for managing all of the patient data and information, financial information, and computer applications related to health care processes and procedures.

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Health Informatics Sample Careers



The graphic features a light blue background with a hexagonal pattern. On the left, there is an icon of a computer monitor displaying a document with a magnifying glass over it, with the text "Health Informatics" below it. To the right of this icon is the heading "Sample Careers" followed by a list of seven career titles. On the far right of the graphic is an illustration of a female doctor in a white lab coat, holding a blue folder and pointing upwards.

Health Informatics Pathway

Sample Careers

- Admitting Clerk
- Dental Laboratory Technician
- Epidemiologist
- Financial Manager
- Health Educator
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Biller
- Medical Information Technologist

Sample careers in the Health Informatics Pathway include Admitting Clerk, Dental Laboratory Technician, Epidemiologist, Financial Manager, Health Educator, Medical Assistant, Medical Biller, and Medical Information Technologist.

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Health Informatics Education and Salaries



Health Informatics Pathway

Education and Salaries

Health Informatics	Medical Assistant	Dental Laboratory Technician
		
Health Informatics	Associate Degree On-the-Job Training	Apprenticeship On-the-Job Training
	Annual Salary \$33,690	Annual Salary \$46,730

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(Illustration of a female doctor in a white lab coat holding a blue folder and pointing upwards.)

There is a range in educational requirements and salaries in the Health Informatics Pathway. A Medical Assistant requires an Associate Degree, as well as on-the-job training. The average salary for a Medical Assistant is \$33,690. A Dental Laboratory Technician requires an apprenticeship and on-the-job training and has an average salary of \$46,730.

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Support Services Description



The graphic features a light blue background with a hexagonal pattern. At the top, the title 'Support Services Pathway' is displayed in a large, bold, black font. Below the title, on the left, is an icon of a headset with the text 'Support Services' underneath it. To the right of the icon, the word 'Description' is written in a bold, black font. Below this, there are two bullet points, each starting with a checkmark. On the far right of the graphic is a cartoon illustration of a female doctor with glasses, wearing a white lab coat over a dark skirt, holding a blue folder and pointing upwards with her right hand.

Support Services Pathway

Support Services

Description

- ✓ Provide a therapeutic environment for the delivery of health care
- ✓ Offers a full range of career opportunities from entry level to management, including technical and professional careers

Professionals in the Support Services Pathway provide a therapeutic environment for the delivery of health care. Support Services offers a full range of career opportunities from entry level to management, including technical and professional careers.

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Support Services Sample Careers



The graphic features a light blue background with a hexagonal pattern. On the left, there is an icon of a headset with the text "Support Services" below it. In the center, the title "Support Services Pathway" is written in a large, bold font. To the right of the title, the heading "Sample Careers" is followed by a list of seven career titles. On the far right, there is a cartoon illustration of a female doctor in a white lab coat, holding a blue folder and pointing upwards.

Support Services Pathway

Sample Careers

- Administrative Assistant
- Data Entry Specialist
- Front Office Assistant
- Materials Manager
- Medical Transcriptionist
- Mortician
- Records Processing Assistant

Support Services

Sample careers in the Support Services Pathway include Administrative Assistant, Data Entry Specialist, Front Office Assistant, Materials Manager, Medical Transcriptionist, Mortician, and Records Processing Assistant.

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Support Services Education and Salaries



Support Services Pathway

Education and Salaries

Medical Transcriptionist	Records Processing Technician
Support Services	
Associate Degree On-the-Job Training	On-the-Job Training
Annual Salary \$34,220	Annual Salary \$42,290

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There is a range in educational requirements and salaries in the Support Services Pathway. A Medical Transcriptionist requires an Associate Degree, as well as on-the-job training. The average salary for a Medical Transcriptionist is \$34,220. A Records Processing Technician requires on-the-job training and has an average salary of \$42,290.

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Therapeutic Services Description



The graphic features a light blue background with a pattern of hexagons and faint white plus signs. On the left is a teal first aid kit with a white cross. To its right is the text 'Therapeutic Services'. Further right is the title 'Therapeutic Services Pathway' in a large, bold font. Below the title is the heading 'Description' followed by a bulleted list of two points. On the far right is a cartoon illustration of a female doctor in a white lab coat, holding a blue folder and pointing upwards.

Therapeutic Services Pathway

Description

- ✓ Focus primarily on changing the health status of a patient over time
- ✓ May provide care, treatment, counseling, and health education information

Therapeutic Services

Professionals in the Therapeutic Services Pathway focus primarily on changing the health status of a patient over time. People who work in this pathway interact directly with patients; they may provide care, treatment, counseling, and health education information.

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Therapeutic Services Sample Careers



The graphic features a light blue background with a hexagonal pattern and a large white cross. On the left is a teal first aid kit icon with a white cross. To its right is the text 'Therapeutic Services'. Further right is the heading 'Sample Careers' followed by a list of professions: Athletic Trainer, Dental Assistant, Dentist, Home Health Aide, Licensed Practical Nurse, Massage Therapist, Optician, Pharmacy Technician, Physical Therapist, Physician, Registered Nurse, and Surgeon. On the far right is an illustration of a female doctor in a white lab coat, holding a blue folder and pointing upwards.

Therapeutic Services Pathway

Therapeutic Services

Sample Careers

- Athletic Trainer
- Dental Assistant
- Dentist
- Home Health Aide
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Massage Therapist
- Optician
- Pharmacy Technician
- Physical Therapist
- Physician
- Registered Nurse
- Surgeon

Sample careers in the Therapeutic Services Pathway include Athletic Trainer, Dental Assistant, Dentist, Home Health Aide, Licensed Practical Nurse, Massage Therapist, Optician, Pharmacy Technician, Physical Therapist, Physician, Registered Nurse, and Surgeon.

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Therapeutic Education and Salaries



Therapeutic Services Pathway

Education and Salaries

	Licensed Practical Nurse	Dentist
 Therapeutic Services	Associate Degree State License Annual Salary \$42,550	Doctor of Medicine Degree Annual Salary \$185,890

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There is a range in educational requirements and salaries in the Therapeutic Services Pathway. A Licensed Practical Nurse requires an Associate Degree, as well as a license to practice in his or her state. The average salary for a Licensed Practical Nurse is \$42,550. A Dentist requires a Doctor of Medicine Degree and has an average salary of \$185,890.