**Adding Health Professions to your Career & Technical Education Program!**

The growing workforce demand for health professionals has accelerated the number of high schools interested in offering this Program of Study across the state. Here are four models currently in place in Montana:

* OPI offers a FREE course for science or health enhancement teachers that are interested in teaching health science. The course, “Understanding Healthcare: An Introduction to Teaching Health Science” is offered in June as a two-week online course. Teachers will understand the foundation standards for this program as well as have the opportunity to construct a semester’s worth of material. Teachers are required to have taken some kind of Anatomy/Human Biology course in college. Transcripts are requested during the application process. This course is offered through the OPI Learning Hub.
	+ Small schools typically offer one semester of Exploring Health Careers and a second semester of Anatomy & Physiology.
	+ Additional coursework in Athletic Training, Nursing Assisting, EMT, and Medical Terminology are options.
* Project Lead the Way is a third-party non-profit vendor that offers the option for four years of Biomedical Science curriculum. This model has been adopted in most Class AA schools, but schools such as Frenchtown have chosen to use this programming as a one year program. Schools sign an agreement with PLTW and teachers must attend a two-week curriculum training before they can use the curriculum. A license fee of $2000 is their annual fee, plus you are responsible for purchasing the equipment needed to deliver the program.
* High School-Hospital Partnerships are the newest model and popping up across the state. The high school agrees to have a teacher liaison (usually a science teacher), that supervises the student internship and does the grading of journals or other coursework. The students must be taking Anatomy & Physiology concurrently with the job shadow or already had A & P. The hospital arranges for a year-long work-based job shadow for 6 to 10 students (generally juniors or seniors) and most do this as a block schedule. A hospital employee may be the teacher of record after applying for a Class 4B Health Science Endorsement. This allows the schools to award CTE credit to the students for their time in the medical facility.
* If your school currently does not have a Health Science program, you can still assist students that have expressed an interest in a healthcare career.

**Montana Digital Academy- Secondary Online Offerings:**

Health Occupations- (Health Career Explorations course; .5 credit) is designed to introduce students to myriad health professions while teaching the 11 Health Science Foundation Standards relevant to ALL areas of healthcare.

Human Body Systems- This new CTE course will be offered for spring 2019 as a follow up to the health explorations course and eases students into anatomy & physiology.

Anatomy & Physiology- Although this is offered as a science credit and not a CTE credit, A & P is a foundational course for all health professionals. Due to high competition for entry to health professions programs, it is advisable for high school students to familiarize themselves with human body systems and the terminology used in this course.

**Dual Credit-Collegiate Online Offering:**

Medical Terminology- The online course is taught through a number of two-year colleges and provides a great foundation for studying health professions. Many health professions require this course as a prerequisite to applying for a slot in a health professions program.

Montana two-year college health professions programs are currently working on determining Health Professions Core Prerequisites for entry to all competitive programs. Please advise interested students that GPAs are a very important part of being accepted into a health professions program.