

# High School Health Science Academy and Pathway Programs in San Diego

**Industry-Focused Academic Courses:** One or more academic courses taught with an industry-specific focus that offers students opportunities to apply their academic learning to real world-relevant work situations. These core academic courses do not deviate from the California Framework and Model Curriculum Standards and they retain their UC approval (i.e. Biology for Medicine and Health, Medical Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology).

focus on preparing students for health careers by providing a broad based academic curriculum centered on health career preparation and tying courses to real-life health practice. Industry-Focused Academic Courses focus on one industry and combine academic learning with real-world relevance. Courses are UC approved and follow California state curriculum standards.

**Career Technical Education (CTE) Pathway:** A coherent sequence of Career Technical Education (CTE) courses focusing on an industry such as health care. Provides students with the knowledge and skills required for employment and/or advanced education or training (i.e. Health Essentials, Medical Terminology, Clinical Medical Administration). CTE Pathway provide competency-based applied learning opportunities that contribute to academic knowledge, higher-order reasoning and problem-solving skills, work attitudes, employability skills, technical skills and occupation-specific skills. Additionally, CTE pathways have industry involvement and a school industry advisory committee. CTE Pathways are part of the California Department of Education's Carl Perkins Plan.

**Integrated Academic/Career Technical Education Pathway:** A coherent sequence of Career Technical Education (CTE) courses matched with Industry-Focused Academic Courses that offer students multiple opportunities to connect their learning to real world skills and knowledge in a specific industry. Academic and CTE teachers work together to map curriculum and develop shared lesson plans. Students take classes together based around a career theme that prepares students for college and shows students the relationships between academic subjects and future careers. Academies have partnerships with area employers, colleges, and the community that allow them to offer real-life experiences to students, and bring instructional resources into the school. Not only do academies provide a broad, college-preparatory curriculum, they connect academics with future career options and train students in specific careers.

**Career Academy:** Career academies organize the entire high school experience around one industry. In a Career Academy, students are scheduled to take all academic and career technical education courses together. Academy components

include rigorous academics (a college preparatory curriculum) with a career focus, a team of teachers, and active business involvement. Partnerships with employers, the community and local colleges bring resources to the high school to improve student motivation and achievement. Examples

of this strategy include: California Partnership Academies (CPA), National Academy Foundation Programs (NAF), and CDE-Specialized Secondary Programs. As of 2008, South West High School and Oceanside High School are the two health science academies designed as CPA's in San Diego County.

**School-Within-A- School (Small School):** A large high school is broken down into individual schools of 400 - 600 students. Individual schools are multi-age and organized around a career (industry) theme; they are separate and autonomous units with their own personnel, budget, and program; they operate within a larger school, sharing resources and facilities. Students and faculty choose to affiliate with one school-within-a-school at their campus (i.e. San Diego Unified Schools Districts small schools/CHAMPS [http://www.sandi.net/hsrenewal/sm\\_schools\\_champs.html](http://www.sandi.net/hsrenewal/sm_schools_champs.html) at Crawford High School)