

Health Careers for Youth

Description

Health Careers for Youth (HCY) creates a career and education pathway for low-income youth who might otherwise overlook promising careers in health care. HCY provides high school students with career exploration, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training, prerequisite coursework in nursing and allied health occupations, and work-based learning. CNA training and certification serve as a gateway to both employment and additional training for a broad array of health care careers such as nursing, phlebotomy, medical assisting, pharmacy technician, radiologic technologist and more.



This wraparound model creates a seamless, coordinated and supportive continuum between high school, college and the workplace. Partners include case managers, career counselors, teachers, college

instructors and administrators, and employers. The Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County worked with the Washington State Hospital Association's Health Work Force Institute to develop and refine the HCY model in partnership with Renton Technical College, Seattle Central Community College, Seattle Vocational Institute and its Bright Future Program, North Seattle Community College, the City of Seattle Youth Employment Program, and the King County Work Training Program. The project was originally supported by a \$200,000 grant from the Governor's 10 Percent Workforce Investment Act discretionary funding and several leveraged funding resources.

Partners

Washington State Hospital Association's Health Work Force Institute
City of Seattle, Youth Employment Program
North Seattle Community College
Seattle Vocational Institute, Bright Future Program
Seattle Central Community College
Renton Technical College
King County, Work Training Program
High Schools in Seattle and Renton School Districts

Results

Of the 40 students who completed the program:

- 90 percent completed CNA training.
- 60 percent passed the national CNA certification exam.
- Three out of four students successfully completed college coursework while in high school.
- Students in the second cohort earned more than 500 college credits in Running Start.

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