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NHA Partners with HOSA to Launch Patient Care Technician Competition

Competition will allow students to gain experience and exposure to patient care technician career path

Leawood, KS – [National Healthcareer Association](#) (NHA), the leading provider of learning solutions, certification, and career development for allied health professionals, has partnered with [HOSA-Future Health Professionals](#), a global student-led organization working to develop future leaders in the global health community, to launch a new competitive event for students to develop skills needed to become a Certified Patient Care Technician/Assistant (CPCT/A).

“Patient care technicians are an integral part of the care team, yet we’re seeing a significant shortage in settings throughout the healthcare ecosystem” said Laura Flynn, Director of Career Technical Education at NHA. “This HOSA competitive event will provide an opportunity for passionate students interested in pursuing a healthcare career to explore a certified patient care technician pathway and advance their interests and skills.”

The competitive event will consist of two rounds. The first round will be a written test of 50 multiple choice questions with topics including patient care (compliance, safety, and professional responsibility), infection control, phlebotomy, and electrocardiogram (EKG) administration. The second round will be a hands-on skills assessment on one topic which could be discontinuing a peripheral IV, applying sequential compression devices, measuring an infant’s length and weight, clean catching a urine specimen, routine evacuated tube system (ETS) venipuncture, obtaining a 12-lead EKG, or identifying components of the EKG strip.

HOSA members will first compete in local or regional competitions beginning this fall before advancing to [state competitions](#) next spring in 47 states, Washington, DC, American Samoa, Canada, China, and Puerto Rico. The final competition will be held at HOSA’s [International Leadership Conference](#) in Nashville, TN, June 18-21, 2025.

Patient care technicians are medical professionals who work very closely with nurses, doctors, and other professionals to provide daily patient care. They often assist patients with their everyday needs, monitor vital signs, take samples for testing, and administer

basic treatments. Becoming a CPCT/A is not only a great position to gain initial care experience but can also serve as a rewarding career on its own. NHA is proud to play a role in broadening the availability of qualified CPCT/As at a time when the [majority of employers](#) require certification to fill this role, and [85% of healthcare facilities](#) say they lack needed allied health professionals.

“We’re grateful to HOSA for their continued partnership and joint commitment to provide opportunities for students to explore their futures in healthcare. We look forward to helping more students join the healthcare workforce,” Flynn concluded.

For students and advisors interested in the competition, NHA is hosting a virtual competitive event workshop specifically on the HOSA PCT competition on October 8, 2024. Registration is available at <https://info.nhanow.com/webinar-hosa-patient-care-technician-competition>.

Competitive event participation is available to registered HOSA chapters, and complete competition rules and guidelines are available at <https://hosa.org/guidelines>.

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About the National Healthcareer Association

NHA is building the next generation of allied health professionals. Since 1989, we have helped over 1.25 million people access a better future in healthcare. From innovative learning solutions to certification and career development, we partner with individuals, educators, and employers to elevate the learning experience, ensure practice, and career readiness and drive positive outcomes for the industry, allied health professionals, and ultimately patients. For more information, visit www.nhanow.com.