



Empowering Futures: The Timeless Impact of CTE in Healthcare Education

LEVERAGING NHA'S CTE RESOURCES TO CHANGE
THE LANDSCAPE OF HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION AND
PREPARE STUDENTS FOR BURGEONING CAREERS IN
THE HEALTHCARE FIELD.

Introduction

Across the nation, from diverse school districts, a transformative trend in education is consistently making its mark. Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs from the National Healthcareer Association (NHA) are reshaping the landscape of high school education, particularly in the healthcare sector. These programs, transcending state boundaries and evolving educational needs, offer a robust pathway for students to gain medical assistant credentials, preparing them for a spectrum of opportunities in higher education and burgeoning careers in healthcare.

The Reason

Just one beaming smile from a proud, newly empowered student makes Cindy Robinson's entire year. It's why she teaches, more specifically, career and technical education courses at Tyler Legacy High School (formerly Robert E. Lee High School) in Tyler, Texas.

As the health sciences lead educator at Tyler Legacy, Robinson helps students navigate the health sciences career pathway that includes training, education, and certification in medical assisting. Robinson has headed up healthcare

training and education at Tyler Legacy for the past ten years. With 21 years of nursing experience before that, she's the ideal mix of qualified and dedicated.

"Certification is a great stepping stone if students choose to pursue a college degree, and it can also help them pay for college with CCMA job opportunities. For those who don't go on to college, it grants them access to full-time employment opportunities, fast."

CINDY ROBINSON
TYLER LEGACY HS HEALTH
SCIENCES LEAD EDUCATOR

"We teach students real skills and prepare them for real experiences that can be used no matter what they decide to do after high school," said Robinson. "Certification is a great stepping stone if students choose to pursue a college degree, and it can also help them pay for college with Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) job opportunities. For those who don't go on to college, it grants them access to full-time employment opportunities, fast."

For those students who want more advanced



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training and experience, the health science program at Tyler Legacy also offers coursework and exam preparation materials for the CCMA certification from NHA. Robinson was part of the team that selected NHA as the CCMA certification partner for Tyler Legacy. She knows the industry well. Robinson also sits on the board of The Texas Health Occupations Association, the professional organization for Texas health science teachers. without you', and that means the world to me. That's what it's all about."

"The self-esteem boost students get when they succeed in our CCMA program is remarkable. They receive a valuable, marketable, real-world credential. It drives them and makes them better students. You can see it."

JO MCGOVERN
FREDERICK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"We looked at all the certification providers, and we decided on the NHA because the quality of their people and service was evident from the beginning," said Robinson. "Their study modules are unbelievable – the accuracy, realism, and design are very strong," Robinson said she was impressed with the responsiveness and attention they received from NHA. She just hadn't experienced it with other companies in this space.

"NHA account managers got to know us quickly and took a genuine interest in our success and the success of our students," said Robinson. "They monitored the progress of our students and made onboarding easy with some great advice around how to get started," Robinson

said. NHA certification fits the needs of her Tyler Legacy High School students better than any other, and the 75% certification exam pass rates¹ are proof.

"When it comes to helping students prepare for the CCMA certification, NHA delivers the right level of information at the right pace for our students," said Robinson. "And the flexibility of the CCMA is perfect for high school since the externship component is optional. Our students get everything they need from our classrooms and the online study exam and preparatory resources available from NHA."

Helping Students Help Themselves

Robinson and her colleagues at Tyler Legacy aren't the only ones finding success in offering the CCMA at the high school level. Karen Sullivan at the Carroll County Career and Technical Center (CCTC) in Westminster, Maryland, is just as committed to high standards in healthcare education. Still, self-sufficiency is another lesson that students learn in her classroom. Sullivan guides students through the CCMA certification program at the Academy of Health at the CCCTC. She likes that NHA materials are user-friendly and easy for students to access and use.

"This is challenging material for high school students. When they get stuck or struggle with certain concepts, the NHA online tutorials and practice exams give students everything they need to regroup and keep going," said Sullivan. "They teach students how to learn and what to focus on for the certification exam."

And if there's any question about the time and effort students put in, the data is there for Sullivan and her colleagues. Comprehensive



reporting provides helpful views into student activity and performance.

“With NHA, we can quickly see how students are doing and whether or not someone needs extra attention and support,” said Sullivan. “When questions come up, or we need help, the support from NHA is wonderful.”


Just down the road in the Frederick County Public Schools, Jo McGovern teaches students pursuing the CCMA credential. She agrees that NHA delivers on its promises to her school and students, but the big payoff is in student capabilities and attitudes.

“The self-esteem boost students get when they succeed in our CCMA program is remarkable,” said McGovern. “They receive a valuable, marketable, real-world credential. It drives them and makes them better students. You can see it.”

CTE programs in healthcare education represent more than just a pathway to certification; they are a journey toward personal and professional growth. By focusing on the enduring principles of practical skills, hands-on experience, and adaptability to industry changes, these programs continue to be a vital part of educational landscapes today and in the future.

Teachers, Students and Communities Win with NHA Certification Programs

1. THE CERTIFIED CLINICAL MEDICAL ASSISTANT (CCMA) ISSUED BY NHA IS FLEXIBLE AND RIGOROUS ENOUGH TO MEET STATE STANDARDS FOR EMPLOYMENT.
2. CTE PROGRAMS NATIONWIDE PARTNER WITH NHA TO BRING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS NEW TRAINING AND HEALTHCARE CERTIFICATIONS.
3. CTE PROGRAMS USING NHA TRAINING AND SUPPORT MATERIALS REGULARLY ACHIEVE 77% PERCENT PASS RATES ON CCMA CERTIFICATION EXAMS.

 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.

Interested in learning more? [We'd love to chat.](#)



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