

Exploring Careers in Healthcare with CSUS and UC Davis

For the second year, Expect More Tehama helped chaperone north state students over a multi-day careers in health sciences experience in Sacramento. This year they had hands on activities at California State University, Sacramento's health sciences programs and UC Davis Medical Center's 2-day Fostering the Future Healthcare Careers Camp.



Most departments had engaging activities lined up. They learned about careers in audiology, kinesiology, nursing, public health, recreational therapy and medical school, including the need for researchers. The cohort stayed in the CSuC dorms to have the full college experience. Both universities rolled out the red carpet for the students.

Health Sciences Opportunities at Shasta College Tehama Campus

Earlier this year, Shasta College's Tehama campus introduced two new CTE programs. For the first time, students are able to pursue a Medical Assistant (MA) and a Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) Certificate in Tehama County.

Medical Assistant

The Medical Assistant (MA) program is presented in a hybrid format, with some classes completed online, and some on-site in Red Bluff. The program requires an externship element where students are placed in medical offices in the area. They receive hands-on experience, with some securing job opportunities at these locations post graduation.



Carissa Rosensteel, Allied Health Instructor for the program, broke down some of the goals and expectations. *"The Medical Assisting Program prepares the student with the knowledge, skills, and distinctive qualities necessary for the medical assisting profession. Such versatility affords graduates the opportunity to find employment in clinics, urgent-care facilities, primary care and specialty physician offices, including podiatry, chiropractic, and optometry."*

Ana Jackson, a member of the first Red Bluff cohort of the MA program, was delighted to learn it would be offered closer to home. Jackson, who lives in Corning and

is a parent to three children, expressed that a longer commute would not be conducive to her goals of working and being as present as possible for her family. She had already earned two semesters' worth of credits in 2023. Jackson was studying Health Information Technology, but she realized she could fill an important need. *"At Shasta College I had already started pursuing an AA,"* she explained. *"I wanted to do more face-to-face work with patients, and there's a need in this area for the Hispanic community. Language barriers and misinformation make people afraid to seek care."*

Jackson will complete the MA program at the end of the fall 2024 semester. She hopes to study to become a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) in the future.

Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA)

Two CNA classes have launched in 2024. While both MA and CNA work in healthcare environments, they typically work in different types of facilities. MAs often work in outpatient settings like clinics or emergency rooms, while CNAs typically work in inpatient settings like long-term care facilities. MAs provide more administrative and clinical support to physicians, while CNAs provide direct care to patients. Students can complete the CNA training in approximately 8 weeks and is offered each semester. Visit extedss@shastacollege.edu

