

# The Academy for Health and Medical Sciences

**PARENT INFORMATION SESSION**  
**Class of 2028**

# THE ACADEMY FOR HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCE COURSE SEQUENCE BY GRADE

| 9TH GRADE                       | 10TH GRADE                          | 11TH GRADE                        | 12TH GRADE                      |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Physical Education and Health 1 | Physical Education and Drivers Ed   | Physical Education and Health 2   | Physical Education and Health 3 |
| English 9 Honors                | English 10 Honors                   | English Comp 1 (RVCC)             | English Comp 2 (RVCC)           |
| Biology Honors                  | Anatomy and Physiology 1 & 2 (RVCC) | Biology 1 & 2 (RVCC)              | Physics 1 & 2 (RVCC)            |
| Earth and Space Science Honors  | Medical Terminology                 | Chemistry 1<br>Chemistry 2 (RVCC) | Calculus 1 & Stats 1 (RVCC)     |
| Algebra 2 Honors                | Advanced Geometry Honors            | Physical Science Honors           | Financial Lit                   |
| World History Honors            | Medical Math                        | Pre-Calc 1<br>Pre-Calc 2 (RVCC)   | Moral and Social Issues (RVCC)  |
| Spanish I or II Honors          | US 1 Honors                         | US 2 Honors                       | Spanish IV or V Honors          |
| Art 1 (1/2 Year)                | Cultural Anthropology (RVCC)        | Spanish III or IV Honors          |                                 |
| Photography (1/2 Year)          | Human Origins (RVCC)                | Workplace Experience              |                                 |
|                                 | Spanish II or III Honors            |                                   |                                 |

Sophomore Year (14 college credits):  
A&P I and 2 (8 credits), Cultural Anthropology (3 credits), Human Origins (3 credits)

Junior Year (25 college credits):  
Biology I and II (8 credits), Chemistry I and II (8 credits), Pre-Calc I and II (6 credits), English Comp I (3 credits)

Senior Year (21 college credits):  
General Physics I & II (8 credits), Calculus I and Statistics I (7 credits), Moral and Social Issues (3 credits), English Comp II (3 credits)

Key

Red = High School Requirement/Dual Credit

Orange = RVCC only

# Program Overview

The Academy for Health & Medical Sciences is a rigorous 4 year honors program for highly focused, college bound students. The program is a partnership between the Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School and Raritan Valley Community College. Successful students will graduate with both a high school diploma and an Associate degree in General Science.

# Mathematics Instruction

- The math curriculum is based on the graduation requirements for a high school diploma as determined by the NJDOE and the requirements for an Associate's Degree as determined by the RVCC Board of Trustees.
- Extracurricular math programs, competitions, "Math League" and other independent study programs will be offered for students seeking advanced studies.
- During the junior and senior years, there will be opportunities for qualified students, those invited by their professor, to take supplemental "Honors" courses

**Note: Parents of qualifying students would be responsible for applicable course fees and materials.**

# Testing

## Accuplacer Test:

- End of freshman year (English) to qualify for the Human Origins/Cultural Anthropology courses
- If necessary, (English) again in Spring of sophomore year to qualify for English Composition I at RVCC during junior year
- Fall of sophomore year (Mathematics) and again in Spring, if necessary, to qualify for Pre-Calculus at RVCC during junior year
- State Mandated Testing Schedule
- PSAT during sophomore and junior years

# Student Expectations

- Criteria for Continued Enrollment in College Courses

The Academy for Health and Medical Sciences (AHMS) program is a rigorous and accelerated program, in which students must meet the Criteria for Continued Enrollment to ensure their success. In order to progress through the program, a 3.0 minimum cumulative RVCC Grade Point Average (GPA) is required, along with satisfactory placement via Accuplacer (RVCC Placement Test) in both the Freshman and Sophomore years. The AHMS policy states that a grade of D, F, or W in any required RVCC course will make a student ineligible to continue in the program. In addition, the AHMS follows a cohort format; therefore, courses must be taken in a continuous sequence. Students will not be allowed to retake courses unless special approval is granted through an appeals process.

- Follow the code of conduct as described in the student handbook regarding:

- Behavior
- Email and social media use
- Cell Phone use
- Dress Code
- Academic Integrity

- Attendance

# Attendance Policy

***Attendance Policy*** - Students enrolled in the AHMS Program must adhere to both the RVCC and the SCVTHS attendance policies. Students who know they will miss class should notify their instructor.

9th and 10th grade students will follow the SCVTHS calendar and attendance rules.

11th and 12th grade students will follow both the SCVTHS and the RVCC calendars and attendance rules.

# Benefits Of Being An Academy Student

- Small learning environment/cohort of students
- Develop supportive rapport amongst peers
- Academy staff collaboration to ensure student progress
- Prepares student for a 4-year college upon graduation
  - Teaches time management/meeting deadlines
  - Teaches organizational skills
  - Teaches significance of a good work ethic
- Partnership with RVCC for dual academic credit
  - Integrate high school & college requirements in order to obtain both a high school diploma and an associate degree



# Extracurricular Sports And Activities

We have many extracurricular activities, most of which are listed below.

- SkillsUSA ([www.skillsusa.org](http://www.skillsusa.org))
- Class Officers
- Rotary - Service Club
- National Honor Society
- Red Cross Club
- National Technical Honor Society
- Soccer (Fall)
- Basketball (Winter)
- Unicef Club
- Doctors Without Borders
- Softball (Spring)
- Cheerleading
- Math Club
- Model UN Club
- Baseball (Spring)
- HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America)
- FFA (Future Farmers of America)
- Spanish National Honor Society

# Fast Facts

- Teaching staff consists of faculty from both our district and RVCC
- Transportation is provided by the sending district
  - Your home district will notify you in August the details for transportation.
  - You do not need to contact the transportation office; we provide the surrounding districts with our roster, and they, in turn, will contact you.
  - Please direct specific questions to our Pupil Services Department, Ms. Maura Lella, 908-526-8900 x 7243

# Awards & Honors

**Academy Principal's Honor Roll:** Awarded each marking period to students earning an A or above in all subjects.

**Academy Honor Roll:** Awarded each marking period to students earning a B or above in all subjects.

**National Honor Society for High School Students:** Open to juniors and seniors who meet the society's standards for academics, character, leadership, and service. Students must have a GPA of 3.50 or above in their high school and college coursework in order to be considered.

**Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society for Community College Students:** Open to juniors and seniors who have a GPA of 3.50 or above in their Raritan Valley Community College coursework.

**2023 RVCC Commencement:** 22 students graduated with an Associate Degree in General Science.

**NOTE:** Using GPA calculations, Valedictorian and Salutatorian designations are recognized for both our SCVTHS programs and our AHMS program.\*

## Application Timelines

- AHMS Application Due Date: January 18, 2024
- Admissions Testing: February 10, 2024
- Personal Interview and Spanish Placement test for candidates who qualify for admission: March 9, 2024

# Admissions Rubric

- 7th grade GPA – 20 points
- 8th grade GPA – 10 points
- 7th grade Standardized Test Scores (if applicable) – 15 points
- Academy Admissions Test:
  - Writing/Language Arts Section – 15 points
  - Mathematics Section – 15 points \* Minimum score required
- Student Interview– 10 points
- Minimum 68 out of 85 points needed for consideration

# Academy Expenses: Your Share

The current program fee set by SCVTHS and based on RVCC tuition and fees is \$230.00 per credit. The \$230 rate is for the 2023-2024 academic year. You will be notified of the RVCC rate prior to the start of the 2024-2025 Academic Year.

Students will be charged for 60 or 61 credits depending on their senior Mathematics sequence. The RVCC application fee will be waived for the AHMS program. Fees are subject to change.

# Transfer of Credits

RVCC credits earned in the transfer designed. A.A. and A.S. degree programs transfer very well to highly competitive colleges and universities according to the receiving colleges transfer policies. Students who have graduated have had great success in transferring credits to colleges and universities.

Transfer information about college equivalencies for RVCC to NJ 4-year colleges and universities can be found at [www.njtransfer.org](http://www.njtransfer.org).

# ACADEMY CONTACT INFORMATION

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