

OREGON CONNECTIONS ACADEMY

ASCEND CTE Medical Science Pathway

You can graduate high school as a Certified Clinical Medical Assistant!

Preparing students for their future; be it college or beyond. ORCA students, beginning in 10th grade will be able to take specific courses that will allow them to gain knowledge, experience, and skills in the health career that interests them.

ORCA ASCEND Medical Science students will take a variety of medical electives including Medical Terminology, Introduction to Medical Assisting, Medical Law & Ethics, Anatomy & Physiology, Health Science I/II, and complete a Medical Science Internship.

Students are introduced to diagnostic tests, diseases, disorders, treatments, wellness, and nutrition; as well as personal growth topics such as professionalism, teamwork, and time management. We will also learn the key functions of medical professionals such as business communications, assessing vital signs, patient record maintenance, medical insurance billing, and laboratory procedures.

Success Beyond High School

Examples of certificates and degrees that ASCEND graduates can also pursue:

- Electronic health records certificate
- Health and wellness administration certificate
- Associate's degree in health administration
- Bachelor's degree in nursing

Examples of other possible careers that ASCEND graduates can also pursue:

- Medical Biller
- Medical Transcriptionist
- Certified Nurse Assistant
- Registered Nurse

Every student will work closely with a program advisor who tailors the program to their individual needs and interests, as well as assists them in securing internship placement.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Certified Clinical Medical Assistant training program through Portland Community College costs around \$6,500 to complete, but the ASCEND program is FREE for ORCA students.
- According to Qualityinfo.org, the average Registered Nurse in Oregon makes about \$88,102 per year, and more than 20% job growth is expected by 2024.
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics states that employment of Certified Clinical Medical Assistants is expected to grow 29 percent by 2026.