



Career and Technical Education (CTE) Middle School Competencies

Career Cluster:

M51-Healthcare & Human Services

May 2026



M51-Healthcare & Human Services: Supporting the Whole Health of Individuals, Families, and Communities

Cluster Definition: The Healthcare & Human Services Career Cluster promotes whole health in individuals and communities through a diverse array of services. This sector includes technical, mental, and therapeutic services and personal care, supported by medical and social sciences. By addressing social determinants of health and leveraging health data and science, this Cluster aims to enhance the overall health and resilience of individuals, families, and communities.

Sub-Clusters:

- Behavioral & Mental Health
- Biotechnology Research & Development
- Community & Social Services
- Health Data & Administration
- Personal Care Services
- Physical Health

More details can be found at [Healthcare & Human Services - Advance CTE](#)



Middle School Competencies

The MS Instructional Design form will be used to communicate the delivery model of the program, which will also be entered into the Career and Technical Education Information System (CTEIS).

Competency Code	M51 Healthcare & Human Services Middle School Competency Statements
M1	Evaluate industry safety protocols by identifying common healthcare hazards (e.g., infection exposure, sharps handling, patient transfer risks) and implementing proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE), hygiene practices, and clear signage within care and lab settings.
M2	Explain the roles and responsibilities of professionals across Healthcare & Human Services sub-clusters—such as nurses and allied health practitioners (physical health), counselors and therapists (behavioral & mental health), community health workers and social workers (community & social services), health information technicians and administrators (health data & administration), and research technicians (biotechnology R&D)—during prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up.
M3	Analyze sustainable, equitable care practices by comparing preventive health strategies, community interventions, and data-informed approaches that balance outcomes, cost, and social determinants of health for individuals and families.
M4	Apply basic measurement and documentation techniques to interpret simple health charts or vital-sign records, calculate schedules or unit conversions (e.g., time intervals, intake tracking), and complete privacy-aware forms that support accurate care coordination.
M5	Differentiate between types of healthcare equipment and tools—including diagnostic devices, sanitation and PPE supplies, electronic health record (EHR) systems, and wellness tools—and describe appropriate maintenance routines (e.g., cleaning, calibration, access controls) that protect patient safety and data integrity.
M6	Create small-scale health projects—such as a classroom wellness campaign, a mock clinic workflow, or a basic mental-health awareness toolkit—using safe procedures, teamwork, and clear documentation to simulate real care environments.
M7	Assess healthcare and human-services guidelines—covering safety protocols, ethical practices, and health-data administration—to understand how compliance supports safe, legal, and person-centered outcomes for patients and communities.
M8	Explore careers in the Healthcare & Human Services Career Cluster and connect the opportunities to personal interests, strengths, and future goals.

Advance CTE Career Ready Practices

Career Ready Practices, built on a meta-analysis of over 30 different listings of general professional skills developed by industry and educational institutions, represent the skills needed to succeed in the modern workplace. These practices should be embedded across the pre-kindergarten to workforce continuum. Refer to the [Advance CTE Career Ready Practices](#) document for more detailed information.

Competency Code	Career Ready Practices
CRP 01	Lead as a contributing and professional employee
CRP 02	Communicate clearly, effectively, and with reason
CRP 03	Think critically to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them
CRP 04	Collaborate productively while using cultural and global competencies
CRP 05	Use digital skills and technologies to enhance productivity and make data-informed decisions
CRP 06	Remain resilient in a changing workplace and world of work
CRP 07	Manage time and space effectively
CRP 08	Demonstrate a creative and innovative mindset
CRP 09	Act as a good steward of organizational and personal finances and resources
CRP 10	Navigate an education and career path aligned to strengths, work style, interests, and goals
CRP 11	Consider the environmental and social impacts of decisions
CRP 12	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills