

Integrated Academic and Healthcare Careers Pathway Training Programs (NY-BEST)

The Integrated Healthcare Career Pathways Training Programs at LaGuardia Community College are modeled on Washington State's Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (I-BEST) initiative, which helps underserved populations simultaneously develop basic educational and vocational skills to enter or advance in healthcare careers and increase earnings potential. Lack of academic preparation, as well as family and work responsibilities have historically prevented some students from successfully completing healthcare career training. Integrated Healthcare Career Pathways Programs are a response to these issues, and designed especially for non-traditional, adult students who may read at levels far below the secondary threshold, have family responsibilities, and face economic and educational disadvantages that often impede a rigorous professional course of study.

Integrated healthcare career pathways programs employ a developmental instructional model that includes a pre-training vestibule, academic support services, job placement services and exposure to didactic and student centered teaching strategies. Training and curriculum is designed and taught collaboratively by an experienced Allied Health technical instructor and a basic skills educator trained to teach adult learners.



The Supporting Adults through Vocational EMT Training (S. A. V. E.) Program prepares students to become certified emergency medical technicians and to work in the EMT field where they will provide basic emergency care to victims of traumatic and/or medical emergencies and transport them to the appropriate medical facility. This intensive EMT course includes lectures, labs, and two basic life support clinical rotations on a 9-1-1 ambulance in New York City supplemented by academic enhancement coursework focused on critical thinking and reading skills. SAVE students read at a 9th grade level or above.

Outcomes		
Completed Training	Passed National Certification Exams	Employed
85% +	99%	81%

The Integrated Medical Office Clinical Technician (I-MOCT) Program prepares students for work in health care settings where they will perform multiple patient care practices, including taking blood, administering electrocardiograms (EKG), and measuring glucose levels. Students complete courses in Medical Terminology, EKG and Phlebotomy, which are complemented by an academic support course and an internship in the field. I-MOCT students read at the 7th grade level or above

Outcomes		
Completed Training	Passed National Certification Exams	Employed
96%	100%	50%, to date

The Integrated Central Service Technician (I-CST) Program prepares students for work as a central service technician in the central service department of a hospital where all equipment is sterilized and prepared for use. The CST Program is designed as a response to new certification requirements for the incumbent CST workforce. Vocational instruction begins with building students' knowledge of foundational content, including microbiology, anatomy and physiology, before introducing career specific content. Students sit for the CST IAHCSSM certification exam after successfully developing academic and technical competencies. CST students read at the 5th grade level or above.

Outcomes		
Completed Training	Passed National Certification Exams	Employed
92%	100%	85%

The Integrated Community Health Worker (CHW) Program prepares students for work in health care or community settings where they will provide culturally appropriate health education, informal counseling about healthy behaviors, social support, direct services, such as reproductive health counseling and HIV-antibody test counseling, and advocate for individual and community needs. Students complete courses in Community Health, Foundations for CHWs and Health and Wellness, which are complemented by an academic support course – Career and College Readiness – and an internship in the field. CHW students read at the 8th grade level or above.

Outcomes	
Completed Training	Employed
83%	37%, to date