

**Healthcare Career Day
Involving Six School Districts
And 800-1,000 Students**

Every year six school districts along the Wasatch Front stage a Healthcare Career Day for 1,000 students. The organizing committee is made up of people from education and industry. At least one representative from each school district sits on the committee, as well as partners from three major hospital groups in the valley- IMC, St. Marks, and Pioneer Valley, and representatives from Salt Lake Community College and the University of Utah, and the Department of Work Force Services.

A little background information: The Healthcare Career Day grew out of a 10-year partnership with the school districts, Salt Lake Community College, the University of Utah, three major hospital groups, and The Department of Work Force Services. This Healthcare Business/Education partnership was formed to help bridge the gap between high school, college, and the workforce for students interested in a career in the healthcare industry. The Healthcare Business/Education Partnership meets once a month and has accomplished much in the past ten years. The partnership has found that communication between all partners (high school, college, and the healthcare industry) has worked well in making positive things happen for students.

Each year a subcommittee is organized from the Healthcare Business/Education Partnership, and that subcommittee is assigned to organize the Healthcare Career Day. This subcommittee is made up of about 12 people--at least one person from each school district, each hospital group, the University of Utah, Salt Lake Community College, and the Department of Work Force Services sits on the committee. The subcommittee has a chair person who oversees the entire planning process, and conducts meetings. Each committee member is assigned three or four (or more) tasks in the planning process.

The day is organized following this Model:

1. 20 Healthcare professionals are invited to give three 45-minute presentations to students. They are asked to make part of their presentation a hands-on experience. (See attachment with list of sessions)
2. Many of the professionals work at, and are recruited by the three hospital groups who participate in the career day. Others come from private practice, and others are healthcare teachers at the applied technology centers.
3. Each district is allocated a certain number of students who may attend each session. This number is based on size of the district.
4. Students are allowed to choose three sessions they will attend
5. Students sign up for the sessions. They are asked to pick five possible sessions with the idea that they will probably receive at least one of their top three picks.
6. In the past, students have filled out a paper registration, and each district has registered their students on a master excel spread sheet. In 2010, registration was done by the students on a computer using a google group sign up. (See Carol Vandenaaker at the SLCC for answers on how to set this up)
7. On the day of the Career Day, students gather to board busses arranged by their individual districts. They are given a name badge on a lanyard, and are instructed to wear this badge. It contains their name and a list of the three classes they will be attending. These classes are color coded with a sticker dot. This helps ensure that students attend the right classes, and not

- switch classes to be with friends, etc. A supervisor stands at the door of each session and checks name badges as the students enter to make sure students are in the right session.
8. Students receive a plastic bag as they enter the Healthcare Career Day. The bag has a schedule for the day and a list of all sessions with room number of each session. It also contains two granola bars and a pen.
 9. The school districts share the cost of providing students with a fun giveaway for each session. (See student give-away attachment) These are handed to students as they leave each session; they can store these in the bag that is given them as they enter the Healthcare Career Day. Students really enjoy getting these give-aways.
 10. Many adults are enlisted the day of the Healthcare Career Day to man the hallways and answer student questions as they rotate from session to session. (Work-based Learning Coordinators, etc)
 11. Students are handed an evaluation form as they leave the career day, and are asked to fill it out and hand it back before they exit the return bus.
 12. Presenters are also asked to fill out an evaluation form.
 13. The site for the Healthcare Career Day has been at the Granite Technical Institute, a part of the Granite District Office complex. It has been determined that the Jordan Applied Technology Center will begin hosting the Healthcare Career Day beginning next year. Using existing school facilities to host the career day has saved on rental fees.
 14. The Healthcare Career Day typically runs from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The only snack items given to students during this time are two granola bars in their student bags. Some districts provide bagels and cream cheese to students before they arrive at the career day. Other districts provide a lunch on the bus as the students leave the Healthcare Career Day. Each district decides how to handle breakfast or lunch for their own students.
 15. Lunch is provided after the career day for all of the workers and the professionals who conduct the sessions.

Sessions and Student Give-Aways for the Healthcare Career Day

Athletic Training	Sports Key Ring
Audiology	Ear Plugs
Cardiology	Heart squeeze balls with a smiley face
Critical Care	Disposable masks
Dentistry	Gummy teeth
Dietician	Apple pens
Emergency Medicine	Band Aid Travel Pack
Imaging	Key ring light
Labor and Delivery	Rope licorice/ clamps
Laboratory Services	Test Tubes/ mini candy bars
Mental Health	Mood Rings
Nursing	Syringe pens
Occupational Therapy	Bottle opener
Pharmacy	Pill Cases
Physical Therapy	Jump ropes
Physician	Ring pop
Respiratory Therapy	Lip whistles
Surgery	Plush gorilla /bandaid

Other:

Lanyards
Badge holders and inserts
Pens
Granola Bars
Bags