

CareerFocus

SAN JACINTO COLLEGE

Fall 2019 Volume 1 • Issue 36

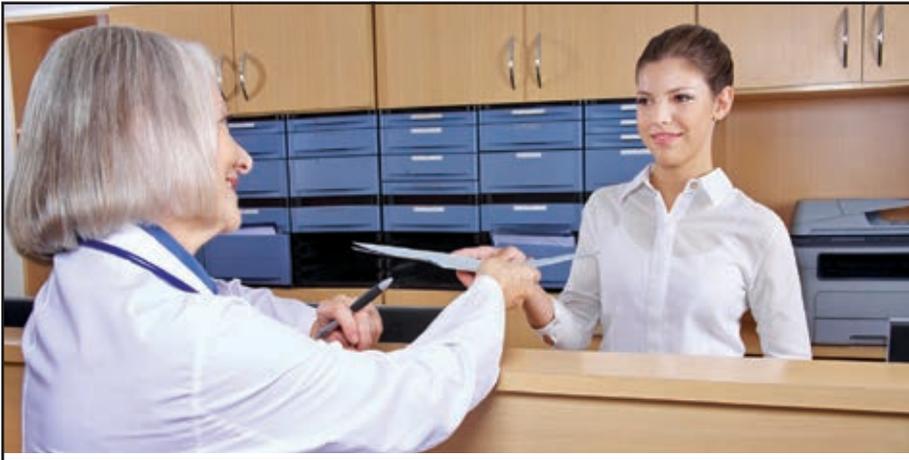


Health Care Careers with San Jacinto College



San Jacinto College
4624 Fairmont Parkway
Pasadena, TX 77504

NON PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
DALLAS, TX
PERMIT # 3328



LONG TERM CARE ADMINISTRATION

Enroll today!

281-998-6150 | www.sanjac.edu

Connect with us on [f](#) [t](#) [y](#) [i](#) [p](#) [i](#) [i](#) [i](#) [i](#) [i](#)

 SAN JACINTO
COLLEGE

An Equal Opportunity Institution



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Develop life-saving skills for a rewarding career.
Enroll today!

281-998-6150 | www.sanjac.edu

Connect with us on [f](#) [t](#) [y](#) [i](#) [p](#) [i](#) [i](#) [i](#) [i](#) [i](#)

 SAN JACINTO
COLLEGE

An Equal Opportunity Institution



Advance your education with
certifications in your field.

CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

 SAN JACINTO
COLLEGE

sanjac.edu | 281-998-6150

An Equal Opportunity Institution



RADIOGRAPHY

ENROLL TODAY!

 SAN JACINTO
COLLEGE

sanjac.edu | 281-998-6150

An Equal Opportunity Institution

CareerFocus

FEATURES



2 NEWS AND NOTES



4 BRAINS MADE TO ORDER



6 REAL-WORLD HEALTHCARE



8 FEEDING THE PIPELINE



13 GRANT HELPS RODRIGUEZ

- 2 News and notes from around the college
- 3 Occupational therapy assistants stay on toes to help patients achieve independence
- 4 Brains made to order
- 6 Interprofessional simulation key to prepping students for real-world health care
- 8 Feeding the pipeline of future health care professionals
- 10 How to ace your clinical rotations
- 13 Health Professions Opportunity Grant helps Rodriguez reach her goals

- 14 Staff spotlight: Debra Clarke
- 15 No dummies: Simulators provide realistic patient care training

PROGRAMS

- 9 Biomedical equipment technicians are in high demand
- 11 San Jacinto nursing
- 16 A health care career with regular hours? Exploring careers in Medical Assisting, Coding, Billing and Medical Office Support
- 18 Choose your path San Jacinto College Guide to Careers



Questions about San Jacinto College programs and services described in this publication should be directed to the Contact Center at 281-998-6150. Comments or questions about the publication can be directed to the San Jacinto College Marketing, Public Relations and Government Affairs Department at 281-998-6152.

Executive Editor: Teri Crawford, Vice Chancellor, Marketing, Public Relations, and Government Affairs

Editor: Torrie Hardcastle, Director of Public Relations

Contributing Writers: Torrie Hardcastle, Melissa Trevizo, Andrea Vasquez, and Courtney Morris

Contributing Photographers: Melissa Trevizo, Andrea Vasquez, and Courtney Morris

Visit San Jacinto College online at sanjac.edu. Call us at 281.998.6150.



Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/SanJacintoCollege](https://www.facebook.com/SanJacintoCollege) and Twitter and Instagram @SanJacCollege.

About San Jacinto College

Surrounded by monuments of history, industries and maritime enterprises of today, and the space age of tomorrow, San Jacinto College has served the citizens of East Harris County, Texas, since 1961. The College is fiscally sound, holding bond ratings of AA and Aa2 by Standard & Poor's and Moody's. San Jacinto College is a 2019 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence Top 10 institution, a 2017 Aspen Prize Rising Star Award recipient, and an Achieving the Dream Leader College. The College serves approximately 45,000 credit and non-credit students annually and offers eight areas of study that put students on a path to transfer to four-year institutions or enter the workforce. San Jacinto College's impact on the region totals \$1.3 billion in added income, which supports 13,044 jobs.

CareerFocus is published three times a year by San Jacinto Community College District, 4624 Fairmont Parkway, Suite 210, Pasadena, Texas, 77504, in partnership with Academic Marketing Services.

All rights reserved. No part of the material printed may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage retrieval system without the permission of the publisher.

©2019 San Jacinto Community College District

Read CareerFocus on your mobile device.



sanjac.mycareerfocus.org

News and Notes

from around the College

San Jacinto College named Top 10 in the nation

San Jacinto College has once again been named one of the top 10 community colleges in the nation by The Aspen Institute, which designated the College as a finalist for the prestigious Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

Accepting the award in Washington, D.C., San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer said, “This award reflects the achievements and commitment of our faculty, staff, and administration who are focused on helping our diverse student population pursue and accomplish their goals. As a College, we hold ourselves to the ultimate measure of student success, and being recognized as one of the top 10 community colleges in the nation is proof that our mission to provide innovative, accessible education is being accomplished.”

Launched in 2011, the \$1 million Aspen Prize is awarded every two years to a community college achieving high marks in student learning, certificate and degree completion, employment and earnings for graduates, and access and success for minority and low-income students. From the more than 1,100 community colleges nationwide, San Jacinto College was first selected among the top 150 last spring. A selection committee then narrowed down those institutions to the top 10 and named two Aspen Prize winners and three Rising Star recipients. San Jacinto College was also a Rising Star Award recipient in 2017, placing the College among the nation’s top five community colleges.



San Jac breaks ground on new campus

San Jacinto College has officially broken ground on its new Generation Park Campus, expanding its accessibility to residents of North Houston. The groundbreaking ceremony took place on April 23, with the College’s senior leadership in attendance to celebrate the milestone event.

College Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer said, “We know that growth is occurring more rapidly in that part of Houston, and we are committed to responding to the higher education needs of the residential and business populations.”

Several of the fastest-growing ZIP codes in the Houston area are adjacent to the new 55-acre Generation Park Campus, and the population around Generation Park is growing at approximately twice the rate of the rest of the College district.

To better serve these residents, the College is constructing a 50,000-square-foot facility that will house general education and academic classes and will be designed to fit the workforce needs of businesses in the area.

The Generation Park Campus is set to open for classes in fall 2020.

San Jacinto College to host grand opening and state of the college

San Jacinto College will host a grand opening and State of the College address at the new Center for Petrochemical, Energy, and Technology (CPET), Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 7 a.m.

The 145,000-square-foot Center will demonstrate the College’s national Top 10 ranking by delivering highly skilled graduates for the petrochemical manufacturing industry while inviting companies to utilize the facility for their workforce training.

Created for industry and by industry, the CPET will house programs and training labs in process technology, instrumentation and analyzer technology, electrical, nondestructive testing, and craft trades.

It will feature an 8,000-square-foot exterior glycol process unit to develop troubleshooting skills for entry-level



and advanced credit students and incumbent workers. Additional features will include the newest software programming, equipment, technology, and conference, training, and assembly spaces. ■

For more information about the San Jacinto College Center for Petrochemical, Energy, and Technology, visit sanjac.edu/CPET.

Occupational therapy assistants stay on toes to help patients achieve independence

By Courtney Morris

Dr. Kira Beal will always remember the scene.

A patient with tongue cancer had just come out of reconstructive surgery. Suddenly, her cell phone rang, and out of instinct, she answered. It was then she realized she couldn't speak.

"She was visibly upset. You could see the frustration, pain, and sheer helplessness on her face," Beal said. "No one had thought to silence her phone, and I was the first responder in that moment."

As an occupational therapist, Beal had to tune in to the range of emotions her patient was experiencing, calm her, and restore her sense of self-worth throughout recovery.

The journey may be smooth or painstakingly slow, but for occupational therapists, helping patients achieve independence is worth the sweat.

"It's a rewarding career, knowing you're able to help individuals live their lives in all aspects as independently as possible," Beal said.

Beal is the program director of the new occupational Therapy assistant (OTA) program at the San Jacinto College South Campus, launched in fall 2018.

For many individuals who are struggling with physical, emotional, or other challenges, everyday tasks are impossible to do on their own. This is where the College's OTA program steps in.

The 22-month program, which leads to an Associate in Applied Science degree, will launch its first class of graduates into this fast-growing healthcare profession in spring 2020.

While they will have different workplaces (from hospitals, pediatric clinics, and skilled nursing facilities to schools and homes), these OTAs will have the same goal: helping patients learn, recover, and improve daily living skills, or the "occupations" of life.

Why Choose the OTA Program?

According to Beal, OTAs are creative, empathetic problem solvers who can help everyone from the newborn to the senior citizen thrive in his or her environment.

Their work keeps them on their toes — figuratively and literally. While they share some similarities with physical therapists, OTAs focus not only on physical movement but also on problem solving, memory, organization, social skills, and more.

OTA student Ileana Villarreal, who will graduate from the program next spring,

was drawn to the opportunity to improve people's quality of life. After completing the program, she plans to pursue a traveling OTA position or work in an inpatient/outpatient setting for orthopedic patients.

"If you're looking for a career that gives you opportunities to help others, expand your creativity, and provide you with a wide variety of healthcare settings, the occupational therapy assistant program may be perfect for you," Villarreal said.

Fellow OTA student Emily Maniscalco originally planned to become a nurse. After finishing a medical assisting program, she worked full time at a rehabilitation hospital for stroke patients. While there, she watched occupational therapists work with patients in the rehab gym, and her career took a 180.

Although Maniscalco will be the first to admit the OTA program's challenges, she says every challenge now helps her become the best OTA possible for her future patients. Her initial anxiety about a mental health clinical rotation has changed to confidence as she applies her learning, helping these patients with occupations meaningful to them.

"The quote that always makes me push myself to the best of my abilities is 'Nothing worth having comes easy,'" Maniscalco said. "I would give that advice to someone who has a passion for helping others and wants to pursue occupational therapy. The program may seem difficult at times, but it is shaping us to be the best we can be to help our clients return to their optimal level."

In addition to having a fulfilling career, OTAs are also in high demand. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics,



employment of OTAs will increase more than 40 percent from 2017-24.

In 2017, U.S. News Rankings listed OTAs as No. 1 in best healthcare support jobs and No. 12 in the 100 best jobs. In the same year, texaswages.com predicted OTAs to earn a median annual salary of \$66,588 in the Gulf Coast area.

About the Program

The OTA program currently has eight students and anticipates reaching a maximum classroom capacity of 24 in the next five years. The next application period will be Jan. 13 - April 3 for fall 2020 enrollment.

Pending program accreditation in spring 2020, the first OTA graduates will sit for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam, then apply for their license through the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners (TBOTE).

Afterward, they will be eligible to work as OTAs or may continue their education to become occupational therapists.

Because of the progression and sequence of the classes and embedded clinical experiences, the OTA program is offered full time only. ■

To learn more about the OTA program and get an application packet, visit www.sanjac.edu.

Interested in becoming an OTA?

Attend an upcoming information session — no reservation required. Sessions will be on the second Tuesday of each month in the San Jacinto College South Campus Allied Health Building (S-1) located at 13735 Beamer Rd., Houston, TX 77089:

Aug. 13: 12 & 6 p.m. (S-1.117)

Sept. 10: 12 p.m. (S-1.251s) & 6 p.m. (S-1.117)

Oct. 8: 12 p.m. (S-1.251s) & 6 p.m. (S-1.117)

Nov. 12: 12 p.m. (S-1.113) & 6 p.m. (S-1.117)

Dec. 10: 12 p.m. (S-1.113) & 6 p.m. (S-1.117)

Brains Made to Order

By Andrea Vasquez

Problem solving comes in all shapes, sizes, and situations. In this case, San Jacinto College South Campus anatomy and physiology students needed more brain models for their two lab classrooms. Sharing one model among a table of six students was becoming cumbersome. One model cost \$363, and supplying both lab classrooms would come to \$6,532. There had to be a more cost-effective solution.

Enter the engineering students. After months of collaborating and researching between the two groups, the end results came out even better than the vendor models and cost a grand total of just \$17 a model, saving the College \$6,226. When need meets innovation, the possibilities are endless.

"I had seen a 3D printing demonstration a year beforehand, so I wondered if it was possible to have a few brain models printed in one of our engineering labs," said Dr. Sheema Nasir, San Jacinto College biology and anatomy and

physiology professor. "I thought I could give information of what I needed to one of the engineering faculty, and that would be it, but Dr. Gomez had another idea."

Dr. Connie Gomez, San Jacinto College engineering professor, set up an honors course specifically for this project.

"I thought this would be a great opportunity for collaboration between our students," said Gomez. "Our engineering students are so familiar with structures and buildings, so 'building a brain,' designing something organic,

would be a great challenge for them. For the anatomy and physiology students, this would give them a glimpse of knowledge about the tools and technology out there that can help them develop things for nursing, medicine, and a number of other health care fields."

Engineering students Steven Smiddy and Osvaldo Pérez took the lead on the project.

"We researched so much about the brain so we could design the models as accurately and as detailed as possible," said Smiddy. "We observed the anatomy students dissect a sheep brain, and we found that we had to find other software programs to design and 3D print the brains. The programs we usually used are based more for buildings, structures, more box-like shapes, so there wasn't too much room to design something that's organic like a brain."

The end result left both Smiddy and Pérez feeling accomplished.

"Overall it was a great experience," said Pérez. "I learned a lot, and it's great to help out the College any way we can."

For Gomez and Nasir, seeing their students shine is what it's all about.

"We don't realize how important student ownership of a project is," said Gomez. If you ask them about certain aspects, they'll tell you right away, 'Oh, that's my brain,' or 'Oh,

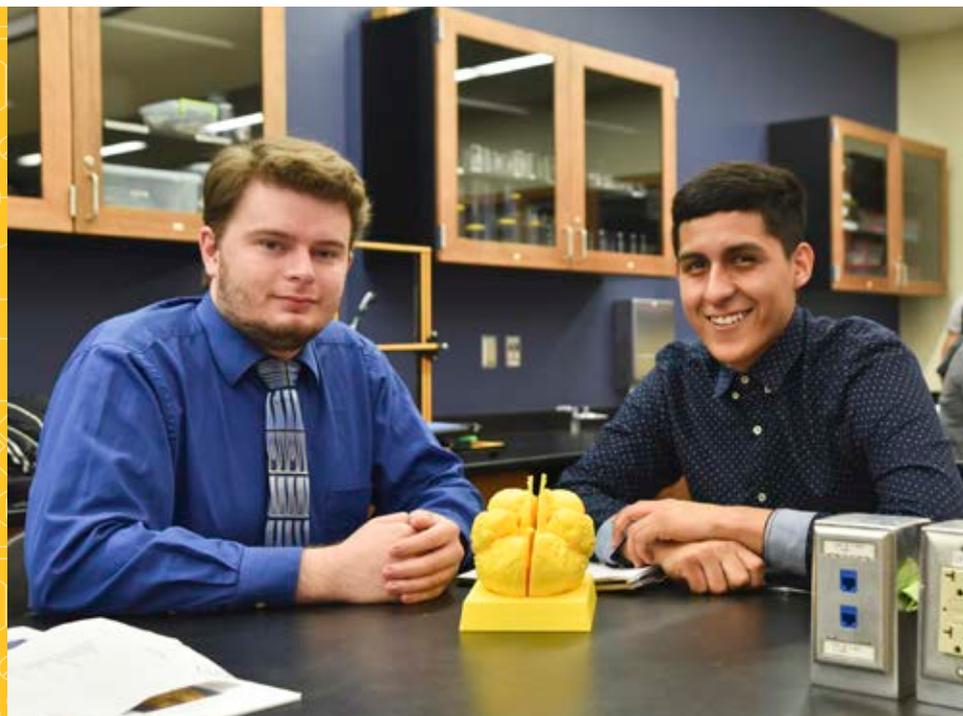


"Overall it was a great experience. I learned a lot, and it's great to help out the College any way we can."

Osvaldo Pérez, student

I did the work on that piece,' and they serve as the experts for their portion and can tell you everything about it, what went into the design, their research behind it, etc. Our students have had numerous opportunities to present at conferences, and demonstrate the process to our administrators and other four-year university faculty and administrators."

"It's great to see their sense of pride once it's all completed," added Nasir. "This was such an innovative, collaborative project, and it allowed our students to demonstrate their skills in areas that are quite foreign to them. Ultimately, they all saw how medicine, engineering, and technology will always go hand in hand, which will open up so many career options for them." ■





**CANCER DATA
MANAGEMENT**



PHARMACY TECH



 **SAN JACINTO
COLLEGE**

ENROLL TODAY!
sanjac.edu | 281-998-6150
An Equal Opportunity Institution

Interprofessional simulation key to prepping students for real-world health care

By Courtney Morris

What if medical professionals had to wait for real patients in life-threatening situations to practice lifesaving workforce collaboration?

It's no secret paramedics, doctors, nurses, and others work together to save lives. But opportunities for future health care providers to practice this critical teamwork are rare.

San Jacinto College is working to ensure best outcomes for patients by giving students the opportunity to put medical collaboration into action before entering the workforce.

Through interprofessional education like Hospital Days, the College seeks to break down communication and collaboration barriers in health care training.

Fast-Paced Learning

San Jacinto College's North Campus held two Hospital Days this June to give real-world training to students in nursing, emergency medical technology (EMT)/

paramedic, and pharmacy technician programs.

All health science students participate in clinical rotations in actual workplaces, but without interprofessional education, they would still typically operate within their "discipline silos," Rhonda Bell, dean of natural and health sciences, said.

"Hospital Day simulates real situations and allows students the opportunity to practice communicating and collaborating with other disciplines in teams. At the same time, they are using clinical reasoning in a safe simulation environment to coordinate patient care," Bell said.

Bell worked with faculty to organize both recent Hospital Days, including planning learning-level-appropriate simulation scenarios. Faculty intentionally designed these scenarios to foster active communication among the disciplines.

During the first Hospital Day, half the scenario participants role-played patients, while the other half served as the health care providers. During the second event,

A nursing student assesses a patient with breathing problems.



Paramedic students transport a maternity patient with preeclampsia symptoms during Hospital Day.

the groups reversed roles. This switch is critical.

"Not only do students learn how to communicate as a health care team, but they also learn how it feels to be a patient watching the team," Bell said.

"Patients" received summaries of their symptoms and conditions right before acting out their scenarios — everything from a fall victim with a femur fracture to a dementia patient with escape artist tendencies.

One student, portraying a first-time mom giving birth en route to the hospital, pulled off the role with an Oscar-worthy performance. Frantic, she bombarded her EMS responders with questions as they performed CPR on her newborn

From EMS transfer and hospital floor care to prescription dispensing and patient discharge, "health care providers" made every decision as instructors observed from the sidelines.

Paramedics walked the line between compassion and quick response, while in the hospital wing, nurses juggled patients'



Nursing students review their scenarios before acting as patients.



A pharmacy technician student checks a hospital prescription order.

Paramedic students assess a fall victim.



competing demands with learning their medical histories and ordering prescriptions. Meanwhile, pharmacy technicians scurried to fill orders and deliver medications to the patient ward.

Paramedic student Juan Vasquez found it both challenging and rewarding to apply his coursework and clinical rotation experience

“Not only do students learn how to communicate as a healthcare team, but they also learn how it feels to be a patient watching the team.”

Rhonda Bell, dean of natural and health sciences

to scenarios involving other health science programs.

“When we transferred patients to the ER, we had to give the nurses a report about what we had already done and what the patient’s chief complaint was so they could begin long-term treatment,” Vasquez said. “My biggest takeaway from the event was working with these other programs so everyone could experience the different ways our professions connect in the real world.”

Collaboration for Success

Simulation is standard for all health science students, but interprofessional education opportunities are less common.

According to EMT instructor Kristine Kern, Hospital Day gives students the chance to encounter outside-the-norm conditions and assess and address the situations together. This practice makes perfect, especially when preparing for a high-stakes industry.

“Students in every health department get to play the role they have been playing for the last year or two. It’s real-world experience without real patients to harm,” Kern said.

After Hospital Day, faculty and students immediately debrief. How did the students communicate and collaborate with each other and understand their own responsibilities compared to their colleagues’ roles?

Kern said this debrief goes beyond knowledge to soft skills.

“Do the students have the right aspect of domain, or bedside manner? It’s a lot when you have to deliver bad news to someone in the health care profession. You have to do it correctly – show real empathy,” she said.

The ultimate success is seeing students step outside their comfort zones and grasp the communication skills they will take into their future workplaces.

Bell, for example, remembers a nursing student who struggled to relay critical

patient information from the paramedic to the doctor (a faculty member). By the end of Hospital Day, this student took an accurate report and interacted fluidly with her colleagues.

“You could see students’ confidence levels build throughout the simulation event as they learned how to interact with students from other fields,” Bell said.

This confidence is a key outcome of interprofessional education. Through training events like Hospital Day, San Jacinto College students are prepared to collaborate as they enter the health care workforce. ■

Feeding the Pipeline of Future Health Care Professionals

By Andrea Vasquez

When it comes to ground-breaking medical research and one of the most culturally diverse arrays of patients seen by the hour, the Texas Medical Center (TMC) in Houston continues to be at the forefront of innovation.

As the largest medical complex in the world, TMC sees 10 million patients per year and has more than \$3 billion in current construction projects. In 2018, Houston saw more than 4,000 health care jobs created due to notable population growth throughout the region.

Because of the growth the region has seen and the ever-changing technology in the medical field, San Jacinto College health science programs remain a leading resource to meet the need of certified medical professionals by fostering a successful health science student and faculty recruiting pipeline.

Many of the College's efforts start at high schools. Recruiter T.J. Perez says that providing opportunities for younger students to experience what a health science education looks like can make a big difference once they start thinking about pursuing a higher education and the careers that come with it.

"Our recruiters often collaborate with the College's shared educational planners that are based in our local high schools to provide health science group tours at the campuses,"

said Perez. "These tours help promote a variety of health science programs, and students get to see firsthand what an actual in-session class looks and feels like. This gives them the opportunity to engage with the college students who are taking classes in the health science field they are interested in. High schools that have HOSA Future Health Professionals student organizations also arrange College tours of various medical programs, including nursing, respiratory care, surgical technology, and sonography."

While all of the College's health science departments host K-12 tours, many individual programs also host information sessions for current students who are deciding which health care field they want to enter. Nursing, pharmacy technician, sonography, radiography, emergency medical technology (EMT), occupational therapy assistant, physical therapist assistant, and respiratory care are just some of the programs that have multiple information sessions each semester.

The information sessions provide students with information on applying to the programs, required prerequisites, course information, and any applicable licensure or certification exams upon completion of the program. Some programs collaborate and hold health care information sessions facilitated by students, such as health screenings for students and community members during November for National Diabetes Awareness Month. The mental health services program also partners with the College's veteran centers since many veteran students want to know how they can help other veterans living with posttraumatic stress disorder, learn about other resources, and possibly explore career opportunities in counseling.

Recruiting health science faculty is also key to ensuring that students are on par with health care industry standards and professional trends. San Jacinto College Human Resources Talent Acquisition Manager Wayne Wauters adds that health care professionals looking to move into the teaching sector provide a wealth of valuable knowledge and expertise that students will always benefit from.

"Any time we have national and international organizations such as the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, and other health care professional conferences in Texas, we always try to attend those so we can provide information on faculty positions we have available," said Wauters. "We also attend local job fairs when offered by the Houston Chronicle that have a health care focus. We also host biannual part-time faculty job fairs where sometimes full-time hires are made. Deans and department chairs usually attend these events with our human resources team so that they can give information on the job itself, the transition into teaching, flexible schedules, etc., and our human resources team members provide information on the health care benefits we offer, vacation days available, and information on the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). We are always looking for the best health care professionals we can get to teach and train the future practitioners of the medical field." ■

For more information about San Jacinto College's health science programs, visit sanjac.edu/program/health-sciences, and for information on available health sciences faculty positions, visit sanjac.edu/human-resources.



Biomedical equipment technicians are in high demand

By Melissa Trevizo

Outside of doctors and nurses, many professions help hospitals and medical facilities run smoothly. Biomedical equipment technicians are some of these essential personnel.

“Biomed tech is not a well-known profession, but it is growing,” said Michael Brown, San Jacinto College professor. “The industry is in high demand, and right now we have a full program of 72 students. Every year we see more students enroll.”

These professionals service and repair patient monitors, hospital beds, anesthesia machines, ventilators, X-ray machines, and more.

“In the current market, there is a great shortage of technicians,” Brown said. “In the next 10-15 years, 2,000 technicians will be needed. Many of my students are hired while in school, and nearly all graduates walk right into jobs.”

The biomedical equipment technician program at San Jacinto College was started six years ago at the College’s South Campus by Provost Dr. Brenda Jones. Brown was hired to develop the curriculum and build the program from the ground up.

Students in the program who complete a two-year associate of applied science degree in biomedical clinical equipment technology can work for third-party contract companies, manufacturers, and major hospital groups.

“A technician that has a reputation of doing a good job can go far in the industry,” Brown said. “Hospitals assign you an entire department like the emergency room, and you are responsible for every piece of equipment in that space. It’s a pretty independent job, and each day is a challenge.”



Brown, who had 25 years of experience as a biomedical equipment technician before coming to San Jacinto College, has also traveled internationally to help repair equipment in rural and underserved countries.

“I have travelled to Kenya many times to use my skills as a technician,” Brown said. “Even now, there are organizations that will

help send you around the world to help service the equipment desperately needed to treat people in these rural areas.” ■

To learn more about San Jacinto College’s biomedical equipment technician program, visit sanjac.edu/program/biomedical-clinical-equipment-technician.

How to ace your clinical rotations

By Courtney Morris

Enrolling in a San Jacinto College health science program? Then chances are you've heard of clinical rotations — unpaid work-based learning experiences in settings like doctors' offices, clinics, and hospitals.

Supervised by clinical professionals, students apply their classroom learning in real-world settings to prepare for their certification exams and, ultimately, careers.

Did you know clinicals are mandatory for every health science student? And not only critical to completion of your program but also a gateway to job opportunities?

What if you could get inside tips on how to make the most of your clinical experience?

Stop wishing. San Jacinto College faculty members share how to ace your clinical rotations.

Get Started

Clinical rotations can start as early as the first semester of some health science programs (though typically later) and can run anywhere from 6 to 24 hours a week depending on the field of study.

5 More Quick Tips to Conquer Clinicals

1. Be over-prepared every day.
2. Smile and start each day with a fresh attitude.
3. Be open to learning new things.
4. Remember HIPAA regulations (patient privacy) and avoid taking cell phone photos.
5. Look for opportunities to stay active on site.

Throughout your time at San Jacinto College, you will participate in clinicals at several different health care entities affiliated with the College.

Instructors try to match you with your area of interest but may not always be able to accommodate. In fact, some locations — Texas Children's Hospital, for example — require additional testing before students can do rotations there.

The goal of clinicals is on-site experience under a professional's guidance.

"Clinical rotations play a vital role in helping students transition from classroom learning to patient care. Nothing simulates the real world of patient care better than the real world," said Mina Cauthen, director of clinical education for the physical therapist assistant program.

At your site, you can expect to shadow professionals while having access to patients and doing the actual work for which you're training.

Ask Questions . . . Sometimes

Clinicals are your opportunity to witness theory in practice. As you prepare for your program certification exam, you have the benefit of professionals to help answer your questions.

Catherine Yendell, surgical technology program director, encourages students to learn everything possible in the clinical environment but also to be aware of appropriate timing.

Sometimes questions must wait.

"When my students are assisting with a surgery, talking can distract the surgeon. I tell them to speak only when spoken to during the surgical procedure," Yendell said.

Go the Extra Mile

You're in the clinical rotation to learn, but you're also there to help. Be respectful and courteous to every medical professional and patient you encounter.

This could mean finishing one task and immediately looking for another opportunity to help, showing empathy to patients, or assisting with translation if language is a barrier.

"Students are not always aware of how hard they will work. It's vital to develop good soft skills and become culturally competent to succeed in clinical rotations," Cauthen said.

Finally, San Jacinto College instructors all agree cell phones should be stowed away during clinicals and no photos taken or shared on social media.

Manage Your Time

Health science programs guarantee lots of free time, said no one ever.

Most San Jacinto College health science programs follow a rigorous schedule, with courses and clinicals to be completed in fast-paced timeframes.

While doing clinicals, you may still be taking classes and/or studying for your certification exam. Plan your schedule in an Outlook-style calendar to ensure time for personal priorities and sleep, Diane Johnson, medical assisting program director, said.



"In clinicals, you might work an 8-5 day, then get home at 6. You may have a family, a significant other, or an actual job, but you also have to find time to study two hours every night," Johnson said. "You'll probably have to give up a few hours of sleep during clinicals, but it's a short-term sacrifice to reach your career goals."

Conclusion

Surveyed San Jacinto College graduates often report clinical rotations as the best part of their health science programs.

Not only do clinicals allow you to get into the field, but they also help you ensure you've made the right career choice.

In many cases, employers use clinicals to "test run" students to determine whether they're a good fit for the organization. Even if there are no immediate job openings, the employer may later contact the graduate to offer a position.

"Clinicals are the beginning of your career and reputation. You don't have to know everything, but you must be willing to learn. Take it all in, work hard, and be proud of yourself. Most importantly, enjoy this time!" Cauthen said.

With clinicals and a certification under your belt, you're on your way to a rewarding career! ■



San Jacinto Nursing

If you're into helping others and making a difference, the San Jacinto College nursing program has you covered. Whether you are just starting out or you are looking to advance your nursing career, we have many options to put you on a path to a rewarding future.

We're into your success.

Ranked among the top 10
community colleges in the nation.

 **SAN JACINTO
COLLEGE**
Your Goals. Your College.

Learn more at sanjac.edu

An Equal Opportunity Institution

HEALTH CAREER PATHWAYS PARTNERSHIP GRANT

FREE TUITION AND SUPPLIES FOR HEALTH CARE TRAINING

GRANT-APPROVED COURSES

- Certified Nurse Aide
- Community Health Worker
- EKG Technician
- Eye Care Technician
- Licensed Vocational Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Billing & Coding Certificate
- Medical Office Professional
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomy Technician
- Associate degree programs may be approved with a completed short-term course.

Students can earn:

- Laptops
- Scrubs/supplies
- Books

For more information, visit www.sanjac.edu/cpd/hpog
or contact us at hcpp-grant@sjcd.edu or **281-478-2723**.

This document was supported by Grant [90FX0035-01-00] from the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HHS. HPOG is a study funded by the federal government which is being conducted to determine how these training opportunities help people improve their skills and find better jobs. During the study, all new eligible applicants will be selected by lottery to participate in these training opportunities. Not all eligible applicants will be selected to participate in these opportunities.

www.sanjac.edu/cpd

Connect with us on       

The San Jacinto College District is committed to equal opportunity for all students, employees, and applicants without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, pregnancy, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, genetic information, marital status, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. The following College official has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the College's non-discrimination policies: Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, 4620 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, TX 77504; 281-991-2659; Sandra.Ramirez@sjcd.edu.

 SAN JACINTO
COLLEGE
HEALTH CAREERS
PATHWAYS PARTNERSHIP



Health Profession Opportunity Grant helps Rodriguez reach her goals

By Melissa Trevizo

Gabrielle Rodriguez has completed the certified nursing aide, certified medication aide, and medical office professional programs at San Jacinto College all made possible through the Health Profession Opportunity Grant (HPOG).

"I've always known that I wanted to work with people and help them in some way," Rodriguez said. "I knew that the medical field was something I was interested in, but I wasn't sure what specialty or how I was going to make it happen."

Rodriguez was taking phlebotomy courses when an instructor announced the HPOG grant, administered by the Administration for Children and Families and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Eligible since 2015, San Jacinto College was one of only 10 higher education institutions chosen for the grant.

HPOG was created to provide education and training to low-income individuals for occupations in the health care field that pay well and are expected to either experience labor shortages or be in high demand. It boasts more than 23,000 participants nationwide.

"As soon as I found out about the grant, I immediately went to find out more information," Rodriguez said. "I met with representatives who started counseling me on what programs would work best for me, and they encouraged me to apply."

Applicant eligibility is based on income status, a background check, drug test, and a skills

assessment test. Once eligibility is verified, applicants undergo an intake where they are randomly selected via lottery. Through the grant, students' tuition, books, and supplies are covered, but they also can be eligible for laptops, Wi-Fi access, and gas cards.

"When I found out that I was chosen for the grant, I was so excited," Rodriguez said. "I had a baby around that time, and knowing that school was something I didn't have to worry about was amazing. I'm very appreciative."

Rodriguez is currently working towards completing an associate of applied science in medical coding and billing, something that has become her ultimate goal.

"Through my different certifications I've been able to learn so much about the medical field," Rodriguez said. "I'm currently a medication aide at a rehabilitation and nursing home. It's not where I want to be forever, but I'm so grateful for the training I received to get me here and to help me reach my future goals."

The HPOG funding ends in September 2020, but students are still being accepted. ■

To find out more about the Health Profession Opportunity Grant, visit sanjac.edu/cpd/hpog.

"I knew that the medical field was something I was interested in, but I wasn't sure what specialty or how I was going to make it happen."

Gabrielle Rodriguez, student



Staff Spotlight

Debra Clarke

By Andrea Vasquez

Debra Clarke often tells people that teaching and ophthalmology are her two passions. In 2001, she merged both when she became the director for San Jacinto College's eye care technology program. Since then, in addition to learning the technical and professional aspects of the field, Clarke teaches about the importance of paying it forward and giving back to the community.



Q: What experience did you have in the eye care industry prior to becoming the San Jacinto College eye care technology program director?

A: I worked in ophthalmology for 20 years as an ophthalmic technician, clinical trial coordinator, ophthalmic biometrist, and surgical scrub.

Q: What degree and certificate options do students have in the eye care technology program?

A: We offer three degree/certificate pathways for students: Associate of Applied Science in Eye Care Technology, Certificate of Technology in Eye Care Technology, and the Optician Preparatory Occupational Certificate in Eye Care Technology. Our program is internationally accredited by the International Council of Accreditation (ICA). Only those students who have been officially admitted to the College, have met the eye care technology admission criteria, and had a formal interview with the program director will be considered for admission to the eye care technology program.

Once accepted into the program, all new students are required to pass a criminal background check and drug screening test. Students must also provide an immunization record and pass a health physical. In addition, they must provide proof of health insurance and have a valid CPR certification. Once these documents are provided to the department, they will attend a mandatory new student eye care technology program orientation.

Q: The San Jacinto College eye care technology program participates in the annual See To Succeed event. Tell us a little more about what the event is, how it started, and how students participate.

A: See to Succeed is a partnership with the Houston Health Department, University of Houston College of

Optometry, Essilor Vision Foundation, and Berkeley Eye Centers. As one of the founding collaborative partners, the College's eye care technology program has participated in this event since 2011, and 2020's event next spring will be our seventh year to serve as the host for the event.

Each year in the Houston metroplex, there are more than 20,000 children in K-12 who are identified by the local independent school districts to have vision issues. The families are made aware of the problems. However, for many reasons, these children return the following school year with the issues unresolved. The partners of this initiative knew this was unacceptable in our community.

The annual event recruits an average of 25 doctors to volunteer alongside opticians, health department staff, and San Jacinto College eye care technology students and volunteers to deliver eye exams and tests, fit students for eyeglasses, and make emergency medical referrals. Aside from implementing the skills they are learning in the program, especially the community health learning objectives, I always want them to understand that individually this issue seems insurmountable, yet together we can do so much to help others in need.

Q: How have you seen the eye care industry evolve? Where do you see the College's eye care technology program going in the next 10 years?

A: Our field is one of the fastest growing health care fields. From elective surgeries like LASIK and cataract surgery to

medically necessary surgeries for glaucoma and macular degeneration, our industry has made great advancements just in the last five years. The technological advances in our instrumentation and pharmaceuticals are unprecedented. One of the exciting projects that our department is currently developing is continuing education seminars for the International Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (IJCAHPO), which we will facilitate for certified ophthalmic medical personnel. In addition, we hope to be able to offer our eye care technology degree and certificate programs to dual credit students.

Q: What advice do you have for students who want to apply to the San Jacinto College eye care technology program?

A: Do it! You will have a career for life! Eye care is a vastly diverse medical field. There are many subspecialties that you can pursue. There are no prerequisite courses or waiting lists for enrollment in our program. Whether you are an applicant or are thinking about a career in eye care and would like to see our state-of-the-art, 5,000-square-foot eye care teaching center, call 281-478-3612 for an appointment, and we'll be happy to show you around! ■

For more information on the San Jacinto College eye care technology program, visit sanjac.edu/program/eye-care-technology.

No dummies: Simulators provide realistic patient care training

By Courtney Morris

As the nursing students leaned toward the child patient simulator, one holding an IV needle, they didn't expect what happened next: the manikin screamed.

San Jacinto College simulation lab coordinator Karen Malloy laughs as she remembers remotely manipulating SimJunior — a four-foot-long manikin in a hospital bed — to mimic how a six-year-old might behave.

"I made him say, 'No, no, no!' a lot," Malloy said.

Ranging from low- to high-fidelity models (levels of technological complexity), simulators like SimJunior provide consistent training opportunities to develop the critical thinking skills students need for health care careers.

"People might call them dummies, but they're not dumb. It's amazing what they can do," Malloy said.

History of Sim Labs

Medical training has come a long way. In her student days, Malloy learned to give shots by sticking an orange. Now students can inject a needle into a realistic arm with simulated blood circulation.

In fact, today's manikins are so complex that faculty and students usually just call them "patients."

"Simulation lets students put into practice the skills they learn before they deal with an actual patient. It's a safe environment for learning without harming a real person," Malloy said.

San Jacinto College began implementing dedicated simulation labs around 2009 at every campus to train students in multiple health science programs.

While many colleges have these labs, San Jacinto College's are specially designed to resemble intensive care units with private patient rooms. This partitioning allows several groups of students to participate in different scenarios at the same time.

From a computer control room, faculty members can use programmed settings or independently manipulate the manikins to create unique training scenarios.

Simulation lab coordinators like Malloy, Becky Shuttlesworth, and Daniel Covan receive training from the simulator companies and at user conferences, then teach other faculty how to operate the manikins.

Complex Patients

Each manikin contains a computer and connects to a bedside monitor displaying vital signs and to two control room computers.

While faculty members use prerecorded sounds like coughing and wheezing, they will often speak through the manikins to the students. For Pediatric Hal, a high-fidelity child manikin, the computer modulates the faculty member's pitch to sound like a six-year-old's voice coming from Hal's mouth.

Scenarios generally happen in real time, with the exception of the maternity manikin, a supermom who can simulate labor and birth in a record 15 minutes

Because of countless possible scenarios, nursing students aren't the only ones visiting the simulation lab. For example,



eye care technology students have used manikins whose eyes dilate, and respiratory care students have worked with a newborn manikin that can turn blue and exhibit breathing problems, seizures, and other neonatal conditions

Sim Scenarios

Scenarios start as if students have just walked onto a hospital shift.

These "health care providers" receive a patient report, with vital information about the patient's medical record and care already administered that day.

"I tell the students, 'When you're in the room, you're the nurse, not a student.' We never put them in a scenario they're not prepared for in some way. The scenarios are kept at the same level as their training," Malloy said.

Scenarios involve about five students, including two nurses and a bedside companion to help with patient privacy training. Nurses must know this companion's relationship to the patient before sharing certain information aloud.

A sneaky faculty member might even call the nurse's station outside the room, pretending to be a mom and requesting medical information about her adult child.



After completing the 15- to 20-minute scenario, students participate in a debriefing session with faculty.

Rather than approaching students with a critical mentality, instructors ask probing questions to help students learn from any mistakes.

"I like to ask, 'What was your thought process when you took this action?'" Malloy said.

The simulation lab is not about learning skills but about applying critical thinking. Students learn through self-evaluation and self-discovery.

"One of the most gratifying parts is when students say they used what they learned in sim lab later in a clinical rotation setting," Malloy said.

And when it comes to handling rambunctious six-year-olds, SimJunior might just be the best preparation yet. ■

A Health Care Career with Regular Hours?

Exploring careers in Medical Assisting, Coding, Billing, and Medical Office Support

By Torrie Hardcastle

Are you interested in health care? Realize your full potential with a medical office career. With the number of health care procedures increasing as the population ages, there is a very high demand for skilled specialists in patient information technology, medical assisting, coding, billing, and medical office support. More and more, medical front office careers are becoming an important contribution to delivering quality care, and these integral roles are projected to remain in high demand in the coming decades.



So, what's the scoop?

Basically, the health care office environment is divided into two distinct areas: "Front office" personnel work with patient records, insurance billing, computerized accounting, patient databases, transcription of dictated notes, and applying standardized codes to patient records, among other activities.

"Back office" personnel are the care providers, including physicians, nursing personnel, and a variety of assistant titles.

Medical assisting is a versatile, in-demand health care career where you interact with patients and positively affect the lives of other people. Medical assisting is a stepping stone to many other health care professions. On the other hand, medical billers and coders are investigators, hunting down patients' diagnoses based on lab procedures, signs, and symptoms. Medical billing and coding technology is evolving at such a rapid rate that specialists now more than ever need excellent training.

Medical office personnel perform medical secretarial procedures, medical terminology, coding and billing, word processing, and medical machine transcription. San Jacinto College offers an array of programs to prepare you for a medical office career (see page 21).

"These are great careers. The demand for trained medical office support is growing. These jobs usually offer regular hours—something that is rare in the health care field," said Carla Ruffins, program director for health information management.

What does a medical assistant do?

The main role of a medical assistant is to keep the medical office running smoothly by performing clinical and administrative tasks. The specific duties vary depending on the location and office size. Some administrative duties may include handling correspondence, greeting patients and filling out their medical records, as well as scheduling appointments and referring. Clinical duties can include preparing an examination room with the proper supplies, taking a patient's medical history, and minor medical tasks such as suturing and drawing blood.

Skills, learning, and employment opportunities:

Most employers are interested in seeing medical assistant training on your resume, and strong organizational skills are needed. San Jac's medical assistant program prepares you to take a certifying exam at the program's completion. While certification is not required for medical assistants, it will boost your chances for employment if you are formally prepared.

Visit SanJac.edu for more information about:

- Health Information Management, Associate of Applied Science
- Health Science Medical Assisting Pathway, Associate of Applied Science
- Medical Assisting, Certificate of Technology
- Medical Billing, Certificate of Technology
- Medical Coding Specialist, Level 2 Certificate
- Business Office Systems and Support (BOSS), Medical Office Support, Enhanced Skills Certificate

In San Jac's program, topics you will study include anatomy, human physiology, record keeping, medical terminology, and administrative and accounting skills. You will also learn about laboratory techniques, diagnostic procedures, and how to administer medications.

With appropriate training, there is greater opportunity in finding employment



in a physician's office or hospital, clinical laboratories, nursing homes, and in the offices of other health practitioners such as chiropractors and podiatrists. In larger offices, there may be opportunities for advancement into administrative management positions as well.

Medical assistants in the Gulf Coast area can earn a median salary of \$31,374 annually, and the statewide employment rate in the field is projected to grow by 36 percent over the next seven years, according to Texas Wages and Employment Projections.

What do medical coders and billers do?

Procedurally, the primary role of a medical coder is to ensure accurate documentation of a patient's diagnosis, prescription, or referral. Medical coding regulates the proper use of medical procedures and potentially protects patients from prescription conflicts. This is a critical responsibility in health care as a patient's medical history is important for consistent ongoing health care.

Furthermore, proper medical coding procedures have the added purpose

of ensuring correct patient billing and payment.

Skills, learning, and employment opportunities:

Medical coders must be detailed-oriented, have the ability to work well with numbers, and be comfortable working with computers and various types of medical coding and billing software programs. Although much of the job entails administrative tasks such as reviewing, processing, and submitting medical claims, some interpersonal skills are also necessary. Medical coders may be required to obtain additional information from a physician or other medical provider in the office or may need to contact insurance companies regarding questions about claims.

San Jacinto College's Associate of Applied Science in health information management and certificate programs in medical billing and coding will help you to gain a full understanding of medical records and its importance within any health care system. Correct interpretation of a physician's notes is obviously critical to your patient's well-being. Therefore, learning will include knowledge in the subjects of CPT coding,

ICD-10 CM/PCS coding, anatomy, medical terminology, human physiology, and electronic health records.

From an employment perspective, medical coding positions are needed in every hospital, medical clinic, physician's office, nursing home, or health care agency. Insurance companies that work with health care cases may also hire someone with medical coding experience, either on a contract basis or as a full-time employee if the business is large enough. In hospitals and large agencies where more than one person is required for medical coding, there may be potential for advancement into supervisory or management positions.

The average salary for health information technicians in Texas is \$41,512, Texas billing and posting clerks average \$36,692, and the employment rate in the field is projected to grow by 22 percent over the next seven years, according to Texas Wages and Employment Projections. Additionally, the national salary average for medical coding professionals is \$54,730, according to the American Health Information Management Association.

What does a medical secretary do?

Medical secretaries provide administrative support in a medical office environment. A typical day for a medical secretary would include answering phone calls, scheduling appointments, greeting patients, completing insurance forms, helping patients complete intake forms, receiving laboratory results and routing them to appropriate staff, and maintaining medical files.

Skills, learning, and employment opportunities:

San Jac has a medical office support certificate program where students learn medical secretarial procedures, medical terminology, coding and billing, word processing, and medical machine transcription.

The average annual salary for medical secretaries in Texas is \$33,057, and the employment rate in the field is projected to grow by 29 percent over the next seven years, according to Texas Wages and Employment Projections. ■

Choose your path

At San Jacinto College, our mission is to ensure you succeed and to empower you to achieve your goals, redefine expectations, and encourage exploration of new opportunities.

With eight career pathways, you may not only equip yourself with the training and tools needed to succeed in a career but also find your place in the world and pursue the life you've always wanted. If you plan to earn an associate degree and transfer to a four-year university, we can help you along your path. If career training for a certificate or associate degree is more along the path you choose to take, we can help you find the program that is right for you. Before you register for classes, you should discuss your career goals with a San Jacinto College educational planner. We'll make sure you're selecting courses that meet the curriculum requirements of the certificate or associate degree you want to earn or four-year university you plan to attend. Learn more at sanjac.edu, or call 281-998-6150 to speak with an educational counselor. ■



Art, Humanities, Communication, and Design

- Art & Design
- Audio Engineering
- Communications
- Dance
- English
- Interior Design
- Modern Languages
- Music
- Speech
- Theatre and Film

Career opportunities (some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)*

Broadcast Technician	\$42,314
Choreographer	\$78,961
Editor.....	\$97,160
Film and Video Editor.....	\$58,102
Graphic Designer.....	\$49,012
Interior Designer.....	\$58,495
Multimedia Artist and Animator.....	\$59,797
Musicians and Singers.....	\$26.96** per hour
Public Relations Specialist.....	\$66,759
Sound Engineering Technician.....	\$54,148



Business

- Accounting
- Business Administration
- Business Management
- Business Office Technology
- Economics
- Entrepreneur
- Long Term Care Administration
- Paralegal
- Real Estate

Career opportunities (some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)*

Accountant and Auditor	\$88,921
Budget Analyst	\$92,271
Credit Analyst	\$84,978
Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	\$61,846
Financial Analyst.....	\$99,775
Paralegal and Legal Assistant.....	\$61,457
Real Estate Sales Agent.....	\$72,477



Construction, Industry Manufacturing, and Transportation

- Air Conditioning Technology (HVAC)
- Automotive Collision Repair
- Automotive Technology
- Biomedical Clinical Equipment Technician
- Construction Management Technology
- Diesel Technology
- Electrical Technology
- Electronics Technology
- Environmental Health and Safety Technology
- Instrumentation
- International Business Logistics & Maritime
- Maritime Transportation
- Non-destructive Testing
- Pipefitting
- Process Technology
- Welding Technology

Career opportunities (some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)*

API Inspector.....	\$132,028^^
Automotive Body and Related Repairer.....	\$40,637
Automotive Service Technician and Mechanic.....	\$47,259
Captains, Mates, and Pilots.....	\$121,048
Chemical Plant and Systems Operators.....	\$68,577
Electrician.....	\$55,261
Environmental Science and Protection Technician, Including Health.....	\$46,694
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanic and Installer.....	\$48,265
Helper – Electrician	\$36,859
Helper – Plumber, Pipefitter, and Steamfitter	\$36,916
Medical Equipment Repairer	\$49,208
NDT Technician Level I – III	\$65,927^^
Occupational Health and Safety Technician	\$57,338
Plant and Systems Operators (all others).....	\$45,181
Plumber, Pipefitter and Steamfitter	\$53,761
Quality Inspector.....	\$37,340**
Sailors and Marine Oilers.....	\$42,737
Welder, Cutter, Solderer, and Brazer	\$51,641



Education

Child Development / Early Childhood Studies
Teaching

Career opportunities (some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)*

Elementary School Teacher (except Special Ed)	\$62,302
Secondary School Teacher (except Special Ed)	\$61,844
Education Administrator, Preschool, and Child Care Center.....	\$47,422
Preschool Teacher	\$32,297
Child Care Workers	\$22,765



Health Sciences

Cancer Data Management
Dietetics
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
Eye Care Technician
Health Information Management
Kinesiology
Medical Assisting
Medical Billing and Coding
Medical Lab Technology
Mental Health Services
Nursing
Occupational Therapy Assistant
Pharmacy Technician
Physical Therapist Assistant
Radiography
Respiratory Care
Sonography Medical Imaging
Surgical Technician

Career opportunities (some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)*

Athletic Trainer	\$58,527
Certified Dietary Manager	\$51,029 ^{^^}
Certified Ophthalmic Assistant.....	\$45,000 ^{***}
Certified Ophthalmic Technician	\$52,200 ^{***}
Certified Tumor Registrar	\$51,032 ^{^^}
Diagnostic Medical Sonographer.....	\$84,975
Emergency Medical Technician.....	\$34,081
Environmental Science and Protection Technician, Including Health	\$46,694
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technician	\$54,175
Medical Assistant	\$30,467
Medical Records and Health Information Technician.....	\$45,396
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Worker	\$42,538
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN)	\$48,783
Personal and Fitness Trainers	\$39,210 ^{**}
Pharmacy Technician	\$34,873
Physical Therapist Assistant.....	\$68,013
Radiologic Technicians.....	\$61,595
Registered Nurse	\$78,800
Respiratory Therapist.....	\$61,664
Surgical Technologist	\$52,102



Public Safety and Human/Consumer Services

Chef Training
Cosmetology
Criminal Justice
Fire Protection Technology
Massage Therapy
Pastry Chef
Personal Trainer
Restaurant Management

Career opportunities (some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)*

Chefs and Head Cooks (including Pastry Chefs).....	\$45,267
Correctional Officers and Jailers.....	\$43,337
Food Service Manager	\$62,976
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists.....	\$34,041
Massage Therapist	\$33,101
Municipal Firefighter	\$50,257
Personal and Fitness Trainers	\$39,210 ^{**}
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers.....	\$64,659
Private Detectives and Investigators	\$53,426
Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists	\$45,485
Skin Care Specialists (Esthetician).....	\$28,596



Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)

- Applications / Programming
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Computer Simulation & Game Design
- Desktop Support & Network Administration
- Engineering
- Engineering Design Graphics (Drafting)
- Environmental Science
- Geology
- Information Technology Security
- Mathematics
- Microsoft & CISCO
- Physics
- Web Design

Career opportunities (some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)*

Accountant and Auditor	\$88,921
Agricultural and Food Science Technicians.....	\$75,835
Chemical Engineer	\$151,306
Chemists	\$83,915
Civil Engineer.....	\$115,226
Computer Network Support Specialist	\$74,005
Computer Programmer	\$87,537
Database Administrators.....	\$89,358
Desktop Publisher	\$44,235
Drafter	\$76,944
Environmental Engineer	\$134,022
Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Including Health.....	\$46,694
Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health	\$93,174
Geological and Petroleum Technicians.....	\$82,887
Information Security Analyst.....	\$98,250
Mathematicians	\$43,269
Mechanical Drafter.....	\$71,427
Mechanical Engineer.....	\$113,474
Multimedia Artist and Animator	\$59,797
Network and Computer Systems Administrator.....	\$101,942
Physicists.....	\$108,735
Software Developers (Applications).....	\$110,000
Software Developers (Systems Software).....	\$113,701
Web Developer.....	\$74,929



Social and Behavioral Science

- Anthropology
- Government
- History
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Sociology

Career opportunities (some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)*

Psychologists.....	\$95,141
Philosophy and Religion Teachers, Postsecondary	\$90,397
Anthropologists and Archeologists	\$87,903
Political Scientists	\$83,376
Sociology Teachers, Postsecondary.....	\$73,060
Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists.....	\$67,160
Public Relations Specialists.....	\$66,759
Counselors.....	\$63,632
Mental Health Counselors	\$48,623
Museum Technicians and Conservators	\$45,455
Social Science Research Assistants	\$31,921

* Salary source: texaswages.com, Gulf Coast Region, 2016 Annual WDA Wages
 ** Salary source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
 *** Source: Association of Technical Personnel in Ophthalmology
 ^ Salary source: ASQ QP Fall 2015 Salary Survey

Noncredit Classes for Professional and Life Long Learners

Whether you're preparing for a career or picking up a new hobby, the Continuing and Professional Development (CPD) division at San Jacinto College offers a variety of noncredit courses for workforce training and lifelong learning. The workforce area of the division offers courses that keep workers up-to-date on the latest technologies in industries found in the Gulf Coast region. These courses are available through contract training, open enrollment, and grant funding. Not only does the division provide vital training for workers, but many participants find enjoyment by picking up new skills they've been eager to learn. CPD also offers lifelong learning courses that offer people a variety of affordable lessons developed for the purpose of leisure learning and to help people extend their horizons. To find out more, visit sanjac.edu/cpd.

Workforce Development and Job Training

- Applied Technology and Trades
- Business and Professions
- Computers, IT, CNC, PLC, and Robotics
- Health Occupations
- Maritime

Corporate Training and Consulting

- Applied Technology and Trades
- Business and Professions
- Computers, IT, CNC, PLC, and Robotics
- Health Occupations
- Internships
- Maritime

Community Programs

- Aerospace Academy
- Education
- GED / Test Prep
 - Life Long Learning
 - Open House Events
- Youth Programs

Grants

- Adult Education and Literacy
- DOL H1B Ready to Work Petrochem Grant
- Health Career Pathways Partnership Grant
- TPEG
- TWC Business Funding Opportunities
- TWC Fast Start II – HVAC

^^ Salary source: PQNDT 2015 Salary Survey

^^^ Salary source: Payscale

Salary source: National Cancer Registrars Association

Salary source: ANFP 2010 Salary and Benefits Survey



MANY PATHS TO HEALTH SCIENCE CAREERS

- Advanced Imaging Modalities
- Cancer Data Management
- Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Emergency Medical Services
- Eye Care Technology
- Health Information Management
- Medical Assisting
- Medical Billing
- Medical Coding
- Medical Laboratory Technology
- Mental Health Services
- Nursing
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Personal Trainer
- Pharmacy Technician
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Radiography
- Respiratory Care
- Surgical Technology

281-998-6150 | sanjac.edu

The San Jacinto College District is committed to equal opportunity for all students, employees, and applicants without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, pregnancy, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, genetic information, marital status, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. The following College official has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the College's non-discrimination policies: Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, 4620 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, TX 77504; 281-991-2659; Sandra.Ramirez@sjcd.edu.

 SAN JACINTO
COLLEGE

TOP 10 COMMUNITY COLLEGE — IN THE — NATION

The Aspen Institute recognizes
San Jacinto College as a top
community college in the nation,
out of more than 1,100 nationwide.

S SAN JACINTO
C COLLEGE
Your Goals. Your College.

Learn more at sanjac.edu

An Equal Opportunity Institution

