



Healthcare is bigger than you think. From data science to device repair, discover the thousands of rewarding careers that exist beyond patient care.

A Pro-Level Guide to Exploring Healthcare Careers

Forget just ‘doctors and nurses.’ We asked **Hersey Health Science Teacher Mrs. Pataky** how to find the industry’s hidden gems. Here is her proven 3-step guide.

Step 1: Choose Your Path

Don’t just search for “hospital jobs.” Mrs. Pataky explains that healthcare careers fall into five main groups. Start your search by picking one pathway that sounds interesting:



Therapeutic Services

Treating and caring for patients directly.



Diagnostic Services

Testing to figure out what is wrong.



Health Informatics

Managing data, technology, and patient records.



Support & Environmental Services

Keeping the hospital or facility running smoothly.



Biotechnology R&D

Researching and inventing new treatments.

Step 2: The Research Checklist

Once you find a job title that sounds cool, don’t just look at one website. Mrs. Pataky has her students find the real answers using this checklist:

- ☐ **The Day-to-Day**
What are the actual duties? (Pro-Tip: Search YouTube for “A day in the life of a...” to see for yourself).
- ☐ **The Education**
Do you need a certificate, Associate’s, Bachelor’s, or Master’s degree?
- ☐ **The Program**
Find one specific college that offers that degree. What GPA/test scores do you need to get in?
- ☐ **The Money**
What is the starting salary versus the average salary?
- ☐ **The Setting**
Where would you actually work? (A busy hospital? A quiet lab? An office? From home?)

Step 3: Use Expert-Approved Tools

Stop Googling randomly. Mrs. Pataky recommends these three trusted sources for reliable data:



[Bureau of Labor Statistics \(BLS.gov\)](#)

The official source for government data on salary and job growth.



[Mayo Clinic Career Exploration](#)

An amazing A-to-Z list of hundreds of specific healthcare careers.



[BigFuture \(College Board\)](#)

Great for connecting careers to the college majors that get you there.

See It In Action: You have the tools to research the job. Now, meet the people who actually do the work. **Read on** to meet Zander, a D214 apprentice working on the high-tech machines that save lives.

The Apprentice & Mentor

Meet the Team maintaining the machines that save lives.

Zander Chartouni: Prospect senior and biomedical engineering apprentice
 Leslie McGovern: Zander's Supervisor and Senior Director of Endeavor Healthcare Technology Management

We sat down with this dynamic duo to see what it's really like to work on the high-tech side of healthcare.

Zander's Story

"I know I'm helping them."

Zander didn't find this apprenticeship online. After a presentation in his Autos class, he took a chance and asked, **"Do you have anything related to Biomedical Engineering?"**

That question landed him at Northwest Community Hospital. **Now, he's learning to maintain some of the hospital's most advanced medical devices.** But his biggest lesson wasn't about equipment, it was about people.

The Surprise Skill

"I think a lot of people don't realize just how much communication is needed," Zander says. With over 20 departments to coordinate with, he realized that fixing the machine is only half the job. **"I see how important communication is to be an effective engineer."**

Why It Matters

"I sometimes walk into an empty patient room... and I'll see a sticker with my and my coworker's initials on the machine," he says. **"It reminds me that real people rely on my work to get better."**

The Supervisor's View

A Career with a Future

We asked Zander's supervisor, Leslie, about the future of this "hidden" field.

The Job

"We manage the technology that saves lives," Leslie says. From acquiring and installing to maintaining cutting-edge tech, the hospital simply couldn't run without this team.

The Future

It's not just fixing hardware. Leslie notes that **students can branch into medical device cybersecurity**, protecting patient data and preventing hospitals from getting hacked.

The Lifestyle and Ladder

Unlike doctors or nurses, this role often offers a stable Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm schedule. The growth potential is huge: **"In 10 years," Leslie notes, "this role could easily be in management or a senior technician making over 6 figures."**

Leslie's Advice for Students

"Focus on technology and cultivate a curious mind. The best candidates are simply the ones who have a genuine desire to understand how things work."

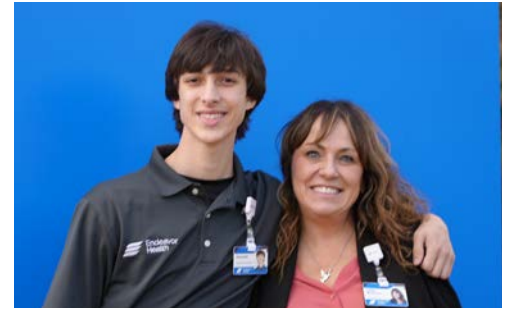


Chart Your Course

TAKE A CLASS

D214 offers dozens of career-focused classes. Check out the **Academic Programs & Pathways Guidebook**.



GET EXPERIENCE

Applications are now open on **SchoolLinks** for Summer 2026 Internships and 2026-27 Apprenticeships



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