

# 109 DISTRICT 211 STUDENTS EARN CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT CREDENTIALS



*Hoffman Estates, Conant, and Schaumburg High School CNA students.*

Students in District 211's Certified Nursing Assistant Program have recently earned credentials that can help start their careers.

A total of 109 District 211 students, including 65 from Conant, Hoffman, and Schaumburg High Schools and 44 from Palatine and Fremd High Schools, passed the state exam to become Certified Nursing Assistants.

"The health care pathway that we have in Township High School District 211 has grown over the last five years," said John Reyes, science teacher at Conant High School. "Since it's inception in 2012, we have produced more than 400 certified nursing assistants. The majority of our graduates from the first year of the program have gone on to become registered nurses, physical therapy students, and medical school students. The health care pathway is a great opportunity for anyone interested in the medical field."



*Palatine and Fremd High School CNA students.*

The dual-credit, two-semester course allows students to learn nursing skills as well as provide hands-on clinical care with real patients. By the end of the course, students will have the qualifications to become Certified Nursing Assistants upon graduation, as well as earn six college credits.

The CNA labs at both Conant and Palatine High Schools have all the basic equipment students would use in a medical setting, as well as mannequins as patients. Students are taught skills to assist patients with daily living, including assisting with brushing teeth and going to the bathroom, how to take blood pressure, and how to transfer someone who is unable to move.

During second semester, students complete clinical hours. At the end of the semester, they have the opportunity to take the Nurse Aide Competency examination and be certified by the State of Illinois as Nurse Aides.

“The students are busy updating their resumes and will seek gainful employment soon after graduation,” said Victoria Deguia, science teacher at Palatine High School. “We have had tremendous success in our program in terms of growth and certification.”