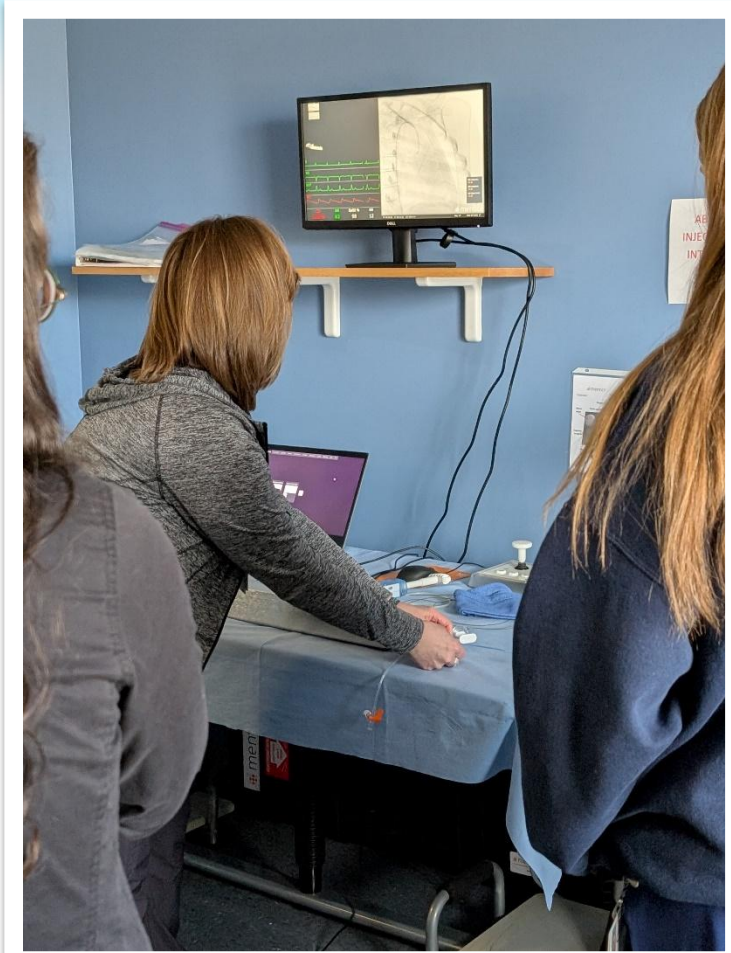




Creating Meaningful Health Career Pathways: A Perkins-Aligned Framework

Speaker Info



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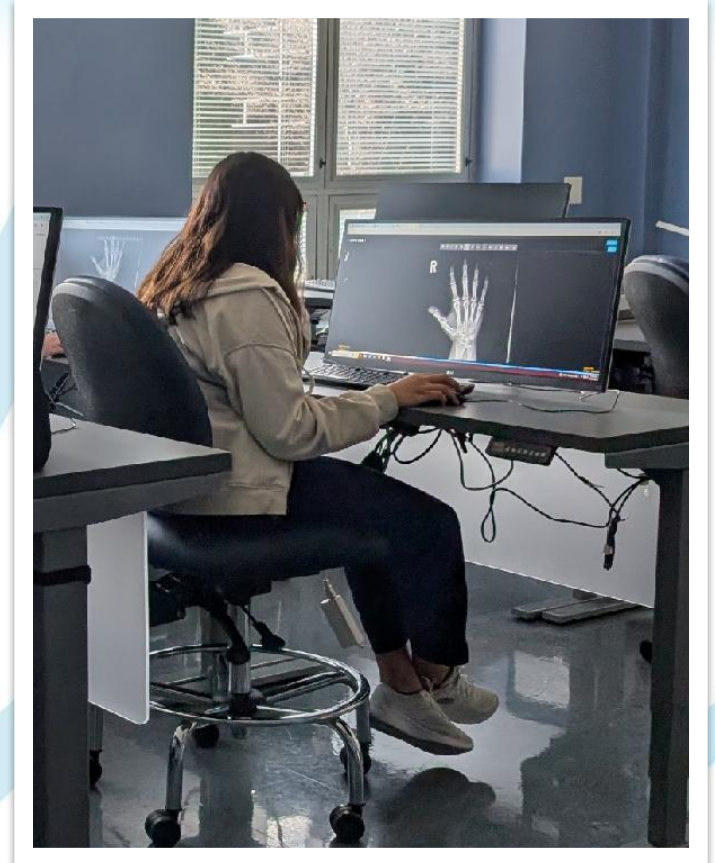
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What best describes your reason for choosing this presentation?

- I want to improve an existing program.
- I'm curious and want to start something at my institution.
- I'm unsure and would like to learn more.

Presentation Overview

- Secondary Partnerships
- Challenges for Healthcare Pathways
- Health Careers Advance Program (HCAP)
- Benefits for students and institutions



Secondary Partnerships - TechLink



- Consortium of 9 secondary career & technical education schools in South Central PA
- Managed by postsecondary partner, HACC
- Summer planning meeting and MOU's

Student Stories

Maya

- HS senior in Allied Health program
- Likes helping people
- After sister's diabetes diagnosis, she wants to better understand health conditions
- Wants to be a nurse because it's the health career she knows best



Jordan

- High school senior in Allied Health program
- Highly motivated to enter nursing
- Has excellent grades and has already earned several certifications
- Nursing is a deliberate career goal, but he needs a clear route forward



The Challenge

- Career awareness gap
- Curriculum alignment gap
- Transition gap
- Partnership gap



The Response

- Perkin's Alignment Activity
 - Additional pathways from high school to college providing career exploration
- Health Careers Advanced Program (HCAP)
- Started in the 2021-2022 school year



What is HCAP?

- Partnership with two secondary career and technical centers.
- High school seniors participate in career exploration, hands-on activities, and learn about the healthcare programs at HACC.
- If students complete the program components by end of fall semester, they will be eligible for a free dual enrollment class at HACC.

HCAP Components

- Attend kickoff event at their high school (early fall)
- Attend two visits to a HACC campus (fall and spring)
- Complete the Career Readiness activity
- Complete an HCAP interview



Eligible for a free dual enrollment course!

- Bonus: Entered into a \$1,000 tuition giveaway if they complete all steps above and register at HACC for at least 6 credits the following fall.

Health Careers Advance Program

Choose a career that **Saves Lives**

Follow these steps for a
chance to win a \$1,000
tuition giveaway for
HACC classes!



Visit us at
www.techlinkpa.com/hcap
for more information!



1. ATTEND THE HCAP KICKOFF EVENT

Join us on September 4th (YCST) or September 23rd (ACT!) to learn more about HACC's HCAP Program.

2. ATTEND HCAP HEALTH CAREER EXPLORATION DAYS

Come explore the different health career programs available to you at a HACC campus on October 22, 2025 and February 20, 2026.

3. COMPLETE A CAREER READINESS ACTIVITY

Research the Health Career that interests you in this activity and submit it by December 5, 2025 to mmwert@hacc.edu.

4. COMPLETE A STUDENT INTERVIEW

Once your Career Readiness Activity is submitted and reviewed, you'll be required to schedule a 30 minute HCAP interview during the week of December 8, 2025.

5. TAKE A DUAL ENROLLMENT CLASS

If you complete steps 1 - 4 above, you are eligible to take a FREE Dual Enrollment Class at HACC in the Spring 2026 semester!

6. ENROLL AT HACC!

After you complete steps 1 - 5 above and graduate from high school, register at HACC for at least six credits for Fall 2026 and you'll have a chance to win a \$1,000 tuition giveaway!

HCAP Timeline

Fall

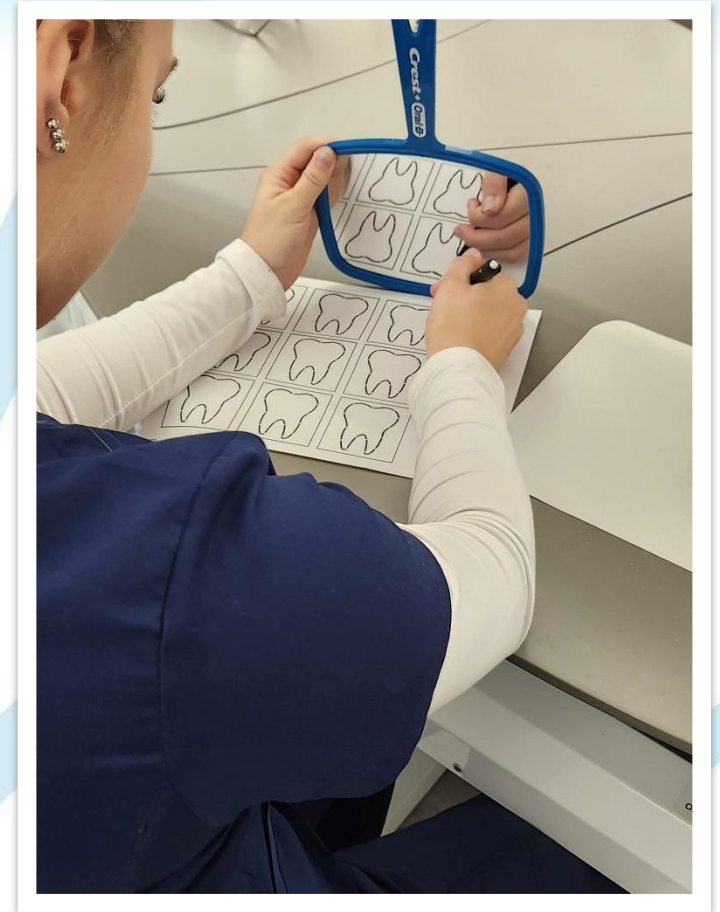
- Kickoff & introduction to HCAP
- First campus visit
- Complete Career Readiness activity & interview
- Eligible students select a dual enrollment course & attend DE new student orientation

Spring

- Take selected dual enrollment course
- Second campus visit
- Opportunity to connect with HACC students
- Discuss matriculation process
- \$1,000 tuition giveaway announcement

Student Benefits

- Free dual enrollment course
- Access to HACCC resources such as tutoring & advising
- Exposure to non-traditional or lesser known medical careers
- Opportunity to meet HACCC students & faculty
- Opportunity to win a \$1,000 tuition giveaway



Institutional Benefits

- Matriculation
 - The goal is for students to matriculate to HACC
- Focus on continuous improvement
- Maintain Perkins eligibility for health career programs
- Collaboration with CTCs
 - They become promoters of HACC
- Exposure to HACC's health career programs

Program Impact

- 43.75% of students who completed HCAP during the 25–26 school year matriculated to HACC in Fall 2026
 - 27.27% of HCAP completers from the 24–25 school year matriculated to HACC in Fall 2025
- 60% of students who completed the 25-26 program reported feeling more confident about pursuing a career in healthcare.
- 26.7% of the 25-26 cohort completers indicated that since beginning the HCAP program, they became interested in a different academic program or career than they originally considered.

Student Stories – After HCAP

Maya

- Exposed to careers she hadn't considered
- Became interested in surgical technology
- Expressed interest in shadowing; connected her with the Surgical Technology instructor
- Taking a year off after high school and plans to enroll in the Surgical Technology program next year



Jordan

- Took multiple dual enrollment courses
- Met college faculty and students
- Took advantage of campus visits to understand application process and campus resources
- Enrolled in the Allied Health program and will apply for admission to the Nursing program



Thank you!



Megan Wert

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HCAP Website

Scan this QR code or visit
www.techlinkpa.com/hcap

