OREGON OFFICE of RURAL HEALTH

43rd Annual Oregon
Rural Health Conference
October 7- 9, 2026

OPPORTUNITY Just knock.

OHSU

2026 Oregon Rural Health Conference Presentation Slides

Launching a new Health Occupations CTE Center for Rural Southern Oregon

Bryan Fix – Sky Lakes Medical Center
Adam Randall – Klamath Union HS

SKY LAKES MEDICAL CENTER



As one, we rise.

SKY LAKES



A Vital Rural Healthcare and Economic Driver for Southern Oregon

60+ Years of Serving Our Communities

THE Foster G. McGaw PRIZE

Recipient of the 2026 Foster G. McGaw Prize for exceptional commitment to community health and well-being.

Annual Economic Impact:

$651M

Supporting local businesses, families, and communities across Southern Oregon.

1,700+

EMPLOYEES

Largest employer in the region and a critical workforce development partner.

10,000

SQUARE MILES SERVED

Providing healthcare across a vast rural region of Southern Oregon and Northern California.

80,000–100,000

PEOPLE SERVED

The only full-service hospital within a 75-mile radius.

THE REALITY OF RURAL HEALTH

- More than **20%** below the Federal Poverty Level Compared to Oregon's average of 11.8%
- **80%** depend on Medicare and Medicaid
- **5 Year** Rural Mortality Penalty
  Life expectancies in rural communities are five years shorter than in urban areas.
- Many patients travel long distances over mountains to receive care.

OUR SERVICE AREA



Sky Lakes Service Area

BUILDING A LOCAL PIPELINE. STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY. ADVANCING HEALTH FOR ALL.

A SEAMLESS PATH TO BECOMING A CLINICIAN - RIGHT HERE IN KLAMATH FALLS

Sky Lakes — As one, we rise.

Klamath Community College

Oregon Tech — Oregon Institute of Technology

OHSU









CLINICIAN MADE HERE. CARE DELIVERED HERE

High School
Inspiring the next generation through early exposure, dual credit, and health career exploration. Providing skills and clinicals to earn entry level credentials and job ready skills

Klamath Community College
Surgical Technologist
Nursing - ADN & BSN
Licensed Practical Nurse
Emergency Response & Operations

Oregon Tech
Diagnostic Medical Sonography
Echocardiography
Vascular Technology
Nuc Med & Molecular Imaging
Repiratory Care
Health Informatics
Allied Health

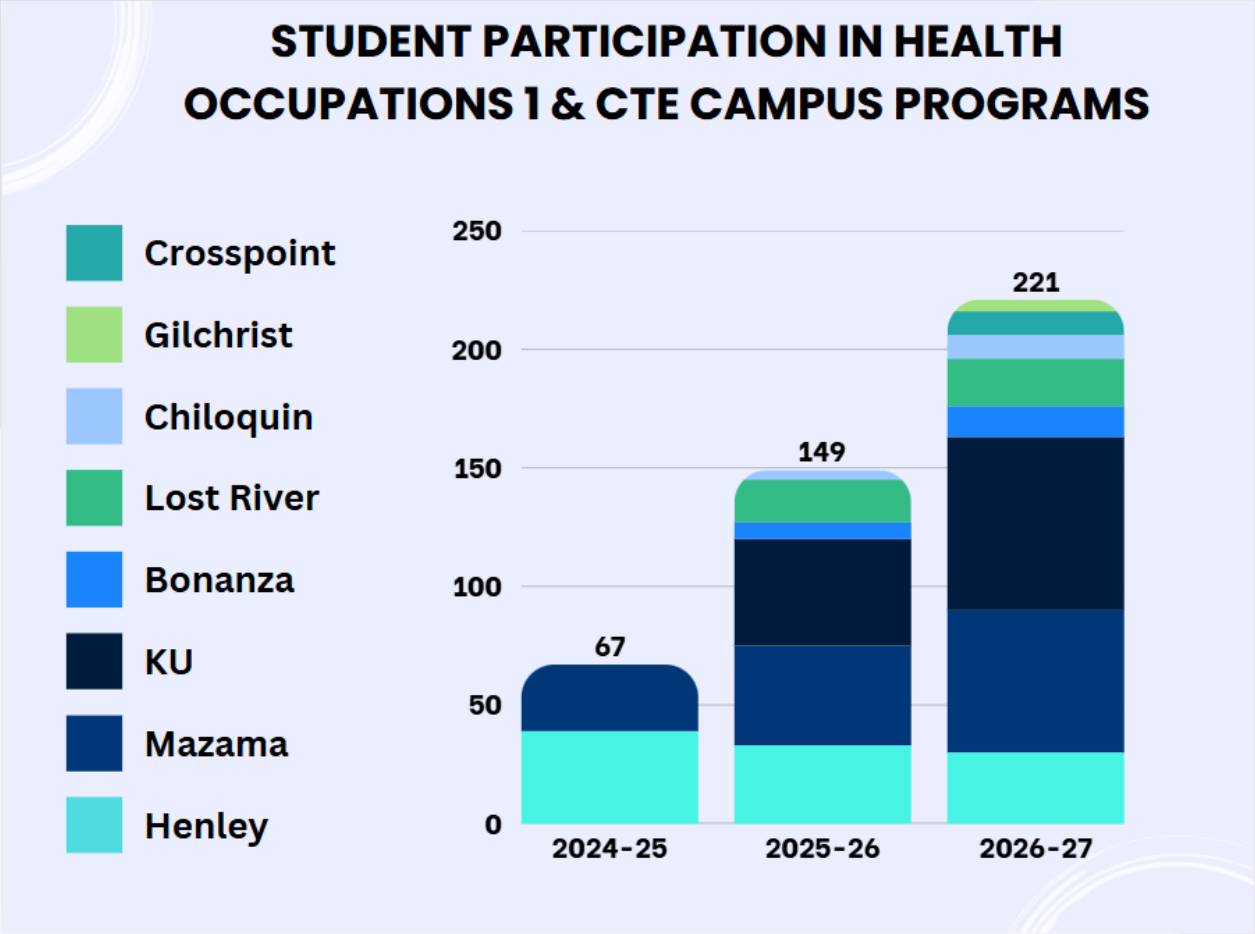
Oregon Health & Science University
Nursing
Medical Residence
Future Medical School

Why This Matters

- GROWS OUR TALENT
- ADDRESSES THE CLINICIAN SHORTAGE
- DRIVES ECONOMIC GROWTH
- STRENGTHENS OUR COMMUNITY
- IMPROVES RURAL HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR ALL

TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A HEALTHIER FUTURE.
INVEST IN KLAMATH FALLS.
INVEST IN OREGON.

Why CTE…



Connecting students to their purpose…

CTE Concentrators graduate at higher rates and build career-connected skills, making them “job ready” at graduation or matriculation ready for healthcare programs at OHSU, OIT and KCC.

- All Students Graduation rate: ~81%
- CTE Students Graduation rate: 95%+

- 0 CTE Credits: ~87–93%
- 3+ CTE Credits: ~94–96%

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Health Occupations Programs…

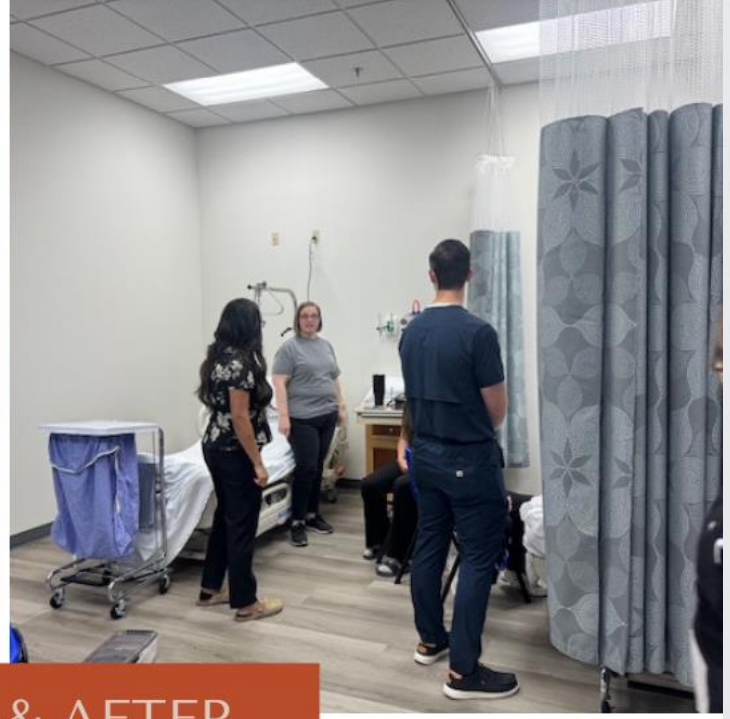




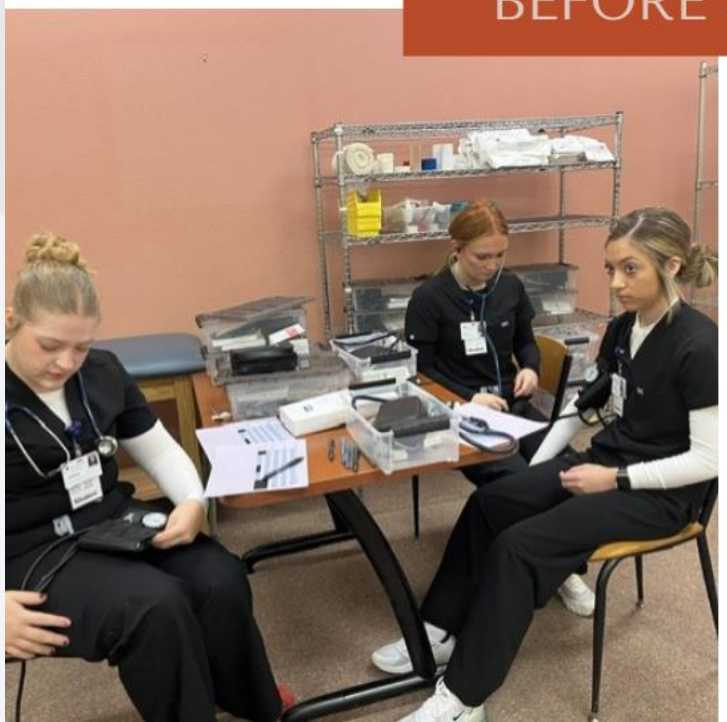
- Students gain valuable real-world exposure to potential career pathways.
- Students wear green scrubs along with a Sky Lakes badge to clearly identify themselves as Health Occupations students.
- Expanding from 2 schools in 2024 → 6 schools in 2026
- For Jr's & Sr's, rotations are 2 hours per week for up to 30 weeks..
  - 10 different units/locations to observe
  - Exposure to 20 + health occupations positions that vary in education requirements

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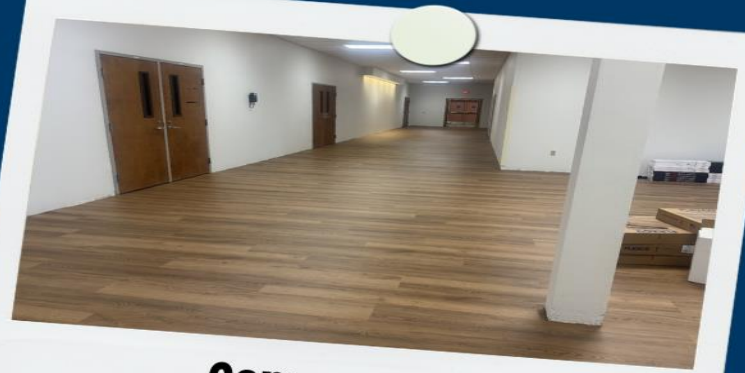
BEFORE & AFTER





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2026 After



Commons Area



Office



Inpatient Lab



Entry Area



Hallway



Classroom 1

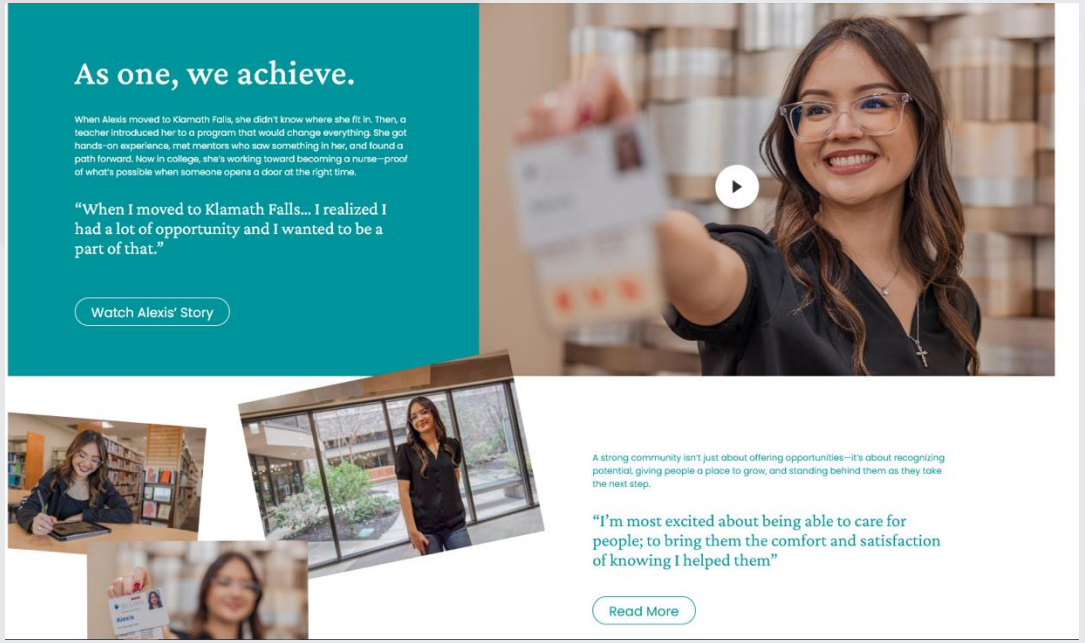


Commons Area



Outpatient Lab

Health Occs CTE Success Story… (Henley HS)









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KLAMATH FALLS REGIONAL CTE CAMPUS



Sky Lakes, in partnership with Klamath City Schools, Klamath County School District, Klamath Community College, and Oregon Institute of Technology, is proud to announce the launch of the Klamath Regional CTE Campus—now enrolling students for Fall 2026.

This new campus will offer health-focused Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses open to all students throughout Klamath County.

The CTE Campus is located at the Sky Lakes' Community Health Education Center on North Eldorado Avenue.

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KLAMATH Community College

Oregon TECH Oregon Institute of Technology

Klamath County School District

Klamath Falls City Schools

SKY LAKES Foundation

2026-2027 Course Offerings

Course Title	Credits	Course Description
INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH OCCUPATIONS	**1.0 HS**	*This year-long virtual course provides students with a foundational overview of healthcare careers and essential healthcare skills.*
HEALTH OCCUPATIONS I (MDA 101 & MDA 102)	**1.0 HS 6.0 KCC**	*This year-long dual credit course introduces students to foundational medical terminology, including prefixes, suffixes, word roots, and abbreviations, organized by body system. Students will participate in healthcare observational rotations.*
FIRST AID AND BEYOND (HEA 252)	**0.5 HS 3.0 KCC**	*A semester-long dual credit course that equips students with essential life-saving skills and the confidence to respond effectively in emergency situations. Students obtain their WFA, CPR, and FEMA certifications.*
PATIENT CARE (MIT 225)	**0.5 HS 3.0 OIT**	*A semester-long dual credit course that educates students on basic concepts of patient care, infection control, and recognition of emergency situations.*
MEDICAL ASSISTING CAPSTONE (NON-CREDIT KCC)	**1.0-2.0 HS**	*A year-long MA program that equips students with clinical, administrative, and patient care skills, preparing students to take the National Healthcare Association Certificated Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) exam.*
NURSING ASSISTANT CAPSTONE (HEA 100 & HEA 100C)	**1.0-2.0 HS 5.0 KCC**	*A year-long nursing assistant program that provides in-depth training in patient care, clinical skills, and healthcare procedures, preparing students to take the Oregon State Board of Nursing Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) exam.*

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Klamath Regional CTE Center - Health Occupations Program

As one, we rise.
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Introductory Courses

Intro to Health Occupations
0.5 Credits at Regional Center

Intermediate Courses

First Aid & Beyond
0.5 Credits at Regional Center
First aide/CPR/AED Cert
FEMA CERT Cert
WFA Wildland 1st Aide Cert

Patient Care
0.5 Credits at Regional Center
4 credits MIT 225 or RDSC 205 @ OIT

Advanced Courses

Health Occupations 1
1.0 Credit at Regional Center
6 credits MDA 101/102 @ KCC

Capstone Courses

Nursing Assistant Program (CNA)
1.0 Credit at Regional Center

Medical Assistant Apprenticeship (MA)
1.0 Credit at Regional Center

Community Health Worker (CHW)
1.0 Credit at Regional Center

All courses have a distance learning option

Sky Lakes Earn & Learn Program:

Clinic Ambassador
Unit Ambassador
Surgical Ambassador

Sky Lakes Employment:

Certified Nursing Assistant
Medical Assistant
Community Health Worker
Dietary Aide
Patient Transport
Housekeeper
Sterile Processing Tech
Operating Room Assistant

Local College Programs:

Klamath Community College

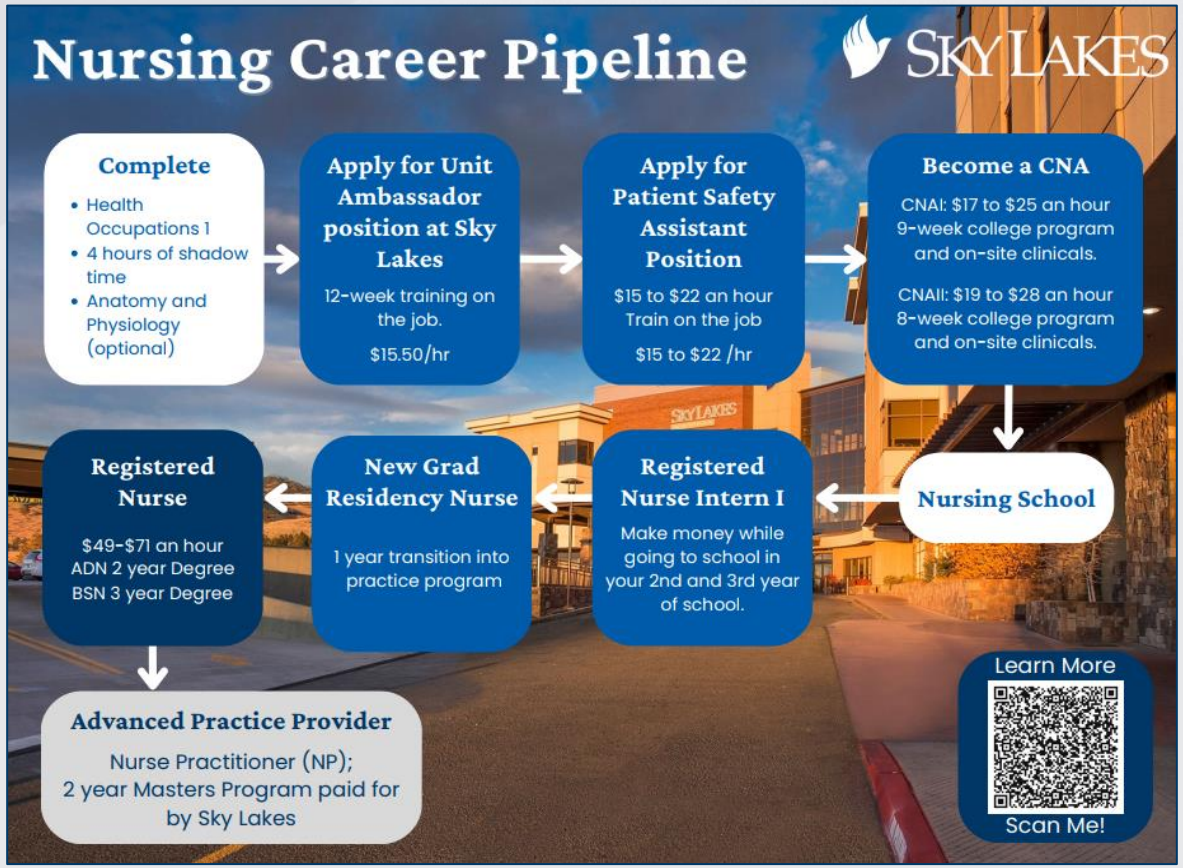
Certified Nursing Assistant Program
Surgical Tech Program
ADN Nursing Program
Health Information Management

Oregon Institute of Technology & Oregon Health & Science

BSN Nursing Program
Applied Behavior Analysis
Dental Hygiene
Marriage and Family Therapy
Nuclear Medicine & Molecular Imaging Technology
Applied Psychology Program
Radiologic Science
BSRT Respiratory Care Program
Vascular Tech Program

Pipeline pathways provide a strategic framework for students, outlining the essential steps required to successfully achieve their career goals.





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CTE Healthcare Pathway Roadmap (2025–2029)

Building a sustainable, workforce-aligned talent pipeline

2025–2026 FOUNDATION

Establish programs and early pathways.

- Launch NA Capstone
- Career exposure through Ambassador Program
- Build teaching capacity and facilities

2026–2027 EXPANSION

Expand programs and deepen partnerships.

- Add MA Capstone
- Strengthen K–12 and KCC partnerships
- Expand course offerings and access

2027–2028 DIVERSIFICATION

Broaden pathways and meet community needs.

- Add new pathways (e.g., Community Health Worker, Behavioral Health)
- Increase access for rural students
- Align training with workforce demand

2028–2029 INNOVATION

Innovate and ensure long-term sustainability.

- Expand early education pathways
- Advance cross-sector programs
- Scale successful models and strengthen sustainability

OUR GOAL Create a sustainable pipeline that connects students to healthcare careers and strengthens our community.

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Health Occs CTE success story… (KU H.S.)



Ambassador Program

Provides high school students hands-on **career exploration** in hospital and clinic environments…

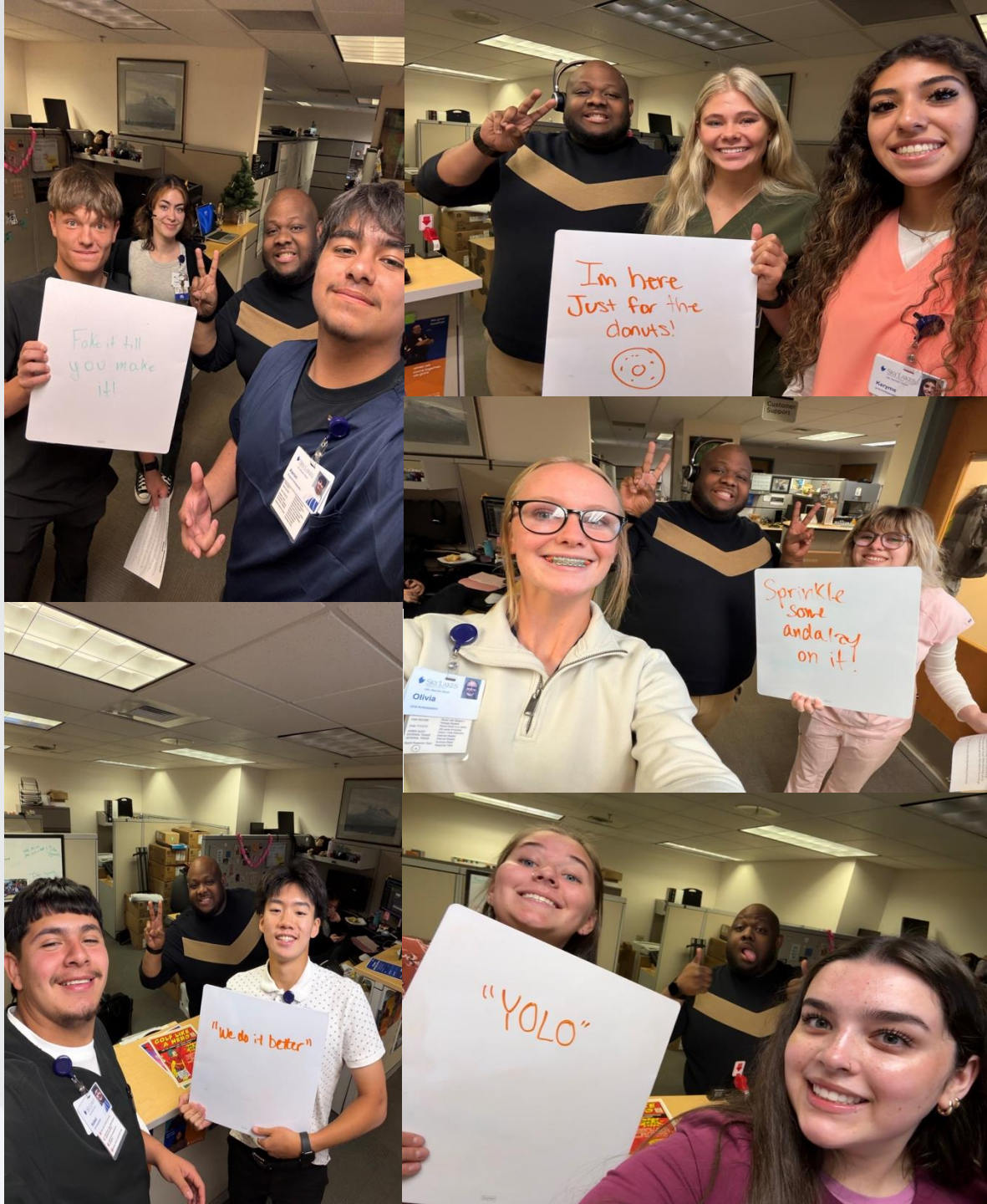
- Transport
- Materials
- EVS
- Nursing units
- IS
- Case Management

Observations:

- Sky Care – immediate care
- Radiology
- FBC
- OIT Dental Hygiene
- Pharmacy
- OR
- ICU
- Specialty Clinics

- Connects classroom learning to real-world experiences across departments.
- Supports workforce pipeline and student career readiness.

Funded by Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Grant – 2025 & 2026



Clinical Pipeline Programs (2026)

- **Health Occupations** (High School)
  - Observation opportunities: 9 high schools, up to 900 rotations (October-June)
  - Earn & Learn Ambassador Programs: Clinic, Hospital/Unit, Surgical (12 weeks paid summer employment)
- **CNA Training Capstone** (9 months/165 hrs.)
- **MA Capstone** (9 months/90 hrs.)
- **MA Apprentice – Sky Lakes** (6 months/2,000 hrs.)
- **Nurse Intern** (up to 2 yrs for OHSU/OIT and KCC)
- **Nurse Residency Cohorts** (6-12 months)
- **APP Residency** (6 months)
- **Surgical Tech Scholar** (KCC/2 yr continuous program)









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The Collaborators…

Oregon Institute of Technology

Respiratory Program
- Provide clinicals rotations

Imaging Programs
- Provide clinical rotations

Physical Therapy Program (OHSU)
Dental Hygiene
Dual Credit for CTE Courses

HEALTHY KLAMATH
A CERTIFIED BLUE ZONES COMMUNITY™

Grant Support
Community Coordination

OHSU

Bachelor Registered Nurse Program
- Provide clinical rotation
- Nurse Intern candidates

KLAMATH Community College

Medical Assistant Program
- Provide clinical rotation

Certified Nursing Assistant Program
- Partnered to host program at Sky Lakes

Surgical Technologist Program
- Sky Lakes provide instructor for program

Associate Registered Nurse Program
- Provide clinical rotations
- Nurse Intern candidates

Dual Credit for CTE Courses

Cascade Health Alliance, LLC

Expanded Networking opportunities
- Primary Care
  - APP Residency
  - MA program

SKY LAKES FOUNDATION

Grant Writing Support & Administration
Scholarship Funds (donors)
Scholarship Awards

Klamath Falls City Schools

Health Occupations
- Provide shadow rotations
- Ambassador candidates

KCSD

KLAMATH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Health Occupations
- Provide shadow rotations
- Ambassador candidates

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Recent Grant Awards

Grant	Amount	Purpose
HECC Future Ready Oregon – KU	$201,500	Start Up and FTE
City School District	$60,000	FTE over 2 years
Sky Lakes Foundation	$60,000	Undesignated
OCF Marie Lamfrom OCF	$20,000	Student Support
OCF Neimeyer Family	$60,000	Inpatient and Out-patient Lab Space
Rotary Allocation Fund	$3,225	CPR Training Equipment
Roundhouse Capital Grant	$70,000	Auditorium Improvements
Reser Family Foundation	$15,000	Technology and Lab Space
RHTP - KU	$647,679	Expansion & New Programming over 2 years
Total to Date	$1,137,404	

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