

Career Day @ Kaiser Permanente (Sunnyside Medical Center)

When: Thursday, Dec. 10, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Check-in at 9:15 am.
Where: Sunnyside Medical Center, 10180 SE Sunnyside Road, Clackamas
Industry: Health care
Careers: Direct patient care, engineering, clinical technology, IT
Notes: Open to high school juniors and seniors. Registration closes Friday, Dec. 5.
Check with your career coordinator prior to day for exact meeting location.

Is this career day just about health care? What if I'm interested in other fields? Well, you're in luck. Students will have the opportunity to hear from people who work in clinical care (doctors, nurses, nursing assistants, therapists, etc) AND those who work in support services (engineering, clinical technology, IT, etc).

What is Kaiser Permanente, anyway? Kaiser Permanente operates in nine states and is the largest managed-care organization in the United States. Its stated mission is to provide high-quality, affordable health care for its members and the communities it serves.

Why is Kaiser so eager to talk with students about careers in health care? Kaiser and other health care employers in Oregon face a big challenge. Many of their employees will retire in the next decade, creating a loss of experience and skills. The state's population is growing, as is the percentage of people with health problems related to old age or chronic conditions. Kaiser wants to inform young people about career possibilities and inspire the next generation.

What's in it for students? Health care is one of the fastest-growing sectors of the Oregon economy, representing some of the best opportunities for career advancement. Students can learn how to gain experience through beginning-level jobs or volunteering, then further their education to pursue well-paying, satisfying careers.

What students will do: Students will meet at Kaiser's Sunnyside Medical Center. They will get a tour and talk with professionals in the field about their career paths. They will hear about the skills and education needed for various jobs within health care (including IT and other high-demand, well-paying jobs that don't involve direct patient care). There will be a mock interview and plenty of time for Q&A, and there may be an opportunity to try out equipment used in training and simulations.

More cool facts about health care jobs: The average annual wage for people working in health care in the Portland metro region is \$53,350, 7 percent higher than average. Nearly one-third of the jobs in health care are in hospitals; most of the rest are in clinics, medical offices and care centers.

*Check out Portland Workforce Alliance's full calendar of career days for 2015-16:
www.portlandworkforcealliance.org/events*