

Looking At The ISSUES

Stark
Education
Partnership
inc.

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Stark College Bound Students Indicate a Preference for Health Sciences

I always dreamed of going to college to become a doctor, nurse, or someone who worked big time in the hospital field. – A Canton City Student



Opportunities in the health care industry have exploded due to new research and technology and Ohio is moving into the lead in this sector. In fact one recent article now ranks Ohio as fourth in the nation¹ in new health lab growth.

Jobs in this sector now pay an average of about \$52,000 a year, some 35% higher than the national average. Given these opportunities, how savvy are our high school graduates about this growth sector? As it turns out, very savvy.

Data shared recently by ACT, Inc. with the Stark Education Partnership² has for the first time given an indication of what our high school seniors across the entire county plan to study in college. Health Sciences is number one. This information comes from the application packet that students complete to take the ACT Test and is based on nearly 3,000 responses from the class of 2006.

Here are the top categories and the number of students who want to pursue majors in those areas:

- Health Sciences (498)
- Business/Management (300)
- Education/Teaching (245)
- Visual and Performing Arts (198)
- Social Sciences (167)
- Engineering/Engineering Technology (156)
- Math and Science (111)
- Communications (111)

¹ See: The Site Selector Online Insider, *Health-Care Sector Diversifying Site-Selection Strategies* at: <http://www.siteselection.com/ssinsider/snapshot/sf080228.htm>

² Stark County ACT Tested HS Graduating Class of 2006. Iowa City: ACT, Inc.

Do You Remember

Did you know that three College Medical Tech Prep students from Perry won Stark County a national championship at the Skills USA competition in 2006? Sage Fox, Amanda Lewis, and Alyssa White were named national champions when their project, "The Bod Squad," a health and wellness program for middle school students was determined to be the best in competition with approximately 4700 other high school and college students from across the United States. Skills USA is the national organization for students in trade, industrial, technical and health occupations education.

Looking At The Week

Education Task Force

Dr. Adrienne O'Neill attended a meeting of the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce Education Task Force on Friday, March 7.