“One of the goals of the program is to introduce the students to all of the different healthcare careers available; careers that perhaps they did not know about.”

Dele Davies, MD
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean for Graduate Studies

What is the UNMC High School Alliance?

The UNMC High School Alliance is a partnership between the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) and public school districts in the greater Omaha area. The program is designed to offer unique and innovative health science classes to high school juniors and seniors.

Alliance students will take classes that are not available in the traditional high school setting. These classes will be taught in partnership by UNMC faculty and certified high school teachers on the UNMC campus.

The Alliance will provide students with the opportunity to observe, shadow and work alongside world renowned health care professionals and researchers at UNMC.

Students from participating districts who are interested in pursuing a career in health care or health sciences should strongly consider applying to the UNMC High School Alliance.
What school districts participate?
Bellevue Public
Bennington Public
Council Bluffs Community
Douglas County West Community
Elkhorn Public
ESU #3*
Gretna Public
Millard Public
Omaha Public
Papillion-La Vista School District
Ralston Public
Springfield Platteview Community
Westside Community

*Non Douglas/Sarpy county schools with school district approval

What classes can I take?
Students in the UNMC High School Alliance will take up to four classes for the academic year that they are enrolled. Class offerings MAY include the following:
- Behavioral Health
- Biology and Prevention of Cancer
- Biomedical Research
- Dimensions of Community Health
- Exploration of Human Anatomy
- Human Genetics
- The Study of Patient Care
- Infectious Diseases
- Pathology
- Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Medical Imaging
- Art & Science of Decision Making

How does the UNMC High School Alliance work?
The UNMC High School Alliance is a one-year program.* Students take classes on the UNMC campus every day from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.
Because school districts have different calendars, the UNMC High School Alliance follows the calendar for the Omaha Public Schools.
Students are responsible for their own transportation to the UNMC campus; unless their school district provides transportation.

Who is eligible?
Students from participating school districts are eligible to apply. Eligible students must meet each of the following criteria:
- Be a junior or senior and at least 16 years of age at the beginning of the school year
- Have completed and received a grade of “B” or above in Algebra 1, Biology, a physical science course, and a third year of science
- Obtain parent/guardian permission
- Be enrolled in a participating high school for the entire school year
- Be on track for graduation
- Complete an in-person interview

*There will be an option for a select group of juniors to return for their senior year.

How do I apply?
Applications are available online. Visit our website www.unmc.edu/alliance to find the application.
Please review the eligibility requirements before applying.
Applications will be available on or about November 19, 2021, and must be submitted to UNMC by January 28, 2022.
Completed applications must contain all of the following:
- 250-word essay describing your reasons for pursuing the UNMC High School Alliance and your interest in a health science career
- Application form
- Parent/guardian permission
- Counselor certification form
- School transcripts
- Two recommendations: one from a math or science teacher, the other from any other teacher

“The High School Alliance program gave me a valuable insight into the medical world, provided enriching curriculum, and meaningful mentorship experiences (some mentors are still in contact with me today), and ultimately guided me to where I am today.”
Student from the Class of 2017 and now a masters student at UNMC

“The opportunity to shadow and connect with so many medical professionals as a high school student opened my eyes to many cool careers in the health care field.”
Student from the Class of 2013, who now holds a Masters of Public Health degree

Contact information:
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Additional information can be found at: unmc.edu/alliance