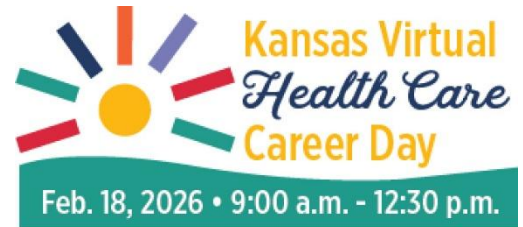


## Ideas for Hospitals to Engage with Local Schools During the Kansas Virtual Health Care Career Day Feb. 18, 2026

Below are some ways your hospital can interact with local students interested in health care careers:

- Coordinate with school administration to host students at your facility to watch the Zoom event from 9am-12:30pm on 2/18/2026 and then have students shadow/tour your hospital or specific departments.
- Ask if your organization could setup a table in the school commons area or other high traffic location on Feb. 18, 2026.
- Ask for permission to promote this event to all students and parents in school newsletters, emails, and/or word of mouth. Mention your organization will be on site at the school on Feb. 18, 2026, with hiring opportunities AND scholarships available (if your hospital offers or is willing to offer scholarships to help students pay for schooling, etc.)
- Request the school broadcast the Virtual Health Care Career Day event in the auditorium and/or commons area for students to watch and participate in the whole event or specific segments.
- Provide pizza for all students OR reserve a classroom or auditorium for a pizza party for students interested in health care careers who want to watch the event.
- Bring demonstration equipment such as mannequins (if allowed) so students can have hands-on interaction with real-life equipment.
- Bring hospital staff to the school to communicate what they do on a daily basis and personalize it for your hospital.



Although the virtual event is designed to increase awareness of the variety of health care careers, your opportunity to interact with students **CAN** be more focused on recruiting students to your facility!

Use the virtual career event as a launching pad for conversations. What careers stood out to them? What did they find most interesting? What are their career expectations? Are they aware of the job opportunities in hospitals beyond physicians and nurses?

## Best Practice Tips for Success When Visiting a School

- Invite students to spend a day in your facility to get a behind the scenes “real-life” look at departments like nursing, laboratory, imaging, pharmacy, therapy, dietary, etc.
  - Giving students a hands-on experience inside your hospital makes the possibility of recruiting them in any capacity MUCH more likely.
- Does your hospital provide scholarships to students who pursue health care careers?
  - If so, have the information readily available so students know of those opportunities.
- Do you offer loan repayment after someone graduates from a post-secondary institution?
  - Make sure students know paying for college does not have to be solely on their shoulders!
- Is your hospital interested in hiring students for part-time work?
  - Ask students to start their health care careers at YOUR hospital as a housekeeper, dietary aide, CNA, Patient Care Technician, Medical Assistant, Phlebotomist or some other age-appropriate, entry-level role!
  - Many students are looking for full-time or part-time work.
- Does your hospital guarantee a job for a local student to obtain a certification/degree and then come work for you? Advertise it to students!
  - It’s easier to recruit workers if they have a connection to your community versus trying to recruit someone who is not from your community. Capture their interest early.
- Students may indicate their dream job is a provider-level occupation or other similar occupation requiring years of training and schooling. Educate the students on how they can take their first steps toward that pathway at YOUR hospital.
- Communicate to students that working in health care, and at your facility is FUN and rewarding! There is NEVER a boring day!

**BOTTOM LINE:** *Get creative! Feb. 18, 2026, is all about encouraging students to pursue the wide variety of options existing in hospitals. There is no “correct way” to do this. Whatever works for your hospital, for the teachers, for the school and for the students is perfect.*

Register for the event at [www.HappyInHealthCare.org/career-resources/career-events/](http://www.HappyInHealthCare.org/career-resources/career-events/).