1. Please explain the process for health science teacher certification.

Health Science Teacher Certification Process
Most health science teacher candidates come to education without a teaching certificate. Here are the minimum requirements for our teachers.

Teacher candidates must:
(1) Possess a minimum of an associate’s degree as a healthcare professional related to health science from a regionally accredited institution of higher education or approved by the State Board of Education (a diploma graduate of nursing would qualify);

(2) Maintain an active nationally recognized healthcare professions license, certificate, or registration. The requirements for licensure, certification, or registration must include at least two years of formal education requirements to prepare the healthcare professional; and

(3) Document minimum employment in healthcare as a licensed, certified, or registered healthcare professional.

Basic Skills Validation
Teacher candidates must take the Work Keys examination during the first year of induction
certification. The candidate will have five years to successfully pass the examination. The measurement of basic skills can be attempted as many times as offered through the fifth year of teaching.

The established procedure for obtaining a work-based certification is:

1. Submit a complete Career and Technology Education (CATE) application with all the required documents, licenses and background checks;
2. The complete application is then evaluated for certification requirements (by regulation);
3. If the applicant qualifies for certification, then a Letter of Eligibility (LOE) is issued to the applicant for job search/interview purposes;
4. After the applicant qualifies and receives a Letter of Eligibility and Verification of Employment (VOE) form and is employed in a South Carolina school district as a 9-12 grade level teacher, the employing school district is responsible for completing and returning the VOE. Receipt of the completed VOE triggers the issuance of an Induction license and officially enrolls the applicant in the five-year licensure program. Teachers are expected to complete all requirements in five, consecutive licensure years (July 1 - June 30).

All the above information can be found on these sites (in much greater detail):
- Application/certification areas and requirements: https://ed.sc.gov/agency/se/Educator-Services/Alt-Licensure/cate/
- List of Health Professions for Health Science Certification: http://ed.sc.gov/agency/programs-services/142/documents/HealthProfessionsforHealthScienceCertificationSC.pdf
- Health Science Program: http://ed.sc.gov/agency/programs-services/148/HealthScience.cfm
- Teacher Preparation Program (DIRECT): http://www.scdirect.org/

2. Who is the contact person for Career and Technology Work-based Teacher Certification?

Steve Senf
Career and Technology Certification
Office of Educator Certification, Recruitment, and Preparation
South Carolina Department of Education
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223
3. **What is DIRECT?**

DIRECT is South Carolina’s Career and Technology Education Work-Based Certification Pre-Service/In-Service Training Program. This website, www.scdirect.org provides an up-to-date source of information for teachers completing the initial professional education requirements for work-based teacher certification. The DIRECT program addresses needs of a new career and technology education teacher and is coordinated by the SC Department of Education’s Office of Career and Technology Education. All program information, to include meeting dates, agendas, and online registration can be found at the website.

4. **What Workkeys assessment is required for health science teachers?**

A Workkeys assessment for health science content exam does not exist. Therefore the teacher candidate’s current license, certification, or registration as a health professional serves to validate their content knowledge to be able to deliver health science education curriculum standards. Health science teachers are required to pass a basic skills exam (WorkKeys); academic assessment of reading, writing and math. There must be an attempt during the first year in the classroom, and successfully completed in the first 5 years of teaching.

5. **Do health science teacher candidates complete PACE application for teacher certification?**


6. **How does a health science education program become a state approved nurse aide training program?**
The process, guidelines, and application are found in the SC Nurse Aide Training Program Packet posted here: http://www.asisvcs.com/publications/pdf/074118.pdf

7. Where can information regarding the Project Lead The Way Biomedical Sciences program be found?
https://www.pltw.org/our-programs/pltw-biomedical-science

8. What instructional materials are included on the state adoption list?
Browse catalog by course titles at http://www.mysctextbooks.com/

9. Explain the Pharmacy Technology course for high school students and available certification upon completion.

Pharmacy Technology is a course designed to train pharmacy technicians for success in this career. At the high school level, students are exposed to pharmacy careers and benefit from pharmacology, math, and science standards included in this course. Teachers are encouraged to arrange student work-based learning opportunities in pharmacies for practical experience. The cost of the program is $299 per student per year through PASSASSURED and through KADUCEUS $250.00 individually or can be purchased as a classroom set of 25 with a start-up package of supplies including teacher training. Kaduceus requires teachers to attend a 3 day training in Texas.

This program prepares students to be pharmacy technicians and provides an opportunity for national credentials. For state certified pharmacy technician requirements in SC, visit http://www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Pharmacy/PFORMS/Pharmacy%20Technician%20State%20Certification%20Requirements.pdf

The programs each offer online applications and easy to follow audio, video, and graphic presentations. Kaduceus offers some hands on activities that will simulate using tools in the Pharmacy. Both of these courses will prepare students to sit for the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) examination (recognized by SC) or the examination offered by the National Healthcare Association (ExCPT).

The interactive multimedia training uses Internet access, online testing, scoring, and monitoring. Teachers can monitor students’ progress via Internet. Students are able to
work at their own pace. Teachers can determine when exams are taken. The course may be taught as embedded content in Health Science Clinical Studies or, as a stand-alone course. For information, visit: http://kaduceusinc.com/programs/ and http://www.passassured.com

This program is nationally certified, not state certified in SC because the program is not certified by the American Society of Health System Pharmacists. To be American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP) certified, each high school or career center offering the course would be required to pay annual fees of up to $3000. This was not feasible considering some schools may only have 1-2 students enrolled per year.

The SC Board of Pharmacy (SC BOP) has a highly regulated system for state certified pharmacy technicians. The decision to continue offering this opportunity for students at the high school level was made for several reasons:

- Provide students awareness of a realistic look at pharmacy careers.
- Exposure to strong math, science, and pharmacology content; helpful in many health professions.
- Preparation for success on the same national certification exam at the end of state certified programs.
- The PTCB credential is an excellent resume builder for students interested in becoming pharmacists.
- Acceptance to schools of pharmacy is competitive. This certification can give them an edge in the application process.
- High school students are unable to meet the SC BOP required 1,000 hours while in school as this equates to 6 months full time work. Therefore state certification is likely unachievable for full time high school students.

CVS reported very rarely do state certified pharmacy technicians apply for their openings. They are very scarce. CVS has their own state approved training program as does Walgreen’s and Walmart. New hires to a pharmacy technician position at CVS become registered through the SC BOP. New employees can complete CVS specific training and state approved program if they want to be state certified. If students who complete the PassAssued program are PTCB certified and seek employment at a retail or hospital pharmacy, they would likely be considered strongly over other candidates. SC students can be registered and nationally certified upon completion of PassAssured’s and the Kaduceus programs.

10. What constitutes a health science completer in SC?

Health Science is a two plus two completer program. You must complete the two fundamental courses in any pathway in the cluster, Health Science Pathway, Sports Medicine Pathway, EMS Pathway or PLTW Pathway, plus any two additional courses from any of the pathways to be a Health Science Completer.
11. What is the process for administering the National Health Science Assessment, the end-of-program assessment for health science completers?

The National Health Science Assessment and Certificate Program is a certificate program offered by the National Consortium for Health Science Education (NCHSE) measures student mastery of basic skills and knowledge that workers in all aspects of the health industry need to know. The assessment satisfies the technical skills assessment requirement in state and federal legislation. Visit http://www.precisionexams.com/nchse/welcome/ for comprehensive information. At the state specific link, information unique to SC will be posted annually in a memorandum to CTE administrators and health science teachers.

12. Explain the process for chartering a HOSA chapter.

HOSA provides an integral framework for students to develop, practice, and refine their academic, technical, leadership and teamwork skills to achieve a seamless transition from education to a career. Teachers can contact the SC HOSA State Advisor who will request that National HOSA mail a membership affiliation packet and a set of promotional posters to the interested school. Resources to assist in this process can be accessed at:
Start a HOSA Chapter: http://www.schosa.org/advisors-5/1
Forms and Resources are located at the same link.
13. Is there an affiliation deadline HOSA membership?

HOSA memberships can be affiliated throughout the school year as students join during first and second semesters. Remember the highlight of the SC HOSA membership year is the state leadership conference. If students plan to attend this event, their membership will need to be affiliated prior to registering for the conference. HOSA is an integral part of the classroom throughout the school year. Any activities, food drives, blood drives, community service, guest speakers, field trips, school service should be packaged as HOSA events. HOSA membership offers students recognitions on a resume, college and scholarship applications, and the privilege to apply for state and national HOSA scholarships.

14. How are health science teachers informed of health science and HOSA updates?

Annually the SC health science teacher database is updated in an attempt to keep a comprehensive source of secondary health science education programs statewide to include schools, contact information, teachers’ names, email addresses, and course offerings. Throughout the school year, teachers are included on numerous emails that announce professional development events, curriculum updates and resources, calendar of events for health science and HOSA, program support and sustainability, grant opportunities, workforce information, and much more. In addition, the following websites are helpful for accessing pertinent information:
- SC Health Science Education http://ed.sc.gov/agency/programs-services/142/
- Health Science Teacher Resources www.healthscienceteacher.com
- National Consortium for Health Science Education www.healthscienceconsortium.org
- National Health Science Assessment http://www.precisionexams.com/nchse/welcome/
- SC HOSA www.schosa.org
- National HOSA www.hosa.org