



We're made for *igniting*
your students *interest*
in healthcare careers

2022-2023
Spark!
Challenge

Dear School Partner,

Your students are made for an exciting future. It's a future of applying their knowledge and unique insight into some of the biggest challenges we face. At Northwell Health we'd like to help prepare them for this amazing future. We're excited to announce our ninth annual Spark! Challenge aimed at igniting student interest in healthcare careers. We'll once again be partnering with high schools, and hope you will consider having your students participate in this career awareness experience. Student teams will be invited to participate in a one day virtual experience at Northwell Health designed to showcase a variety of healthcare careers.

Students will be given a unique opportunity to preview various career paths through practical and engaging encounters with professionals in the field. In addition, they'll cultivate essential skills, such as teamwork and communication by working together on a culminating project. This year's project theme is "Raising Health Through Career Pathways". We will highlight in-demand and growing careers that students can explore throughout their educational journey.

Participating student teams have the option to:

1. Create a career advertisement/poster
2. Record a video highlighting a career

More details to follow. Prizes will be awarded to the most creative presentations and impactful posters, as determined by a team of judges.

Schools should [use this link](#) to register their school by January 15, 2023.

Enclosed is an overview of the Spark! Challenge. If you have any questions, please email SparkChallenge@northwell.edu.

Best,

Ines vanBoom
AVP of Workforce Readiness
Northwell Health

[Register Here](#)



Overview

Are your students made for something more – like redefining the way healthcare is delivered? If they have an interest in a healthcare career, Northwell Health is leading the charge to build career awareness by partnering with local high schools to participate in the Spark! Challenge. Students will be introduced to a wide variety of healthcare careers that require competencies in STEM skills. In addition, they'll cultivate essential skills, such as teamwork and communication by working together on this year's project. The Spark! Challenge will virtually engage students and showcase various career paths, connecting to our values.

*Please note: This program will take place virtually. All sessions will be accessible via an online platform.

Program Objectives

- Spark student interest in healthcare-related careers
- Allow students to explore different careers paths through realistic job previews/explorations
- Identify potential career options and assess compatibility with student interests and career goals
- Provide relevancy between school coursework and its application in real-work settings
- Offer teachers/school counselors insight into the scope of health care careers in support of coaching students
- Establish/enhance relationships between Northwell Health and our future workforce

Careers Highlighted

- Anesthesiologist
- Coding Auditor
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Family Medicine
- Hospitalist
- Medical Office Assistant
- MRI Technologist
- Nursing
- Pharmacist
- Phlebotomist
- Physician Assistant
- Research Coordinator
- Respiratory Therapist
- Social Worker
- Software Engineer
- Technologists (surgical, MRI & ultrasound)

About the Spark! Challenge

- Various Northwell Health site teams will virtually host 11th and 12th grade high school students and showcase their unique careers.
- This year Northwell Health will highlight in-demand careers that students can explore at each level of their educational journey. These careers may require certificates/training, associates, bachelors or advanced degrees (MD, PhD, masters degree).
- Students will cultivate essential skills such as research, communication, critical thinking, creativity, networking and collaboration.

Spark! Challenge The Details

- Any student who has an interest in healthcare careers (both clinical and non-clinical) is welcomed to participate. We recommend consulting with your guidance/ school counseling department to find students interested in these career paths. Additionally, we will provide a printable flyer for teachers to send home or advertise this opportunity within the school.
- On February 1, 2023, participating schools will have access to the virtual platform from approximately 9 am - 1 pm.
- Each participating student will go through the program, highlighting 6-7 healthcare careers. Students will spend 20-40 minutes on each of the highlighted careers. Materials will be provided to follow along with any activities, when applicable. The day will be composed of both live and prerecorded content.
- After the virtual February 1, 2023 Spark! Challenge day, students form in groups of 3-30 over the next several weeks and will work together to create a poster, video, or both. In their video/poster they can spotlight one career they learned about. More details and guidelines to follow!

Timeline

- January 15, 2023: School [registration](#) due
- February 1, 2023: 9 am - 1 pm: Spark! Challenge Virtual Conference
- March 27, 2023: Student projects are due
- May 2, 2023: 9 am - 12 pm: Awards Celebration