

# The **PATHFINDER** College Explorations

Academy introduces high school scholars to a variety of opportunities available with a college degree. The academy will introduce scholars to a different academic discipline and faculty member in each session. The faculty member will describe the academic and career paths before engaging in an exciting hands-on activity.

#### **PATHFINDER College Academy**

- Passion-Driven: Encouraging scholars to find their passions and interests
- Academic Exploration: Introducing scholars to various academic majors and careers
- Transformational Experience: Helping scholars transform their perspectives and goals
- Hands-on Learning: Engaging scholars in interactive and experiential activities
- **Faculty Connections:** Connecting scholars with faculty members for guidance
- Inspiring Futures: Igniting inspiration for higher education and future careers
- Navigation Confidence: Building confidence in navigating the path to college
- Discovery Journey: Guiding scholars on a journey of self-discovery
- Empowerment: Empowering scholars to shape their futures
- Road Map to Success: Providing a road map for their academic and career journeys

Scholars will also explore their career interests and college possibilities. They will learn about the College Credit Plus (CCP) opportunities and other higher education options.

## **Activities include:**

#### **Biology**

A four-year degree in biology can prepare scholars for a variety of careers in several industries, including entry-level positions in university research labs, government research labs, hospital/medical labs, zoos and secondary education (seventh through 12th grade teaching licensure required). A biology degree also serves as a strong foundation for scholars planning to pursue graduate studies in biological sciences, medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine and physical therapy.

PATHFINDER scholars will work with faculty in the lab (including biotechnology, procedures, anatomy models, dissections or microscope work) and work outside to identify various plants.

#### **Chemistry**

A four-year degree in chemistry can prepare scholars for entry-level positions in quality control, research labs, forensic science, environmental science, agriculture, food processing and secondary education (seventh through 12th grade teaching licensure required). A chemistry degree also serves as a strong foundation for scholars planning to pursue graduate studies in chemistry or related sciences, medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and veterinary medicine.

PATHFINDER scholars will meet in small groups in the chemistry lab to learn the softer side of science: making their own hand cream. In this hands-on lab session, students will identify the ingredients that soften skin and provide the moisture it needs. They will also discover the magic potion for fruity smells and how to turn rubbing alcohol and ethyl alcohol into banana, peach and raspberry scents via simple chemical reactions.



#### **Game Design**

PATHFINDERS scholars will consider what games are and learn who makes them. In the Game Design workshop, we'll explore the tools and techniques that contribute to today's gaming landscape, and scholars will experiment with 2D and 3D game creation.

Scholars will also learn about Tri-C's Game Design certificate. This program teaches students the fundamentals of 2D and 3D game design for various platforms, including consoles, computers and mobile devices. Students who complete this certificate will have experience using industry-standard tools and techniques to develop games for a broad audience.

#### **Sport and Exercise Studies**

The Sport and Exercise Studies program prepares scholars for positions such as fitness specialists, personal trainers, fitness coordinators, group fitness instructors, strength coaches or health and wellness coaches.

PATHFINDER scholars will undergo vertical jump testing, bicep strength testing, a VibeCage interactive overview, a BodPod testing demonstration, a VO2 testing demonstration and gym activities.

#### **Health Careers**

EMT: This program is designed for individuals providing emergency medical services to the community. Three levels of training are available: EMT-B, EMT-P and an Associate of Applied Science in Emergency Medical Technology.

PATHFINDER scholars will participate in a live-action mass casualty simulation to experience how EMS personnel manage an emergency. PATHFINDER scholars will pose as bystanders, patients and even crew members. These simulations help our scholars understand what being in the prehospital field feels like through an active, hands-on experience in a controlled environment.

#### **Massage Therapy**

An Associate of Applied Science in Massage Therapy teaches scholars basic massage therapy skills and advanced techniques in a clinical setting.

PATHFINDER scholars will discover how massage can relieve headache triggers, learn about medical massage and work with various tools such as hot stones used in massage.



Hospitality includes studies in event planning and management, culinary arts, and managing hotels, destinations, restaurants and food services. Scholars can earn their Associate of Applied Business in the field or seek out various certificate programs to enhance their skills.

PATHFINDER scholars will work in the culinary studio demonstration kitchen, learn about opportunities in hospitality and work together to prepare lunch.

#### **Interior Design**

Interior design is a multifaceted profession in which creative and technical solutions are applied to interior spaces. The interior designer helps solve functional and aesthetic design problems in residential and commercial interiors. This program prepares scholars for employment in interior design studios, architectural firms and industry-related fields.

PATHFINDER scholars will explore the interior design lab and be inspired by the variety of products on display. Scholars will design a dream bedroom by exploring the basics of hand drafting and the color and material selection process.

#### **Plant Science and Landscape Technology**

This ornamental horticulture program prepares scholars for entry-level to middle-management positions in the green industry. Opportunities for graduates include landscape design and construction, landscape maintenance, wholesale nursery and greenhouse plant production, garden center management, inside sales, arboriculture and urban forestry, theme parks, public horticulture, arboreta and more.

The award-winning plant science program at Tri-C offers interesting labs and equipment for scholars to explore. Scholars will learn about industry certifications and be treated to a tree-climbing demonstration with rigging exercises.

### **Additionally:**

Career Services: Scholars will complete a skills/interest assessment to identify strengths and learn how these attributes can be applied to academic disciplines and careers.

The Tri-C CCP enrollment and counseling staff will help scholars envision themselves in CCP and as future college scholars. Planned exercises will encourage PATHFINDER scholars to start looking at careers and colleges now, think about their lives after high school and show them the steps they need to take to achieve their goals. PATHFINDER will also discuss barriers to higher education and how to dismantle them.



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**Questions?** Contact:

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