



Health Careers Academy

Horace Mann Charter Granted in 1998



Opened	1998
Location	Boston
Grades Served, 1999-2000	9-12
Enrollment, 1999-2000	170
Waiting List, 1999-2000	43
Application Rate, 1999-2000	1.8
In-District Transfer Rate	4.7%

School Leader: Peggy Pickering

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<http://www.boston.k12.ma.us/schools/rc648.asp>

Mission. The mission of the Health Careers Academy is to prepare urban youth for success in college and careers in the health sciences, and to ensure a future health care workforce that reflects the racial and cultural demographics of the city. The school links a traditional academic program with practice-oriented internships in community-based partner sites.

Description. The Health Careers Academy is a college preparatory high school for Boston students who aspire to careers in the health professions. The school focuses on health and science to excite student interest and establish relevance in education, to promote a career focus, and to address the health care needs of underserved communities. All students must take courses in health education, health careers, and health ethics, in addition to standard high school English, history, science, and math. In 1999-2000, the school expanded its curriculum to include visual and performing arts and physical education.

In 1999-2000, students at Health Careers organized an international travel experience to Mexico—for many students their first opportunity for travel outside the United States.

Based at Northeastern University, the school and its students have access to science laboratories, physical education facilities, visual arts studio

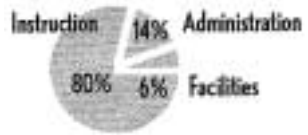
space, and library resources at the college. In addition, Health Careers Academy seeks to provide special opportunities and assistance for students at both ends of the academic spectrum. Students who excel are able to enroll in college credit courses through a dual enrollment program at the University of Massachusetts at Boston. Students who are struggling receive support through such programs as *Boys Town Reading is FAME*, remedial reading classes which boosted students' reading levels an average of three grade levels in the 1999-2000 school year.

The school offers a variety of after-school activities including a mock trial team, film club, poetry club, and intramural baseball team. In 1999-2000, students organized an international travel experience to Mexico—giving many students their first opportunity for travel outside the United States. All but two of the school's graduating seniors applied to and were accepted by colleges of their choice in 2000.

Origin. The Health Careers Academy was established as a partnership between the Boston Public Schools, Northeastern University Bouve College of Health Sciences, Boston University School of Medicine, Boston Medical Center, the Boston Public Health Commission, and 14 community health

Teachers	
Student:Teacher Ratio	10:1
Average Experience	10.5 years

Spending	
Actual, 1999-2000	\$1,723,794
Per Pupil Expenditure	\$10,140
Average Per Pupil Tuition	\$8,197



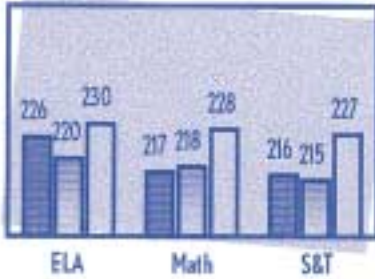
centers. The Academy was founded in response to the fact that despite the prestigious medical care and research centers that thrive in Boston, few of Boston's children find educational or career pathways in these areas.

School Overview	
Curricular Philosophy	Health education as college prep
Size at Full Capacity	At full size serving grades 9-12
Length of School Year	180 days
Length of School Day	7:30-2:30 MTThF; 7:30-11:50 W
School Meetings	Monthly
Student Dress Code	No strict dress code
Library	Northeastern University library
Computers	6:1 student:computer ratio
Management Contract	Self managed

Health Careers Academy

MCAS Results (1999-2000)

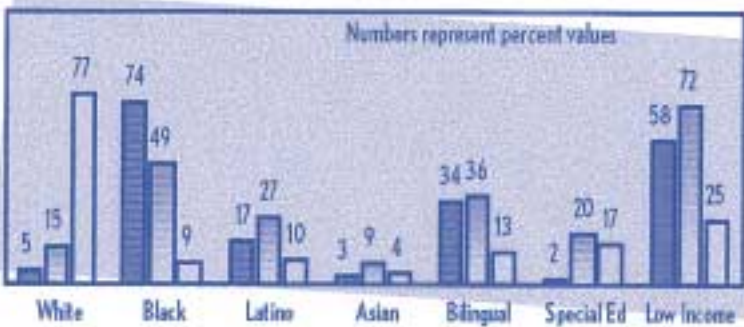
Grade 10



A comparison of MCAS scores shows students at Health Careers with scores similar to their district counterparts in Math and Science & Technology and six points better than their district counterparts in English Language Arts.



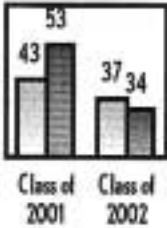
Student Demographics (1999-2000)



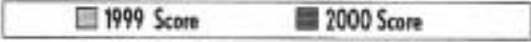
All data presented below is taken from the school's annual report or has been provided by the school. Touching bars of equal height show "expected" student progress over the given time period. For further detail, see chapter introduction.

Academic Progress (Reported by Graduating Class)

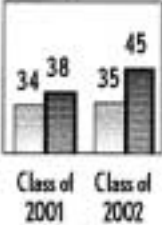
Reading, Stanford-9 Percentile Scores, 1999 to 2000



A comparison of median percentile rank scores on the Stanford-9 shows students making much greater than expected progress in the Class of 2001 and less than expected progress in the Class of 2002. Students in the Class of 2001 were above the national average in 2000.



Math, Stanford-9 Percentile Scores, 1999 to 2000



A comparison of median percentile rank scores on the Stanford-9 shows students making greater than expected progress in the Class of 2001 and much greater than expected progress in the Class of 2002.



*District average is based on the values from the districts in which the charter school's students reside, weighted to reflect the makeup of the student body.