



# Outbreak at Watersedge

## *A Public Health Discovery Game*

The need to recruit the next generation of public health professionals has never been greater. University of Minnesota's Midwest Center for Life-Long-Learning in Public Health has developed an interactive web-based game that provides a fun and challenging way to learn about the field of public health. Players will learn how public health investigates disease outbreaks; discover the roles of public health professionals and how they promote health and prevent illness; and race to find the cause and stop the spread before more people become ill. The game is available in both English and Spanish. To play the Outbreak at Watersedge game, visit <http://publichealthplanet.org/watersedge>. HOSA chapters should watch their mail for a copy of the CD in the coming weeks. To request additional copies of the CD, contact Amy Scheller at [sche0526@umn.edu](mailto:sche0526@umn.edu).

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# WORKING PART-TIME DURING COLLEGE

By: Brittney Earle  
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**D**uring college many students have jobs to help pay their college tuition. If a student is interested in medical school and a career in medicine, then working as a Pharmacy Technician, Emergency Medical Technician, or a Nursing Assistant during college is both beneficial and rewarding to college students who want to go to medical school but need a job. These jobs not only help with finances, but they also give students opportunities to start their careers in the health care industry.

A **Pharmacy Technician** is a skilled professional who assists a licensed pharmacist. Duties of a pharmacy technician may include maintaining patients' records, setting up, packing and labeling medications, filling and dispensing routine orders for stock supplies of patient care areas and maintaining inventories of drug supplies. One can become a Pharmacy Technician by taking a class either at a technical college or online. After completion of this class, a student can take the Pharmacy Technician Certification Examination. This is usually done after a student's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday depending on state requirements. Once certified, one can apply for positions and work part time, while still going to school.



**Nursing assistants** work under the direction of other health care professionals, usually in nursing homes or hospitals. Their duties include taking the blood pressure, temperature, and pulse of patients. One needs to take a class at a technical college or at career center to become a nursing assistant. This job is very beneficial if a student plans to become a nurse after college.



An **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)** is an emergency responder trained to provide emergency medical services to the critically ill and injured. An EMT's duties are to respond to many types of emergency calls, including medical emergencies, hazardous materials exposure, childbirth, child abuse, fires, injuries, trauma and psychiatric crises. To become an EMT, a person must successfully complete a 110 hour class from any technical college, be professional level CPR certified, and pass both a written and practical skills test. This job gives hands on experience in emergency care for students interested in this field of work.

**A**ll of these classes can be taken during a student's senior year in high school so that students can work in these fields part-time while still furthering their education. It is also a plus when applying to medical school because of the hands-on experience. All of these fields are under HOSA's competitive events. If interested in any of these job options, competing in one of these events will be beneficial as well.