

# GUIDE FOR FACILITY IMPROVEMENT



## How to Upgrade Your Allied Health Training Lab to Attract More Students

By WorldPoint  
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### OVERVIEW

Allied health education is evolving rapidly, and students are seeking programs that mirror the real-world environments they'll encounter in the workplace. Investing in medical lab upgrades is more than a facilities improvement, it's a student recruitment strategy and a program credibility booster.

This guide provides a step-by-step framework for transforming your existing training lab into a highimpact, studentattracting simulation environment that supports accreditation goals, strengthens employer relationships, and positions your school as a leader in vocational healthcare training.

## 1 ASSESS YOUR CURRENT LAB

### AUDIT YOUR EQUIPMENT AND SPACE

- Inventory all current simulation tools and training equipment
- Identify outdated or underused items
- Evaluate space efficiency and flexibility

### FACULTY CAPABILITY REVIEW

- Assess faculty comfort with vocational school simulation technology
- Identify professional development opportunities for simulation facilitation and debriefing skills

### STUDENT FEEDBACK

- Survey recent graduates for feedback on lab effectiveness.
- Compare responses with employer expectations for new hires

## 2 DEFINE YOUR UPGRADE GOALS

### RECRUITMENT-FOCUSED GOALS

- Increase prospective student engagement during campus tours
- Showcase simulation capabilities in marketing campaigns

### EDUCATIONAL GOALS

- Expand clinical competency coverage through simulation
- Improve readiness for clinical placements

### ACCREDITATION & COMPLIANCE GOALS

- Ensure alignment with CAAHEP, ABHES, or other programmatic accreditation standards
- Demonstrate integration of simulation into core competencies

## 3 SELECT THE RIGHT SIMULATION EQUIPMENT

### CORE UPGRADE CATEGORIES

- **High-fidelity Patient Simulators:** for immersive, interdisciplinary scenarios.
- **Modular Simulation Kits:** adaptable setups for multidisciplinary training.
- **Medical Assisting Training Tools:** including clinical skills trainers, mock exam rooms, EHR practice systems
- **Emergency Response Trainers:** CPR, AED, and rapid intervention practice
- **Specialized Procedure Models:** for wound care, phlebotomy, and diagnostic procedures

### INDUSTRY INSIGHT

Laerdal simulation tools have been shown to increase learner engagement, reduce skill decay, and improve workforce readiness (Laerdal, 2024).

## 4 PLAN YOUR LAB LAYOUT FOR IMPACT

### DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- **Visibility:** Position high impact equipment where visitors can easily see it during tours.
- **Flexibility:** Use modular furniture and movable simulation stations to adapt to multiple courses.
- **Workflow:** Arrange spaces to replicate patient flow in real clinical settings.

### TOUR-READY PRESENTATION

- Keep the lab in a state of readiness for unscheduled visits from prospective students or employers
- Incorporate visual signage explaining simulation scenarios

## 5 MEASURE R.O.I. AND MARKET THE UPGRADE

### KEY R.O.I. INDICATORS

- Increased enrollment inquiries after showcasing lab upgrades
- Higher student satisfaction scores
- Improved job placement and employer satisfaction rates

### MARKETING INTEGRATION

- Feature your medical lab upgrades in brochures, videos, and social media campaigns
- Host open lab days for prospective students, employers, and community stakeholders

## 5 STEPS TO A STUDENT-ATTRACTING ALLIED HEALTH SIMULATION LAB



**1 Audit Current Lab & Faculty Readiness**



**2 Set Recruitment & Education Goals**



**3 Upgrade with Strategic Simulation Tools**



**4 Design Tour-Ready, Flexible Spaces**



**5 Track ROI & Market Your Success**



### Top Equipment Categories

High-Fidelity Patient Simulators  
Modular Simulation Kits  
Medical Assisting Training Tools  
Emergency Response Trainers  
Specialized Procedure Models

## NEXT STEPS

- Begin with a needs assessment to guide targeted investments.
- Phase upgrades over time to spread costs while keeping momentum.
- Partner with a trusted simulation supplier, like WorldPoint, to ensure your lab investments align with both student appeal and educational outcomes.

## REFERENCES

1. Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH). Simulation Standards & Guidelines. 2024. <https://www.ssih.org/>
2. Cant, R., & Cooper, S. "Simulation in Healthcare Education: Systematic Review Update." Nurse Education Today. 2024.
3. Laerdal Medical. Simulation as a Patient Safety & Competency Tool. 2024. <https://laerdal.com/>