



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Students Planning to Work in Health Care in a Rural County May Qualify for Free Tuition for Spring or Summer 2024 Semesters

The Collaboration of Wisconsin (COW) Rural Health Care Grant was awarded to four (4) Wisconsin workforce development boards to train individuals in selected health care programs who are planning to work in a rural county or community after graduation. The grant will officially end on September 30, 2024, but there are still grant dollars available to cover individuals who will be completing their training in either the Spring or Summer 2024 semesters.

The 10 allowable training programs covered by this grant include: Associates Degree in Nursing (ADN) Registered Nurse, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Home Health Care Aide, Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Medical Assistant, Medical & Clinical Lab Technician, Phlebotomist, Substance Abuse Counselor, Social & Human Services Assistant, and selected Telehealth training programs.

Because the grant is nearing expiration, we are seeking individuals who can complete any one of these programs in the Spring or Summer 2024 semesters. This grant is open to anyone who has already started their training or is ready to start and can complete by the end of the Spring or Summer 2024 semesters. The grant will cover the cost of tuition, all required fees,

textbooks and more. Individuals must be 17 and up and eligible to work in the United States. Enrollment for the Spring 2024 and Summer 2024 training must take place before the start of classes, so time is of the essence with many Wisconsin technical schools beginning the semester on Tuesday, January 16.

The purpose of the grant is to train individuals in these 10 medical programs who are planning to work in a rural community or county after graduating. You can attend classes anywhere they are offered and live in any county you wish, but you must commit to work in one or more of the following Wisconsin counties, considered rural by the United States Department of Agriculture: Adams, Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Clark, Dodge, Fond du Lac (West side), Green Lake, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Marinette, Marquette, Menomonie, Oconto, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sauk, Sawyer, St. Croix (East side), Taylor, Washburn, Waupaca, Waushara and Wood.

To schedule an appointment with an enrollment counselor, please contact Wisconsin Statewide Project Coordinator Dawn Knapp at (715) 201-9514 or via email at dknapp@nwwib.com. You can also visit the project web site at www.nwwib.com/cow and complete the COW Grant Interest Form for immediate consideration.

The four Wisconsin workforce boards participating in the grant are: Bay Area Workforce Development Board at www.bayareawdb.org, Fox Valley Workforce Development Board at www.fvwdb.com, Northwest Workforce Development Board at www.nwwib.com and the South Central Workforce Development Board at www.wdbscw.org.

The Collaboration of Wisconsin Rural Investment in Community Healthcare grant aims to upskill individuals who are interested in specific healthcare fields to get them the training they need. As part of the grant, individuals must intend to work in rural counties due to the large labor shortages in these areas. There are no income eligibility requirements.

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)'s Employment and Training Administration (ETA).

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Fox Valley Workforce Development Board (FVWDB) is a not-for-profit working to build a world-class workforce in northeast Wisconsin. Serving six counties — Calumet, Green Lake, Fond du Lac, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago — FVWDB collaborates with a number of state and local agencies to help job seekers gain the skills needed to find employment, and to help businesses find the highly skilled workers they need.

The Fox Valley Workforce Development Board is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need assistance with this information, please dial 7-1-1 for Wisconsin Relay Service or at 800-947-3529. At no cost, you may request information in an alternate format, including language assistance or translation information to your preferred language by contacting us at (920) 594-3655

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