

2018

## Excellence in Action Award

### Indian Capital Technology Center

Nursing Transition

Health Science Career Cluster

#### OVERVIEW

Students in the Nursing Transition program of study at the Indian Capital Technology Center in Muskogee, OK, engage in a rigorous curriculum paired with relevant clinical instruction in a variety of settings.

Indian Capital Technology Center serves 51 area high schools and was designed to help increase the number of practical nurses in the workforce. Established in August 2011 due to a shortage of nurses and allied health professionals — especially in rural areas of Oklahoma — the program has created an accelerated pathway to become a licensed practical nurse. High school seniors who have successfully completed one year of the Health Careers Certification can enroll in the program and graduate within six months following high school graduation.

Student Demographics (24)	Percentage
Male	25%
Female	75%
Low Income	50%
Minority	50%

#### WORK-BASED LEARNING IN PATIENT CARE

Meaningful work-based learning is a cornerstone of the program of study. All students must participate in clinical practice, which is offered through established partnerships with health facilities such as hospitals, clinics and nursing homes. These settings provide opportunities for students to gain real-world experience in different areas of the patient care field.

Learners are assigned to patients and are expected to provide a high level of care under the mentorship of an instructor and facility staff. Learners complete a minimum of 672 hours of work-based learning, allowing them to gain real-world skills, qualify for licensure, and make informed decisions about the specific health care field they want to pursue upon graduation.

A critical partner is the Children's Clinic of Muskogee, which serves a large population in the Muskogee area. This sustained partnership has provided augmented in-class instruction and in-the-field experience for more than 10 years.

Learners are placed on weekly rotations in this facility to gain experience in pediatric care. The clinic manager also serves on the program advisory committee, ensuring that the curriculum is aligned with industry standards and expectations.

In the final course of the program, students complete 120 hours with a preceptor that must be an approved licensed nurse. Learners are able to work one on one with the preceptor during his or her normal work schedule, gaining invaluable insight into the industry.



### ACCELERATED PATHWAY TO COLLEGE AND CAREER

During junior year of high school, learners enroll in Indian Capital Technology Center's Health Careers Certification class and take a full year of rigorous coursework resulting in their health careers certification. Upon receiving the certification, learners can apply to the practical nursing program during their senior year.

Once accepted, seniors enroll in the program, complete their coursework and graduate from high school. Upon high school graduation, students immediately are classified as adult learners and complete the remainder of the courses in the practical nursing curriculum by the following December, earning two industry certifications along the way. Learners are then prepared to take the NCLEX-PN exam and, upon passing, can begin working as a licensed practical nurse.

Graduates who qualify and meet criteria set forth by Connors State College may be eligible to articulate into the Associate Degree Nursing Program, allowing learners to continue their education.

### PREPARED FOR SUCCESS

From 2012 to 2016, learners have achieved an 89.4 percent NCLEX-PN exam pass rate, exceeding the national pass rate of 83.7 percent. Once they have passed the exam, learners can apply for employment as a licensed practical nurse. The job placement rate for these students is about 97 percent.

This program of study benefits both the community and learners alike. Learners save a significant amount on their education because Indian Capital Technology Center does not charge tuition for high school students. As a result, learners complete nearly half of the program while still enrolled in high school.

Graduates are ready to enter the workforce with the necessary knowledge and skills and help to close the employment shortage.

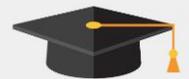
"Our program of study is unique because we have the opportunity to take our students from a senior to a licensed practical nurse within six months of high school graduation." — Debra Bartel, Director of Adult Health Careers, Indian Capital Technology Center

## Success by the Numbers



100%

Participated in Work-Based Learning



100%

Graduated High School



75%

Enrolled in Postsecondary Education



100%

Entered the Workplace and/or Military after Enrolling in Postsecondary



100%

Earned an Industry-Recognized Credential



100%

Earned Postsecondary Credit

Data based on 2016-17 school year

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