

THE  
University of Vermont  
MEDICAL CENTER

November 10, 2017

Advance CTE Excellence in Action Award Committee:

My area of expertise is Radiography. I work with students from the radiography program at Champlain College and I have worked with the Burlington Technical Center for 18 years. BTC has a two level program, both of which have rigorous curriculum and college credit options. I receive students from both their first year and second year classes. The first year students are exploring different health care careers so this is my opportunity to speak to the field of Radiology in general. We discuss different modalities in radiology, types of exams, patients, etc. Second year students have narrowed their scope of exploration. When we receive these students, we focus in on more salaries, shifts, work environments, and discuss day to day activities.

BTC students come well prepared for their clinical observations not only in academics but also in professionalism. In the academics, the students are well versed in Anatomy and Physiology, Medical Terminology, Biology and Human Development. They have the same type of expectations regarding homework assignments, citation on research papers and evaluation methods that are used in the college setting in order to prepare them for success. They are taught professional patient communication and how to take vital signs, etc.

There are many aspects of professionalism and BTC students have a clear understanding of these points and follow them. They are prompt, polite and professionally dressed. They call prior to their arrival time if they will be absent or late for their shadow appointment. This is something that is stressed with our college program students and it is nice to see this professional aspect being taught. They arrive dressed in the appropriate attire, which fits them well and is neat and clean. They do not have their cell phones active when they are observing. They understand and adhere to HIPPA and patient confidentiality.

They are focused when observing. They have weekly clinical topics and work to observe the modelling of those topics by us. This assignment helps to bridge any gap by providing a focal point for questions, answers and discussions. It is an excellent way of translating classroom into practice.

There are always issues when it comes to students. One of the aspects of this program that I like so much is the two way communication and dedication of the faculty at Burlington Technical Center. If I have negative feedback about a student, they are appreciative of my comments and deal with the issue. They are open to my suggestions and work within their restrictions to improve the program. There is an evaluation form that we fill out that speaks to preparedness and professionalism. There is space to allow additional comments or anecdotal comments.

Wendy King is on the Champlain College Radiography Program Advisory Board. It is a wonderful symbiotic relationship in that she gains knowledge on what an incoming college student needs and how she can adjust her program to accommodate that and we gain knowledge on what those new incoming students will look like and how we might need to adjust our teaching style. Champlain College has had the pleasure of accepting students from BTC which have gone on to work in the local community hospitals.

Sincerely submitted,  
Sarah Malinowski, B.S.R.T.R., CT



*The*  
**UNIVERSITY**  
*of* **VERMONT**

November 14, 2017

To whom it may concern,

As the Assistant Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at the University of Vermont (UVM), I am writing in support of the Health Sciences Academy at Burlington Technical Center (BTC). I understand that the Health Sciences Academy is submitting an application for the 2018 Excellence in Action Award through Advance CTE. The College of Nursing and Health Sciences has departments in Communication Science and Disorders, Medical Laboratory and Radiation Sciences, Rehabilitation and Movement Sciences, and Nursing. UVM has benefitted from having students from the Health Sciences Academy continue their post-secondary education through our programs.

The Health Sciences Academy provides a rigorous college-preparatory curriculum that allows student to earn up to 17 dual enrollment credits. Additionally, it is our impression that students from the Health Science Academy have acquired valuable study skills and preparation that make them exceptionally well-prepared for their post-secondary experience in our rigorous programs. Students from the Health Sciences Academy are well-versed in a wide range of disciplines including Anatomy and Physiology, Medical Terminology, Human Growth and Development, and Nutrition. These students have also had job shadowing experiences in the health care field which gives them valuable insights into career choices and increases their confidence when they begin their clinic experience.

Furthermore, faculty from UVM's College of Nursing and Health Sciences have been working collaboratively with the faculty of the Health Sciences Academy to develop strategies to fully support our under-represented populations, such as first generation college students, students on individualized learning plans, and English language learners. Our goal is to create a Healthcare College and Career Pathway, from middle school through post-secondary education that will support efforts to improve the diversity of the health care workforce in Vermont.

In summary, the BTC Health Sciences Academy does an excellent job of preparing a diverse population of students to pursue post-secondary education in health care programs on their journey to becoming exceptional health care providers.

Erica Caloiero, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs  
College of Nursing and Health Sciences  
University of Vermont

11/14/17

Date



Serving Caledonia, Essex, Franklin, Grand Isle, Lamoille, Orange, Orleans and Washington Counties

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Wendy D. King, PT, M.Ed.  
Health Sciences Academy  
Burlington Technical Center  
52 Institute Road  
Burlington, VT 05408

November 9, 2017

Dear Wendy,

I am very pleased to write this letter of support for your application for recognition through the Advance CTE Excellence in Action Award. The Burlington Technical Center exemplifies the criteria for excellence, and in particular, the Health Sciences Academy demonstrates rigorous academic standards and impeccable alignment with the knowledge and skills students require to succeed in postsecondary training or education in a health-related field of study.

The Vermont AHEC Network is a health workforce development agency with the aim of ensuring an adequate and well-trained health workforce to serve the needs of all Vermonters. I represent the Vermont AHEC Network on the Health Care College and Career Pathway team, a collaboration of business and education partners convened to extend the reach of the extremely successful Health Sciences Academy. Members of the collaborative worked with faculty and staff to bring a health care clinician onto the teaching faculty, doubling the number of students the Health Sciences Academy served. In addition, the collaborative worked on developing a vision and structure for a pre-technical education program for younger students, which would provide targeted skills development to prepare academically and linguistically diverse students to enter and succeed in the Health Sciences Academy.

In addition to these strategic efforts, one of the outstanding features of the Health Sciences Academy is that students in the same classroom can opt to demonstrate learning at either the Standard Level or the Honors Level. This allows flexibility and customization of expectations within a rigorous curriculum, so that students focused on a range of post-secondary goals are accommodated with the same high-quality educational content. Honors Level students can earn up to 17 college credits through dual enrollment with Vermont Technical College and the Community College of Vermont; Standard Level students can earn up to 3 college credits through the dual enrollment program with the Community College of Vermont. All students emerge with relevant college- and career-ready knowledge and skills.

I cannot recommend the Health Sciences Academy too highly for this award! Thank you for your dedication to students and to Vermont's healthcare workforce.

My best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole LaPointe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicole LaPointe, MSW  
Executive Director