

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Introducing a new Long-Term Care Assistant Certificate Program at PTC**

Pine City, MN – The Long-Term Care Assistant Certificate was designed in response to healthcare facility requests to increase student communication and critical thinking skills, so students are sure to be in-demand upon completion.

“It fits just what we look for,” confirmed Burnett Medical Center’s Long-Term Care Director of Nursing Carol Ahlquist.

Complementary to the A.S. Degree in Health Science and upward compatible with the Practical Nursing Diploma and A.S. Degree in Nursing, the Long-Term Care Assistant Certificate is an ideal program for anyone wishing to enter the medical field.

Unlike taking a CNA course on its own, this certificate program is financial aid eligible. Additionally, through the Healthcare Alliance housed at PTC, scholarship opportunities are provided each semester on a competitive basis, support service funding is available to those facing financial hardships, and job placement assistance is also provided.

Another way this certificate sets itself apart is that the CNA course within the program is eligible for transfer to Wisconsin’s state registry. The development of the new transfer-eligible CNA course came at the urging of PTC’s Healthcare Alliance partners in Wisconsin.

“We are excited to strengthen our relationship with our Wisconsin partners by offering students the flexibility to work on both sides of the border,” says Krista Hoekstra, Director of Nursing. “The program’s eligibility for financial aid is also sure to make it more accessible to prospective students.”

The Healthcare Alliance is a vibrant partnership between k-12, higher education, healthcare providers, and the workforce center system born in 2007. Just over three years later, and more than two dozen partners strong, the assembly has “built a vision for a strong, qualified workforce with opportunities for professional growth,” according to Pine Technical College President Robert Musgrove. As a result, in the spring of 2010, the Alliance was awarded a \$4.2 million grant under the President’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), as implemented by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration, to fulfill its mission.


This project was funded in part by a grant awarded under the President’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Grants, as implemented by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration.




For more information about the Healthcare Alliance, please visit <http://www.healthcare-alliance.org> or call 320-629-4570.

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