



Health Occupations Program Review 2003-2004

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Health Occupations Department offers courses that enable students to enter the medical field in a specialty area within a few weeks to two years. The courses offered include the following: Emergency Medical Technician – Basic, Hospital Unit Coordinator, Medical Terminology, Medical Transcribing, Skilled Nursing Facility Activity Leader, Medical Office Procedures Technician, which includes phlebotomy, therapeutic communications, therapeutic interventions, advanced transcribing, gerontology, activity and social service documentation, , and sub-acute pediatrics activity leader. Upon completion of health occupations course work, a student may apply these credits toward an associate degree as electives, although at present there is no associated degree in Health Occupations.

MISSION

COMMENDATIONS

- a. The courses conform with the District mission to provide vocational programs leading to placement in the workforce.
- b. Courses provide entry-level positions in the health care field.
- c. Course outlines were updated (103, 161, 167, 264, and 265); Skill Award list revised and the course completion list was updated. ***Recommendation from 97-98 program review.***

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Reconstitute advisory committees for special courses that lead to careers
- b. Together with the appropriate advisory committee develop innovative course/programs to serve a wide range of students needs using all delivery modes including distance education and continuing education classes.
- c. Continue to explore scheduling options to ensure access for appropriate populations.
- d. Evaluate courses nomenclature and renumber courses for sequence.

NEED

COMMENDATIONS

- a. One professional expert has been hired to assist with the Emergency Medical Technician class for additional classroom support.
- b. A Smart Panel has been installed in all classrooms used by Health Occupations Courses for instructional presentations.
- c. Faculty has developed technical presentations for classroom instruction.
Recommendation from 97-98 Program Review.
- d. Labor Market information statistics continue to indicate that occupations with greatest growth 2000-2010 are in the healthcare industry.
- e. LMI's also indicate that occupations with the fastest growth in 2000-2010 are strongly related to the healthcare industry.
- f. Core Indicators demonstrate that college-wide, the department is well above 90% in Skill Attainment; 74.6% performance related to Achieving Skill Awards; 86.4% performance related to Job Placement.
- g. The first full-time health occupations faculty position has been filled and the new employee is current in instructional technology, web-based resources and skills with goals set at developing the Emergency Medical Technician course into a program.
Recommendation from 97-98 Program Review

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- a. The college should explore the construction of a new building specifically designed to facilitate Allied Health Programs.
- b. Increase publicity and recruitment efforts
- c. Purchase software for specific courses that will keep the courses on the cutting edge.
- d. Replace old mannequins and select items that serve a dual purpose for as many courses as possible
- e. Increase the number of Professional Experts for the Emergency Medical Technician. There is a 1:10 ratio for evaluating the EMT students' skills and we cannot rely on the paramedics and firemen who frequently have to leave to go out on a call while they are helping.

QUALITY

COMMENDATIONS

- a. All health occupations faculty are employed in their respective fields.
- b. All faculty are actively involved in local, state, or national organizations
- c. Pass rates for licensure-certification meets or exceeds the state average.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Continue to seek faculty current in instructional technology, especially knowledgeable of web-based resources and goals for their discipline. *Recommendation from 97-98 Program Review*

FEASIBILITY

COMMENDATIONS

- a. New mannequins and other equipment have been acquired to enhance instructional courses. *Recommendation from 97-98 Program Review*
- b. Health Occupations students utilize materials from the library and its resources for student research projects.
- c. Faculty keep courses up to date.
- d. All courses lead to licensure/employment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Continue to pursue expanding/building a Health Occupations facility (Tech H) which should include offices/practice labs housing state-of-the-art technological equipment. This continues to be on hold but should not be forgotten. Health careers are in high demand now and for the future. *Recommendation from 97-98 Program Review*
- b. Continue to update technical equipment/facilities by seeking grant funding and other sources.
- c. Faculty should make maximum use of selling packaged handout in the bookstore rather than distributing them in class. *Recommendation from 97-98 Program Review*
- d. Courses should be evaluated as to their suitability for either distance education or other alternative modalities. *Recommendation from 97-98 Program Review*

COMPLIANCE

- a. The faculty have to continue to fulfill the recommendations from the previous program review.
- b. Faculty meet continuing education requirements established by certifying/licensing agencies.
- c. Courses meet standards established by regulating agencies.
- d. Continue to request separate facility, which will include office/practice labs specifically designed for health Occupations courses.

The Health Occupations Department continues to implement the long-range plans made in 1998. Course descriptions have been changed, objectives updated, courses have been dropped that are no longer offered. The certificate list has also been revised as recommended. Equipment is continually being updated; however, building plans for Tech H have still not materialized. *Recommendation from 97-98 Program Review*

EMT-I teaching assistants have been reclassified as Professional Experts. One person was hired fall 2003.

While currently courses are not being offered due to budgetary constraints, adjunct faculty meet with the director on their own time to provide input and recommendations for the future of this department. Curriculum is reviewed and developing a health occupations advisory committee is being discussed to address individual careers rather than as in the past a general overview of

career needs. The projected goal for each specialty will be the development of future programs or expanding current courses. The skills laboratory usage is on hold for now. The WEB site is being updated and a web-card is being developed through VTEA funding. ***Recommendation from Adjunct Faculty meeting 2004***

Students have hands-on training of computer technology in Medical Transcription class when offered. Courses are offered days, evenings, and through Community Education.

To date, hiring full-time faculty for health occupations has not occurred. Increasing the FT/PT ratio has been proposed in the long-range plan for health occupations since 1995. The 1995 faculty projections included the addition of full-time EMT faculty, full-time medical assisting faculty, three to four (3-4) EMT teaching assistants, one (1) full-time secretary and one (1) part-time clerical assistant. ***Recommendation from Adjunct Faculty meeting 2004***