



UConn
HEALTH

CT AHEC FYI

Connecticut Area Health Education Center Network

Connecting students to careers, professionals
to communities and communities to better health.



Supporting Primary Care Workforce Development in Connecticut By:

- ▶ Promoting Strong Community/Academic Partnerships
- ▶ Creating Pipeline Programs for Pre-Health Professions Students
- ▶ Supporting Health Careers Awareness Programming
- ▶ Providing Community-Based Training for Health Professions Students
- ▶ Supporting Community-Based Health Education and Screenings
- ▶ Promoting Strategies to Address Health Disparities

CT AHEC Launches CNA Pathways to College Program

The CT AHEC Network works with educational, clinical, community and state partners to provide community-based experiential learning opportunities for health professions trainees. One such initiative, launched this year, is Central AHEC's CNA Pathways to College program, which prepares and trains individuals who have an interest in obtaining their Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Connecticut certification. The program includes cultural competence training, diabetes para-professional training, and national

CT AHEC Network Regional Centers:

Central AHEC, Inc.
(Hartford area)

www.centralctahec.org

Eastern AHEC, Inc. (Willimantic-
New London area)

www.easternctahec.org

Health360, Inc. (Waterbury
area) www.health360.org

Southwestern AHEC, Inc.
(Stamford-Bridgeport-New
Haven area)

www.swctahec.org

certification through the American Diabetes Association. In addition, program services support health career exploration and preparation needs.

CNAs are essential members of healthcare teams as the industry works toward the triple aim of better healthcare experiences, better healthcare outcomes, and more affordable healthcare costs. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates an additional 1.1 million nursing and home health aides, positions filled by CNAs, will be needed by 2024, a 26% increase over the number required in 2014.

Employment as a CNA can also be an entry-level position in the healthcare industry for those seeking other industry careers. For Andrea Attabury-Beltran, a graduate of the first CNA Pathways to College cycle, Central AHEC's program "provided me the opportunity as a stepping stone . . . My next step is continuing my education to pursue a nursing degree."

The innovative CNA Pathways to College program advances the CT AHEC Network's goals of improving health care for underserved communities and developing the state's primary care workforce.

The statewide Connecticut Area Health Education Center (CT AHEC) Network, based at UConn Health, is implemented through four regional centers which enable the CT AHEC Network to provide high-quality, efficient, effective and flexible services that meet local needs. Thank you for your continued support of the CT AHEC Network.

Call us at 860-679-7969 or visit:
www.publichealth.uconn.edu/ct-ahec.html

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