



Report of Project Activities

Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Division of Business Partnerships



DENALI TRAINING FUND

PROGRESS REPORT

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: University of Alaska
NAME OF PROJECT: Allied Health Training Phase IIB
REPORT PERIOD: January 1, 2007 – March 31, 2007

PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Pharmacy Careers: This (spring) semester began with five courses offered in the Pharmacy Technician series. Additionally, a one credit course for Special Topics was offered for the first time. This course is intended to create several topics whereby pharmacists can communicate in an “eLive” session with pharmacy technician students or practicing technicians seeking CEU’s. There are 10 pharmacists “speaking” to the class. Spring semester registration was 60 students. Intro to Pharmacy: 24, Pharmacology for Technicians II: 14, Techniques of Pharmacy Practice: 9, Pharmacy Formulae/Concentrations: 7, Special Topics in Pharmacy: 6

The transcript for the Occupational Endorsement in Pharmacy Technology has been completed and added to the UAA series, adding an additional 1 credit for a new total of 16 credits. A flyer describing this program was developed last quarter and distributed to several organizations.

Medical Laboratory Careers: This quarter 3 Clinical Lab Assistant courses and 3 phlebotomy courses were offered online; a total of 18 students were registered. These courses are offered on a 6 month schedule to recognize rural lifestyles and the need for more time than the traditional semester. The new faculty member taught these classes successfully, and had a retention rate of 10 of 12. This is excellent and shows his ability to connect with students in rural areas. He also traveled to the Y-K Delta to meet students and get a direct look at connectivity with students.

Work began on the course development planning for distance delivery of the AAS degree. This semester adjuncts have been hired to teach 2 regular classes to allow release time for 2 full time faculty to complete the development of two courses

Radiographic Careers: The first Limited Radiography cohort of 6 students started the fourth and final course of the sequence. Most students are from the Y-K region, including Bethel, Aniak, and Emmonak. The second cohort of 12 students have started their third class of four. The majority of the students reside in Southeast Alaska; many are SEARHC employees located in Haines and Petersburg. The third cohort of 5 students started their second class in the series at St. Mary’s, Bethel, Aniak, Kake, and Wasilla. The fourth cohort began their first class with 2 students from Fairbanks and Glennallen. The Rad Tech program director taught the newly created fourth class in the Limited Radiography series. This final course completed the Occupational Endorsement Certificate from the UAA system.

PCA/CNA Courses: The PCA-CNA bridge course pilot has been completed. Students in the Anchorage, Wasilla/Palmer, and Soldotna areas who were able to complete all of the required coursework and clinical hours were able to take the State Certification Exam. The students who have taken the exam have had a very high success rate. To date, one student had not made arrangements to take the exam, and one other student needed to re-take the skills portion of the exam. A group review with members of the State PCA Workgroup met in Anchorage on January. The workgroup was able to make review the results and make decisions on the most productive method to make this course available to any UA campus wanting to offer this method of delivery.

The State Nurse Aide Registry has given clinical instructor approval to two RN's in Wasilla and Soldotna. As other areas of the state become a site for offering this course, clinical instructors will need to be approved by the BON prior to beginning any instruction to students.

The CNA course is currently being reviewed as to the feasibility of incorporating some distance delivery methods with local face to face courses in an effort to make the training available to as many non-traditional students as possible.

A Health Workforce Project Assistant has been hired to support this program.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD:

Pharmacy Careers: The program is complete. All courses have all been offered at least 3 times except for the one credit Special Topics that is now being delivered for the first time. The sequence is working and will be offered in this way in the future. It is a very successful series.

Medical Laboratory Careers: This summer semester we will offer the Phlebotomy Procedures 101, Clinical Chemistry for clinical assistants and Microbiology for clinical assistants in distance form. The 6 month class length is scheduled to start in July and end in December at the semester break point. There may be an additional 10 Phlebotomy Occupational Endorsement completers. The Student Success Coordinator will continue working with the key faculty to recruit students beyond the existing tribal health organizations that have enrolled their employees/students.

Legislation is currently being considered by the Alaska Legislature for 3 levels of licensure for the Medical Laboratory Technology field. We will follow this action closely.

Radiographic Careers: The fifth cohort of Limited Radiography students will begin their class series with the fall semester. With the addition of the faculty member, the Rad Tech program is preparing to rollout the AAS degree to a Bethel cohort of 2 in Fall 2007. The applicants for this highly competitive program are being supported by Kuskokwim Campus and UAA to complete needed pre-requisites and General Education requirements so they can apply to the program next May. The trainee success coordinator will be instrumental in supporting this effort.

The pending licensure legislation from last Legislative session is moving through the House this session. Again, with the additional faculty that began this fall, the Rad Tech program is aligned to respond to state need if the bill passes in May 2007.

CNA/ PCA Courses: The local campus is currently holding a local CNA and local PCA courses this semester. The campus is incorporating the internet to supplement the classroom lecture and skills lab. The results of how this assists students will be reported for outcomes. The courses will run on a schedule set by the student progress. If the students are in need of more time on a certain topic or concept, class lecture and lab will reflect the student's progress using this method.

PROBLEMS, DELAYS OR CONCERNS EXPERIENCED:

Pharmacy Careers: There are no delays or problems arising for this activity.

Medical Laboratory Careers: The National organizations representing Medical Laboratory Technologist field are preparing to change requirements and licensure/exams at the AAS level. Our faculty are watching these changes closely and re-designing the distance AAS accordingly.

Radiographic Careers: No issues to address.

CNA/PCA Courses: There have not been any delays or concerns since we have obtained course approval from the State Board of Nursing.

POSSIBLE PROBLEM RESOLUTIONS AND TIMEFRAMES:

Pharmacy Careers: No issues to address.

Medical Laboratory Careers: The National changes will be known in the next two months, though implementation is likely 1-2 years away. Changes to our existing AAS will incorporate the obvious changes in the distance course development to prevent repetitive work in the future.

Radiographic Careers: No issues to address

CNA/PCA Courses: We will continue to work with the Board of Nursing for suggestions and input on improvements to the current courses.

Certification: I certify that the above information is true and correct and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.



Karen Perdue, AVP - Health



Date