

Subsidized Certified Medical Assistant Clinicals

Supporting future CMAs at Western Technical College, Southwest University, and El Paso Community College

A program supported by funding from Texas Tech
University Health Sciences Center El Paso

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The Importance of Certified Medical Assistants in the Health Field

Certified medical assistants provide critical services and assistance within the medical field, from administrative tasks and patient support to clinical duties like recording vital signs and supervising medical exams. Employed in both private practices and hospitals, certified medical assistants fill gaps in the field and provide crucial assistance to both patients and practitioners alike.

Subsidizing Clinicals for Local Schools

Acknowledging the critical role of certified medical assistants, Workforce Solutions Borderplex partnered with Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso to subsidize wages for CMA students at Western Technical College, Southwest University, and El Paso Community College with the goal of job placement, including with Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso, after the program.

Goals of the Program



Addressing Workforce Needs by supporting training and educational development in future CMAs, addressing both a critical role in local healthcare and the gap between training completion and clinical requirements.



Promoting Economic Development by reducing financial barriers, encouraging student retention and supporting employment in a high-demand field thus contributing to regional workforce stability.



Supporting Equity in Education by assisting students facing financial challenges by providing financial support during unpaid clinical rotations.



Strengthening Our Local Healthcare System by increasing supply of skilled professionals through strategic support, reducing turnover and improving patient care in local healthcare facilities.

El Paso's Certified Medical Assistant Programs

Certified medical assistants play a crucial role in the medical field, and numerous schools in El Paso are dedicated to providing quality certification programs, including Western Technical College, Southwest University, and El Paso Community College.



Western Technical College

Western Technical College was founded in 1970 to support technical education in the El Paso area. A locally owned college, Western Tech offers multiple certificates, associates, and bachelor degree programs in addition to a masters of business administration. Their certified medical assistant program is taught by instructors who bring a wealth of experience to the table.



Southwest University

Through six different colleges - Digital Technology, Trade Technology, Business, Nursing, Allied Health, and Imaging - Southwest University offers the El Paso community a wide array of options for advancing their careers. Their Associate of Applied Science in Medical/Laboratory Assistant, housed under their College of Allied Health, offers both a nine-month and twelve-month program for students to become certified medical assistants, with courses on phlebotomy, hematology, medication, IV infusion, and more.



El Paso Community College

El Paso Community College has been serving the El Paso community since 1969, offering both transferable associate degree programs and trade school options. They offer multiple options for individuals looking to join the certified medical assistant field, including a certificate of completion in administrative medical assistant, certificate of completion in medical assisting, and an associate of applied science in medical assisting technology.

Funding

Workforce Solutions Borderplex worked with a budget of \$76,000 to subsidize clinicals for CMA students. Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center of El Paso provided \$55,000 of the total budget through a Texas Mutual Fund grant.



About Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso is a branch of the Texas Tech University system dedicated to providing high-quality nursing, medical, and healthcare education opportunities to the El Paso region. Programs include El Paso's only medical and dental schools, an accelerated nursing bachelor's program, and other programs dedicated to public and clinical healthcare.



About the Texas Mutual Fund

Texas Mutual, the entity dedicated to providing workers' compensation insurance and other funding to support the workforce in Texas, offers community funding opportunities to support programs like this one.

Outcomes & Successes



Workforce Solutions Borderplex subsidized clinical rotations for 20 CMA students: three from EPCC, five from Southwest University, and two cohorts of six students from Western Technical College. To ensure quality supervision and avoid overloading clinical sites, students were onboarded in staggered cohorts by institution. This program is ongoing, and the WSB aims to have ten of these CMA students employed into Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center once clinicals are completed.