Demand for Medical Assistants Exceeds Supply

The medical assistant profession is one of the fastest growing professions in our country. The Bureau of Labor Statistics’ “Occupational Outlook Handbook” states that employment of medical assistants is projected to grow by 29% in the next 10 years. “This growth was spurred by the aging baby boom population and the need for increased clinic services,” said Kate Siegler, Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College’s divisional dean for Allied Health.

According to Siegler, the growth in the medical assistant industry is creating a demand for medical assistant graduates that is exceeding supply. WITC’s Medical Assistant Graduate Survey Results 2012-2013 stated that 98% of WITC medical assistant graduates are employed in the versatile field. WITC’s medical assistant technical diploma can be achieved in one short year with the likelihood of securing a satisfying job immediately. “Clinical agencies in our area have been very supportive of our medical assistant program,” said Siegler. “They serve on our Advisory Committees, serve as clinical sites for our students and hire our graduates. Recently, many clinics have had difficulty filling positions.”

Medical assistants perform a wide range of duties in a variety of settings. “It is probably the most versatile program that we have in Allied Health, both in administrative and clinical,” said Janel Krolikowski, medical assistant program director and instructor at WITC. “WITC is a nationally accredited program. Being certified puts you in a different category.”

The learning doesn’t end at graduation.

“I worked with great doctors that were great teachers,” said Krolikowski. “Most people in the medical field are great teachers. I don’t think people realize that until you work beside them. Their knowledge is so vast. My experience was that they are all there to help people, not just the patients, but also the employees to expand their knowledge.”

For more information visit www.witc.edu or call 1.800.243.9482.

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