New programs proliferate at Rappahannock Community College

Posted on Thursday, December 11, 2014 at 1:32 pm

As of the Spring 2015 semester, Rappahannock Community College has added six career-friendly programs to its already wide selection. The New Year will bring new educational opportunities in the form of an Associate of Arts and Sciences (AAS) transfer degree with health-STEM specialization; Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees in horticulture technology and respiratory therapy; and career studies certificates in pre-medical laboratory technology, pre-nursing, and pre-paramedic.

The AAS transfer degree with health-STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) specialization prepares students to transfer with junior status to four-year schools where they can enter such disciplines as medicine, dentistry, occupational therapy, pharmacy, physical therapy, and numerous others. RCC’s many Guaranteed Admission Agreements with highly respected colleges and universities ensure a smooth transition to the institution of the student’s choice.

J. Sargent Reynolds Community College has partnered with RCC to offer three of its programs to residents of this area. An AAS degree in horticulture technology can jump-start a career in landscape design, landscape and turf management, or plant production, to name a few. The AAS in respiratory therapy produces skilled professionals who can provide care for patients with heart and lung problems; U.S. News & World Report expects this field to expand greatly over the next decade. And the career studies certificate in pre-medical laboratory technology trains students as phlebotomists, which can be a rewarding career in itself, but also acts as a stepping-stone to the AAS degree program in medical laboratory technology.

For students who do not feel ready for RCC’s practical nursing or associate-degree nursing programs, the pre-nursing career studies certificate prepares them for entry into these more advanced curricula. In addition, it qualifies them for immediate employment in a health-care setting, so that they can earn money and gain experience while pursuing more education.

The pre-paramedic career studies certificate covers many of the general education courses required for the paramedic certificate program. It prepares students for the national registry exam leading to certification as an emergency medical technician, as well as providing an occupational credential that will make them attractive to prospective employers.

Finally, a partnership with Northern Virginia Community College has made it possible to offer an AAS degree in fire science technology at RCC. This degree qualifies its students to become professional fire fighters, or to take up other fire service careers. Other possibilities include private sector careers in safety, loss prevention engineering, or risk management.

More information about all these programs can be found at www.rappahannock.edu, or in the print publication myRCC.
Headlines of the Day

Top Headlines - News
Police reports, week of December 10: Richmond County, Warsaw and Tappahannock
Richmond County Sheriff and Warsaw Police Report November 26 Four felony
Northern Neck Electric seeking to expand, relocate facilities within Warsaw
Northern Neck Electric Cooperative’s plans for relocating and expanding their facilities to

Top Headlines - Sports
Altavista edges Essex 22-20 for Group 1A state championship
When the Essex Trojans and Altavista returned to Salem Stadium on Saturday

Top Headlines - Lifestyles
St. Margaret’s to Enhance River Program with duPont Fund Grant
St. Margaret’s School secures a $140,000 grant from the Jessie Ball
New programs proliferate at Rappahannock Community College
As of the Spring 2015 semester, Rappahannock Community College has added six

Rappahannock Raiders girls basketball team defeats King and Queen, 56-27, opens season at 6-0
The Lady Raiders more than defended their home turf when they scored

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