

## HPOG Program Summary



### Workforce Boards of Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Careers—Skilled Workers, Strong Earnings

#### Location:

Metropolitan Chicago Region, Illinois

#### Program Goals:

- Enroll 850 participants in education and training programs
- Train 530 participants to program completion
- Place 450 participants in employment

#### Health Professions Taught:

Training under the grant will be delivered to address the following occupations: certified nursing assistant, licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, medical assistant, emergency medical technician (EMT), pharmacy technician, occupational therapy assistant, and physical therapy assistant.

#### Approach:

This project advances bridge programs as a model for providing low income, low skilled individuals with career opportunities in the healthcare industry. Through the bridge design of contextual instruction, TANF recipients, WIA eligible adults, and WIA eligible out-of-school youth are prepared for acceptance and entry into academic programs that result in industry recognized certificates and degrees needed for employment in healthcare occupations. Program design incorporates supportive services that address social, economic, and academic barriers to ensure participants' success.

The program uses strategies to provide employer-based experiences to participants through unpaid internships and training-based clinicals. Primary program partners include the Illinois Department of Human Services, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (acting on behalf of the Illinois Workforce Investment Board), and the Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council.