
President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

Efficacy of Tutoring to Reduce Health Care Occupation Bottleneck

Grant Amount: \$224,088

Grantee: Capital IDEA

Leveraged Amount: \$456,091 in cash contributions from public and private sources.

Key Partners: *In Austin:* Austin Community College; Seton Healthcare Network; St. David's Healthcare Partnership; Austin Heart; Worksource-Greater Austin Area Workforce Development Board; *In San Marcos:* Central Texas Medical Center.

Location of Grant Activities: Central Texas

Challenge: A Department of Labor-funded research project in Central Texas found that candidates for health care occupations had a very high failure rate in a key prerequisite course, Anatomy and Physiology I (A&P I). About one-third of students interested in health care careers were eliminated by A&P I. Taking A&P I multiple times delays admission for approximately one-quarter of the students.

Addressing the Challenge: With its \$224,088 grant, Capital IDEA will test a strategy that starts tutoring the first week of classes in order to: a) increase the success rate of students, thereby reducing the extra expense of tuition, counseling, child care, and time associated with students repeating the course; b) accelerate graduations; and c) increase the success rate of disadvantaged students. Rather than take remedial action after students fall behind, the tutoring will raise their chances of enrolling in a nursing or allied health occupation.

Projected Outcomes:

- The percentage of students achieving a C or better in A&P I will increase from 50 percent to at least 70 percent;
- The percentage of students achieving a B or better will rise from a baseline of 25 percent to at least 45 percent.

