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Workforce Solutions Capital Area Joins Healthcare Workforce Alliance of Central Texas for Annual Nursing Academy for Local High School Students

AUSTIN – High school juniors and seniors in the Austin metro area with an interest in healthcare can explore the ins and outs of an in-demand occupation at the annual Nursing Academy on February 11, 2020 at Texas A&M University's (TAMU) Health Science Center in Round Rock. Workforce Solutions Capital Area has partnered with the Healthcare Workforce Alliance of Central Texas (hwACT), TAMU and local nursing programs to host this event.

More than 70 students from 17 schools and 13 different districts have registered to attend this daylong event. Participating students will spend time with regional experts to better understand college and nursing school admissions and interact with current nursing students from local programs. Students will also participate in nursing-based learning activities in the simulation center.

“Healthcare is a key industry in the Austin metro area, and healthcare employers will require more skilled workers as Austin continues to grow,” said Tamara Atkinson, Chief Executive Officer at Workforce Solutions Capital Area. “Many nursing occupations are in high demand, and events like the Nursing Academy help connect healthcare providers with their future skilled nurses.”

“With the need for nurses continuing to rise it is vital to promote the profession to our younger generations,” said Valerie Esparza, Director of Workforce Development and Diversity at Ascension Seton. “This event brings together industry and education in order to address a critical need and fill the pipeline with our future employees.”

“The Nursing Academy is a fun and informative opportunity for high school students to take a closer look at the nursing profession and nursing education,” said Ann Utterback, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Nursing at TAMU. “Our goal is to ignite and inspire interested students to consider nursing as a career path.”

The Healthcare Workforce Alliance of Central Texas seeks to sustain and grow the Central Texas healthcare industry while expanding pathways to good jobs for local residents. Learn more about hwACT [here](#).

Workforce Solutions Capital Area Workforce Board is the publicly-funded workforce board for Travis County. Through strong partnerships and strategic collaborations, Workforce Solutions is leading the region's workforce system in the development of a world-class workforce.

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