



News release

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**Gateway receives \$497,000 grant to benefit
displaced workers, adult students in health fields**

A \$497,938 federal grant to Gateway Technical College will benefit displaced workers and adult students in the college's three-county district of Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties through services to help them succeed in college and engage them in health care occupation careers.

The grant is administered by the federal Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), which supports reforms, innovations, and significant improvements of postsecondary education which serve as national models.

"Gateway is proud to be recognized for providing innovative strategies for adult workers," said Gateway Technical College President Bryan Albrecht. "The funding will provide us with expanded opportunities to serve our community and align dislocated workers with emerging health-related careers."

The project will address the need for workers in these fields to attain certain skills by increasing their math, reading, writing and oral communication abilities while preparing them to assume a new role in the economy in the field of allied health. Gateway plans to open this up to students accepted into all of its

health programs, including nursing, physical therapy assistant, surgical technology, dental assistant, health information technology, community pharmacy technician, radiography and medical assistant.

The grant will include assessments of the participants, career counseling, classroom instruction, mentoring, and individual case management. It will involve the engagement of partners, including Racine County Workforce Development Center, Wheaton Franciscan Health Care and Tech Corps Wisconsin.

The U.S. Department of Education announced the award this week as part of an overall \$11.25 million in grants for 29 projects to benefit working adults and displaced workers pursuing degrees or credentials in community colleges. The grants will focus on preparing adult learners with the marketable skills and knowledge to address employer needs in high-growth occupations.

“The Obama Administration is committed to helping displaced workers and adult learners garner the training and support they need to succeed in the workplace, especially during these trying economic times,” U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan said. “These grants give community colleges an opportunity to tailor their activities and instruction to meet the unique needs of adult learners, many of whom must retrain to re-enter the 21st Century workforce with newly honed skills.”

Under the FIPSE program, Duncan may make grants for special projects that respond to problems of national significance and need. This year, he authorized a special focus competition seeking innovative strategies in community colleges for working adults and displaced workers.

Gateway Technical College collaborates with communities in Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties to ensure economic growth and viability by providing education, training, leadership and technological resources to meet the changing needs of students, employers and communities.

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