



# Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WHO:** Columbia College  
**WHAT:** Columbia College Presents Gateway to Healthcare  
**WHERE:** Columbia College

## **Columbia College Presents Gateway to Healthcare Careers and Brings Phlebotomy Training to the Mother Lode**

Thanks to funding and partnerships from Mother Lode Job Training and the Regional Equity and Recovery Partnership grants, Sierra K16 (part of the statewide Regional K-16 Education Collaborative Grant Program), and Adult Education, Columbia College is moving quickly to improve access to career pathways in healthcare.

Beginning in January 2024, Columbia is launching Certified Nursing Assistant, Patient Access Representative, and now, Phlebotomy Training. These skill-based certificates provide the certifications that students and healthcare providers need to be qualified members of the healthcare workforce. Nursing Assistants begin training on January 19<sup>th</sup>, and finish by taking California state tests in April 2024. Patient Access Representatives begin January 16<sup>th</sup> and complete Skills Attainment Certificates in April 2024. Phlebotomists begin training on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and are ready to take the national exam and start the 40-hour externships required by the State of California by the end of May, 2024. Applications are being taken now for Phlebotomy Training, and two opportunities for students to attend required information sessions are being offered: the first on Wednesday January 17<sup>th</sup> at 4pm and the second on Thursday January 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Anyone interested in signing up or finding out more information should contact Emily Graham, Program Specialist at Columbia College at 209-588-5341 or [grahame@yosemite.edu](mailto:grahame@yosemite.edu).

20 students will be admitted to the program that prepares students to take and successfully pass the National Phlebotomy Certification Exam. Even better, the program is offered at no cost to the student! Grant funds will cover the charges for instruction, scrubs and shoes, CAEP textbooks, drug & background screening, liability insurance, CPR certification, NHA Exam and Certified Phlebotomy Technician 1 Application fees.

"This is the first time we have a phlebotomy training in Tuolumne County" says Tyler Newton, Operations Executive for Adventist Health Sonora, which will host the 40-hour externships for the students. Applications must be completed and turned in by January 24<sup>th</sup>, with classes held on Fridays promptly from 8 am to 3:30 pm beginning February 23<sup>rd</sup> and ending May 24<sup>th</sup>, with no classes held on March 29<sup>th</sup> and April 5<sup>th</sup>. California Public Health regulations require a specific number of hours per subject, so prompt and complete attendance is required at all training sessions.

Students will attend all hours of instruction and be able to take the NHA Exam upon completion of instruction. "Any students who feel they need some extra time to prepare for the exam can do so," says Kim Bohannon, Program Manager. Students must take and pass the exam within 6 months of completing their classwork, and must pass the exam before being eligible to do their 40-hour externships.

*The RERP initiative is funded by the California Workforce Development Board through Mother Lode Job Training (\$143,700) and California Community Colleges, (\$194,000). \$337,700 is funded from non-federal sources. The Phlebotomy program is funded by the California Adult Education Program (CAEP).*

Columbia College & Modesto Junior College  
Workforce Development Collaboration

# CERTIFIED PHLEBOTOMY TECHNICIAN 1 PROGRAM

2024

Gain a strong foundation in the principles of phlebotomy and prepare to successfully pass a National Phlebotomy Certification Examination

84 HOUR COURSE + 40 HOURS OF EXTERNSHIP

January 17 or ZOOM INFORMATION SESSION @ 4 pm

January 18 ZOOM INFORMATION SESSION @ 6 pm

January 24 Applications Due

February 23 to Fridays from 8:00AM - 3:30 PM at Columbia College  
May 24\*

\*No class 3/29 & 4/5

**SIGN UP TODAY**

**TO LEARN MORE**

<https://forms.office.com/r/wG7Ns9y6Wmc>



For more information please call  
or email [grahame@yosemite.edu](mailto:grahame@yosemite.edu)  
209.588.5341

Included in program at no cost to student:

Scrubs or shoe voucher, CAEP  
Textbooks included,  
Drug & Background Screening,  
Liability Insurance, CPR, NHA  
Exam & CPT1 Application Fee

