



Catalyst

Spring 2022

CVCC Student Spotlight

STNA Certification Success for CVCC Health Career Students!

CVCC prides itself on providing quality opportunities for students to excel professionally. With this in mind, CVCC's high school Health Careers program works with their students to obtain certification in State Tested Nursing Assisting (STNA) through meeting strict qualifications. CVCC's Health Careers instructors, Ms. Diane Ellis and Mrs. Patty Valukievic, work with their students in both lecture and lab environments to prepare them to pass the written and skills exams required to become an STNA. Students' junior year of the program consists more of learning anatomy, physiology and foundational elements of the field, while their senior year focuses heavily on STNA expectations, education, and hands-on training. CVCC Health Careers B student, Jennat Hamdan, explains that students are expected to learn every component to qualify to take the STNA exam, which can be very challenging, however is "...worth the effort!" For students to qualify to take the STNA exam, they need to first obtain a Certificate of Completion; to do this, students are expected to...

- Complete all required classroom hours including makeup work.
- Receive an average score of 80% or above on all exams
- Earn 80% or above on all skills checks in the lab
- Receive a 75% or above on the final exam
- Successfully complete clinical experience
- Demonstrate the professional and appropriate attitude and initiative of a Nursing

Assistant based on the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center Health Careers NATCEP Standards of Conduct Policy

CVCC Health Career A and B students who passed the STNA exam!



Health Careers B student, CeCe Stoddard, notes that attendance is also a major element of being eligible to take the STNA exam, however the process is "worth it!" Additionally, Health Careers A senior, Jaspreet Kaur exclaims, "[This program is the] best decision I've made!" She feels ahead of the game, as acquiring the STNA certification makes her employable. After acquiring the STNA certification, students are able to work in the healthcare field and obtain further knowledge and hands-on experience.





Though each year, students work diligently to acquire the STNA certification, this year is a bit different. This year, all 16 students who were eligible and tested at CVCC passed the State Exam while at CVCC. In the past, a student might pass a portion of the test and be required to take the failed section at another testing location. Sometimes students do not retest and never obtain their State Tested Nursing Assisting Certification, even after graduation. Instructor Ms. Diane Ellis notes, "This is the first year all the students completed everything at CVCC. No one had to schedule at another location for testing and as Health Careers Instructors, we know all the students who qualified to take the state test, took it and passed!" What an exciting accomplishment by our Health Career students! Congratulations to all, and keep up the incredible work! For further information on CVCC's High School Health Careers program, visit https://www.cvccworks.edu/highschool_home.aspx.

Adult Education HVAC Student, Stephen Boersma, Awarded Scholarship!

Stephen Boersma is an adult student from CVCC's Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning program instructed by Mr. Dan Hunter. Stephen chose to enroll in this program because it involved mastering skills that he will be using on a daily basis in his job. Stephen notes, "I saw a need and went to school to fill that need." Stephen enjoys learning new skills as well as expanding his knowledge. He is also looking forward to getting certified in the HVAC trade. What Stephen finds most challenging about the HVAC program is the great deal of content that needs to be remembered to be successful in the class. Stephen is grateful that CVCC is very supportive of their students, as well as offers job opportunities and financial advice. Recently, Stephen was a Trade Academy HVAC Scholarship winner! Over 200 applicants applied for the scholarships, and two CVCC students received them, Stephen, and one of his fellow classmates, what an amazing accomplishment! Winners were awarded a \$2,500 scholarship for tuition and tools, a 1-year supply of WD-40® Brand products, an individually selected Truwerk workwear system, and a 1-year Housecall Pro 'Essentials' subscription. When asked about the scholarship, Stephen exclaimed, "It has been such a blessing!"



Outside of academics, Stephen works full-time as a maintenance professional for Brookfield Properties. He also does independent maintenance jobs on the side. Stephen is also taking time to learn skills in the electrical field, which has been very beneficial as well. Stephen is also a part of a young person group at his church, as well as participates in life coaching for young men. He also owns his own house, which he is very proud of. In 2016, Stephen was in a near fatal accident. He suffered a tragic brain injury and is completely blind in his left eye. To help heal his brain, Stephen taught himself how to play the guitar and greatly enjoys playing regularly. Stephen also is a serious sky driver, having jumped 15 times.



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Looking ahead, Stephen hopes to get married one day. Though he enjoys the field he is currently in, Stephen would love to be a sports coach one day as well. Specifically in the areas of running, wrestling or swimming, maybe even football or soccer. CVCC is so thrilled to be a part of Stephen's journey and wishes him all the best! To learn more about CVCC's Adult Education HVAC program, visit https://www.cvccworks.edu/adulteducation_home.aspx.

CVCC Instructor Spotlight

PET Instructor, Jerry Koenig, Finalist for Instructor of the Year!

Congratulations to CVCC Power Equipment Technology (PET) instructor, Jerry Koenig on being a finalist for the B'laster Corp. and *Tomorrow's Tech* 2021-2022 Instructor of the Year. The Instructor of the Year program recognizes a teacher who takes an unconventional approach to education, works a little too hard and most importantly, is committed to educating the best future technicians. This past March, *Tomorrow's Tech*, Doug Kaufman came to CVCC to interview Jerry and learn what makes him and CVCC's Power Equipment Technology program so special. The winning instructor will be featured in a video produced by *Tomorrow's Tech* staff in May 2022 and showcased on the *Tomorrow's Technician* website and eNewsletter. The Instructor of the Year wins a visit from B'laster and *Tomorrow's Tech* to celebrate their achievements, \$1,000 for the institution they serve, \$500 for themselves, and some great prizes from B'laster for the classroom. Best of luck Jerry! To learn more about the Instructor of the Year award and view Jerry's interview, visit <https://www.tomorrowstechnician.com/blaster-names-march-2022-instructor-of-the-year-finalist/>.



Upcoming Events

- ◆ Thursday, April 28 ♦ Board of Education Meeting ♦ 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Tuesday, May 10 ♦ Senior Recognition Ceremony ♦ 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Wednesday, May 11 ♦ Signing Day ♦ 11:45 a.m.
- ◆ Wednesday, May 11 ♦ Last Day for Seniors
- ◆ Thursday, May 26 ♦ Board of Education Meeting ♦ 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Monday, May 30 ♦ Memorial Day
- ◆ Tuesday, June 7 ♦ Students' Last Day

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