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“Through the years the WIB’s Healthcare Committee has had an excellent collaborative relationship with all of its partners and has made a significant impact on providing training to the community for healthcare careers,” said Alan Beatty, vice president of human resources, Shore Memorial Hospital and co-chair of the WIB’s Healthcare Workforce Committee. “The partners recognized that there was a growing shortage of medical technologists and that there were no local schools that provided residents of the community with the venue to become a technologist. This program is just another example of the committee recognizing and addressing a specific need for the benefit of the community.”

Interested students can enroll at Stockton as declared biology majors with a medical technology track. After studying at Stockton for three years, the students transfer to UD for an additional two years, with studies focusing on the clinical aspects of medical technology.

“Stockton is pleased to be offering a degree program that helps our students, area healthcare providers and the region,” Stockton President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr. said. “It is gratifying to help meet an employment need in today’s challenging economy and for the need to be filled by Stockton graduates.”

Upon completion of the program at UD, students return to southern New Jersey to participate in clinical practicums at local hospitals - including Shore Memorial, AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center (ARMC), and Cape Regional Medical Center - for real world experience. Students will graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Stockton and a Bachelor of Science degree in medical technology from UD.

Tuition assistance for students interested in this program is provided through the New Jersey State Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJLWD), which funds local WIB areas to operate One Stop Career Centers in each county.

“There are federal grants up to \$5,000, State of New Jersey grants up to \$4,000 and tuition waivers that residents may apply for and receive based on eligibility and availability to cover some of the cost of the Medical Technologist program,” said Rhonda Lowery, executive director of the Atlantic Cape May WIB.

Shore Memorial and ARMC will also be offering a limited number of \$7,000 fellowships.

The career options available to certified medical technologists include but are not limited to working in:

- Hospital laboratories
- Commercial laboratories
- In vitro fertilization laboratories
- Additional ambulatory care laboratory settings
- Pharmaceutical industry
- Instrument manufacturing industry

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“We’re pleased to participate in this program,” said Lillian Smith, director of recruitment, ARMC and co-chair of the WIB Healthcare Workforce Committee. “Students will gain valuable knowledge about and experience in the medical technician field. This is a tremendous opportunity for those seeking an exciting career with growth and career advancement opportunity.”

Stockton is accepting applications for the fall 2010 semester. Interested students can contact Karen P. York, Ph.D, assistant professor of biology, Stockton College, at 609-652-4449 or via email at Karen.York@stockton.edu.