

Program Director:

Dr. Jim Dunn, PhD
Executive Vice President and CTO
5201 Harry Hines Blvd
Dallas, Texas 75235

The Rise to Success Youth Program (Rise Program) is designed to provide both an educational and employment opportunity for recent high school graduates who have an interest in pursuing a career in the healthcare arena. Upon acceptance to the program, talented youth accepted to the program will participate in a summer training program to become a Patient Care Technician (PCT) that will take place at Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD). After completion of the summer training program, and upon passing the PCT examination, Rise Program participants will become part-time employees with job positions at Parkland Health & Hospital System (Parkland). The Rise Program is designed to be an avenue by which individuals earn a bachelor's degree in a healthcare related discipline by first obtaining an associate degree, with pre-requisite courses taken at DCCCD community colleges.

The mission of Parkland's Rise Program is to create a pipeline of future health care professionals by developing participating high school graduates through a structured career pathing model which leads to healthcare career at Parkland.

The vision for the Rise Program is for Parkland to become a strategic partner in the development of the participants' career progression.

The career progression structure for this program is based on the "earn and learn" educational model that is based on hands-on learning experience in combination with academic learning. Through this model, participating individuals will benefit from on the job training experiences at the same time they obtain a degree within a desired area of concentration.

After completion of the summer training component (June – August) at DCCCD, participants will have an opportunity to transition into a part time position at Parkland that requires 24 hours per work week. This position will provide individuals with the same benefits as any other part time employee and will include access to the Tuition Reimbursement program. Participating individuals are expected to work for Parkland for the duration of their entire college career and for minimum of an additional year after completion of their degree. The Rise to Success Youth Program has a contractual obligation component to it and accepted individuals will receive a contract for review and signature prior to their start date with Parkland. Individuals are expected to be enrolled in at least eight college credit hours of approved health care prerequisite courses per semester.

Participating individuals will have access to Parkland Career Development Center staff member who will monitor their grades and work throughout the program, as well as provide work performance and academic counseling. The mission of the Career Development Center is to help students get the most out of this program and to aid in their success at Parkland.

Criteria for Application and Minimum Requirements

Candidates must meet these minimum requirements in order to be considered for the Parkland Rise to Success program.

1. Must have graduated with a high school diploma and be 18 years of age prior to start date of the program.
2. Must have a career goal of becoming a healthcare professional in one of the following areas:
 - Biotechnology
 - Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
 - Cardiac Sonography
 - Diagnostic Medical Sonography
 - Invasive Cardiovascular Technology
 - Emergency Medical and Paramedic Services
 - Medical Laboratory Technology
 - Medical Staff Services
 - Nursing (Associate Degree & Vocational Nursing)
 - Radiologic Sciences
 - Respiratory Care Program
 - Social Work
 - Substance Abuse Counseling
 - Surgical Technologist
3. Must be a resident of Dallas County
4. Demonstrate high aptitude in the sciences
5. Have a minimum 3.25 GPA
6. Provide a one page personal statement (essay) which demonstrates excellent attitude and motivation
7. Have a great high school attendance record
8. Be available to attend the summer training component at DCCCD from 8AM to 5PM Monday – Friday for 10 weeks (early June – August)
9. Must complete and submit all required application materials
 - a. Application
 - b. Two teacher reference letters
 - c. Provide official transcript
 - d. Provide a written personal statement for admittance

Important Dates

December 1st – Applications are available
Mid December – Information Session
January 09 – Letters of Recommendation are due
January 12 – Complete Applications are due!
February – Notification and Invitations to Interview
Early March – Top Candidate Interviews
End of March – Notifications of Program Acceptance/Non-acceptance
June – Orientation and Training Begins
Late August/Early September – Onboarding into Hiring Department

Benefits and Compensation

1. Stipend: the student will be paid competitive wage
2. PTO (Paid Time Off): The student will qualify for PTO in accordance with Parkland's current policies and procedures
3. Health Benefits: Health care coverage for the resident and his/her family is available through Parkland as per current policies and procedures.
4. Tuition Reimbursement: The student will qualify for benefits in accordance with Parkland's current policies and procedures

Program Objective

Parkland Health & Hospital System will mentor and develop future Parkland health care workers through didactic and experiential education. This will be accomplished through an educational model that is based on hands-on learning experience in combination with academic learning. Through this model, participating individuals will benefit from on-the-job training experiences at the same time they obtain a degree within a desired area of concentration.

Learning Concentrations

Dallas County Community College District (El Centro) will provide the 12-week clinical training for Patient Care Technician certification. Participants will then enroll in a two-year health care focused program at DCCCD in one of the following areas:

- Biotechnology
- Cardiac Sonography
- Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Paramedic Programs
- Invasive Cardiovascular Technology
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Medical Assisting
- Medical Front Office
- Medical Laboratory Technology
- Medical Staff Services
- Nursing (Associate Degree Nursing and Vocational Nursing)
- Radiologic Sciences
- Respiratory Care Program
- Social Work
- Substance Abuse Counseling
- Surgical Technologist