

Healthcare Workforce Partnership of Western Massachusetts

A Collaborative Approach

In Addressing Healthcare Workforce Needs

The healthcare sector is critical to the Western Massachusetts economy, responsible for 16 percent of all jobs and 19 percent of annual payroll. The patient population is aging and the current healthcare workforce is nearing retirement. These factors contribute to projected sector growth that will lead the region with job creation in the future.

Today we have a mismatch between employer hiring needs and the region's capacity to produce a qualified workforce. We have projected workforce shortages that if left unattended, will have significant negative consequences on this region, leading not only to a problem in healthcare, but also to an economic competitiveness issue for businesses and a reduced quality of life issue for us all. If we do not act now, we will not have the interdisciplinary healthcare teams required in the future to provide quality healthcare to us and our families.



The *Healthcare Workforce Partnership of Western Massachusetts* is a partnership among employers, workforce development leaders, training and education providers dedicated to strengthening the region's healthcare workforce and enhancing the quality of patient care. The *Partnership* responds to the workforce

needs of employers and ensures that workers have access to the education and training needed to prepare them for lifelong careers in the rapidly changing healthcare industry.

The *Healthcare Workforce Partnership of Western Massachusetts* provides leadership and strategic direction for the Western Massachusetts Nursing Collaborative and allied health activities.



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Key Partners

Our collaborating partners in this effort include:

Education

- American International College
- Elms College
- Holyoke Community College
- Greenfield Community College
- Springfield Technical Community College
- Springfield College
- University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Westfield State College

Employers

- Baystate Health
- Baycare Health Partners, Inc.
- Cooley Dickinson Hospital
- Genesis Healthcare/Heritage Hall
- Holyoke Health Center
- Holyoke Medical Center
- Kindred Hospital Park View
- Noble Hospital
- Massachusetts Senior Care Association
- Shriners Hospital for Children
- Sisters of Providence Health System

Workforce Development

- Regional Employment Board of Hampden County, Inc.
- Franklin Hampshire Regional Employment Board
- FutureWorks One Stop Career Center
- CareerPoint One Stop Career Center
- Franklin Hampshire Career Center
- Springfield Department of Health and Human Services Pioneer Valley Area Health Education Center (AHEC)

Philanthropy

- Irene E. and George A. Davis Foundation