

## The Pipeline for the Advancement of the Healthcare Workforce - PATH Grant

What is PATH? PATH is an acronym for Pipeline for the Advancement of the Healthcare Workforce, and is a grant provided by the State of Illinois. Through an investment totaling \$60 million over the last three fiscal years, PATH has provided support for students and programs to overcome the extreme shortages in the healthcare workforce, The purpose of PATH is to create, support, and expand the opportunities of individuals in the nursing pathway and select healthcare pathways to obtain credentials and degrees that allow them to advance.

### Goal

The goal of PATH is to increase completion in healthcare programs by 15% (approximately 15,000 completions) during the first year of funding (FY2023). This goal will be sustained through fiscal year 2027.

### Target Populations

The target populations that will be served with PATH funding include the following:

- incumbent workers
- new, entering students on a nursing or healthcare pathway with an identified need for support and an intention to continue their employment in Illinois
- Low-income, first generation, and minority students

### Program Strategies

Both **credit and non-credit programs** can be supported through this initiative. Community colleges are investing in impactful strategies that are tailored to meet the needs of their local community and employers.

- **Recruitment and Outreach** - building community rapport, hiring program recruiters, collaborative partnerships to access new talent pools and additional program on-ramps
- **Work-Based Learning** – internship, pre-apprenticeship, and apprenticeship opportunities
- **Wraparound Support Services** – Student Success Coaches and Navigators, offering academic and non-academic supports- tutoring, childcare, tuition and fee assistance, stipends, transportation, transition services for individuals with disabilities, etc.
- **Partnerships and Collaboration**- With universities to deliver the BSN, with CBOs to deliver support services or build on-ramps, with employers, coordination and referrals with the local One Stop Center
- **Customized Training** - Incumbent worker training or customized training, intentional integration of essential employability skills training, modularized training program

Priority Occupations
1. Emergency Care Attendant (EMT/Ambulance)
2. Emergency Medical Technology/Technician (EMT/Paramedic)
3. Respiratory Care Therapy/Therapist
4. Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse
5. Perioperative/Operating Room and Surgical Nurse/Nursing
6. Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse Training
7. Nursing Assistant/Aide and Patient Care Assistant/Aide