Rural Health Information Technology (HIT) Workforce Program

The Rural HIT Workforce Program was recently funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and offers an opportunity for training and tuition assistance for at least 120 people within 76 counties of the West Texas region, as well as supported training for hands-on experience with Electronic Health Records (EHR) technology. Through collaboration of AHEC of the Plains, the WTxHITREC, and Midland College, healthcare employees or students interested in becoming EHR certified can enroll in two new tracks offered online to prepare for EHR Certifications. Coinciding apprenticeship training will be implemented and supported by the WTxHITREC, working closely with providers to support the students. The program concept goal combines career development and provider needs in rural West Texas through recruitment, education, certified training, apprenticeship, and employment in the rural workforce.
Selection Criteria

- Professional or student in the healthcare field in need of training and certification in Electronic Health Records (EHRs).
- If you are located in one of the 76 counties in the coverage area of the Rural HIT Workforce Program grant (found at www.midland.edu/ruralhit under “Program Coverage Area”), then tuition assistance may be available.

Application Process

- Apply for the Rural HIT Workforce Program at www.midland.edu/ruralhit.
- Choose one of the two new tracks offered under the Rural HIT Workforce Program.
- Submit all required documents:
  - Resume
  - College Transcript OR
  - Verifiable Employment Letter(s) from employer(s) with contact information, job description, and employment date.
- Deadlines to submit applications are:
  - December 1 for Spring 2014
  - April 1 for Summer 2014
  - June 1 for Fall 2014

Curriculum

**IT Interoperability Liaison Certification:**
- Certified Health Technology Specialist-Technology Support
- Certified Health Technology Specialist-Implementation Support

**Data Quality Manager Certification:**
- Certified Health Technology Specialist-Practice Workflow
- Certified Health Technology Specialist-Clinician Practitioner

Contact Information:
AHEC of the Plains - (806) 291-0101 or www.ahecplains.org
WTxHITREC - (806) 743-7960 or www.wtxhitrec.org
Midland College - (432) 685-6891 or www.midland.edu/hitech