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Agreement with Adams State enables PCC to offer Health Care Administration degree

PUEBLO – Beginning this fall, students will be able to earn a bachelor’s degree in Health Care Administration from Adams State College but attend all of their classes here at Pueblo Community College. The new partnership will provide an educational program that leads directly to excellent, high-paying managerial careers in the medical profession.

Adams State professors will teach a contemporary health care leadership and management curriculum on PCC’s Pueblo campus. The program includes a valuable, local internship experience for students at a hospital or medical facility.

“This is a tremendous opportunity for people in the Pueblo region to acquire the credentials they need to work in high-demand, professional positions,” pointed out Dr. David Cockrell, PCC’s Dean of Business and Technology. “All of the classes will be taught in classrooms by highly qualified instructors.”

To explain the program to all those interested, Adams State representatives will be on the PCC campus on Thursday and Friday this week at the following times:

- Thursday & Friday: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Davis Academic Building
- Thursday evening: 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Gorsich Center (Occhiato Theater)
- Friday: orientation 2-5 p.m. in the Fortino Ballroom

The Health Care Administration degree program is aimed at meeting an acute nationwide need now and in the future for qualified administrators in hospitals and a variety of other health care facilities. The U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics projects the employment of medical and health services managers to grow 16 percent through 2016, faster than the average for all other occupations.

Managers in all settings are needed to improve quality and efficiency of health care while controlling costs and overseeing the computerization and security of patient records. They also are needed to recruit workers, increase employee retention, comply with

changing regulations, implement new technology and help improve the health of their communities by emphasizing preventive care.

Salary levels for such administrators are substantial. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median annual earnings for medical and health services managers is \$73,340. Employment is typically found in:

- General medical and surgical hospitals
- Outpatient care centers
- Offices of physicians
- Nursing care facilities
- Home health care services

More information about the degree program is available on the Adams State website at www.adams.edu/academics/business/hca/ or by contacting Dr. David Cockrell, PCC's Dean of Business & Technology, at 549-3362 or david.cockrell@pueblocc.edu.

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Founded in 1933, Pueblo Community College is a premier teaching institution focused on providing academic and service excellence to help its students acquire the 21st Century skills needed to better their lives. An educational and technological leader, PCC fosters economic development and utilizes strong partnerships in the communities it serves through its Pueblo, Fremont and Southwest campuses.