



RN PROGRAM ANNOUNCES COST SAVING CHANGES

Eastern Idaho Technical College (EITC) announces positive changes to the Associate Registered Nursing (RN) program. RN students will now be able to complete their Associate RN degree within five semesters (includes prerequisite courses) and will no longer be required to be a licensed practical nurse (LPN) to enter the program.

These changes will significantly reduce the time and cost for EITC students to finish the RN program. EITC will still offer the LPN program. Those who chose to attain their LPN first before pursuing an RN degree will still have the opportunity even with the program shift. "It's an exciting time here at EITC. The changes to our current RN program will not only be a benefit to our students but also a benefit to the community." Said Tera Bybee, Co-Nurse Administrator.

Recently, with the push for higher education in nursing, universities are moving to a bachelor's degree in nursing only. However, the associate RN is still very needed and utilized in our community. Local hospitals and agencies employ many EITC associate degree nurses. The EITC program still allows students the option of an associate program which may be more conducive to their life situation and financial status. If students later wish to advance their degree to a bachelor's or master's at a university, the nursing staff at EITC is fully supportive. Several EITC students have continued their nursing education at Idaho universities. EITC currently has an articulation agreement with Boise State University to help students pursue that goal.