



News

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Western Technology Center and SWOSU Announce MLT and RT Partnership

Photo Caption: Western Technology Center Superintendent Hoyt Lewis (left) and Southwestern Oklahoma State University President Randy Beutler recently met to finalize a partnership with the current Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) and Radiologic Technology (RT) programs that are currently offered by SWOSU.

Western Technology Center (WTC) and Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) have agreed to a partnership with the current Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) and Radiologic Technology (RT) programs that are currently offered by SWOSU.

Beginning in the fall of 2018, Western Technology Center will collaborate with SWOSU to produce the two Associate of Applied Science programs.

“The demand for health care practitioners continues to increase, and this partnership with our technology center neighbors will be very beneficial to the residents of western Oklahoma and the health care industry,” SWOSU President Randy Beutler said. “We feel it is an effort to provide efficient educational programs and services to the taxpayers of Oklahoma and guarantee that these valuable programs will continue to thrive.”

“WTC has provided a steady workforce for health care services since 1971,” WTC Superintendent Hoyt Lewis said. “Our Practical Nursing, Health Careers Certification, CNA, CMA, EMT, Paramedic, Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting training programs serve western Oklahoma and beyond. This partnership with SWOSU is a cost-efficient way to sustain existing health programs and continue to supply a workforce for high-demand high-wage occupations and careers.”

Both nationally accredited MLT and RT programs have a long and distinguished history on the SWOSU campus in Sayre.

Med Tech graduates play a crucial role in the detection, diagnosis and treatment of disease. MLTs are employed in such places as hospital laboratories, physicians’ private clinic laboratories, industrial medical labs, pharmaceutical firms, and by city, state and federal health agencies.

Graduates of the Rad Tech program perform diagnostic medical imaging examinations, including X-rays that use imaging equipment to provide patient services as prescribed by physicians. These graduates are employed in health care facilities, specialized imaging centers and urgent care clinics.

“The Med Tech and Rad Tech programs offered in our College of Professional and Graduate Studies are quality programs with solid reputations,” SWOSU Provost Dr. James South said. “We look forward to growing these programs with the WTC.”

As another part of the agreement, SWOSU will provide annual scholarships to WTC graduates who wish to further pursue their studies at the university level. These funds will be used to help students who are interested in teaching, science and technology, and other needed skills in the region.

Lewis and Beutler emphasized that this collaboration is a “win-win” for students who desire to pursue additional education that will enhance their lives and the lives of the people of western Oklahoma.

Additional information about the MLT and RT programs is available on the SWOSU website at www.swosu.edu or the WTC website at www.westtech.edu.

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