

CTA Announcer

September – October 2006 Newsletter

Career Training Academy joins the ACCESS PENNSYLVANIA AND ACCESS PA POWER LIBRARY Projects

CTA is proud to announce that the school has been awarded a grant to become part of the ACCESS PA library and Power Library projects. Students will now be able to search the statewide database for books and other materials from right inside our own libraries. With a click of a mouse, the Power Library Project affords students the opportunity to search hundreds of databases for the most recent articles pertaining to their program of study.

The Access PA Database is a project of the PA Department of Education and the Office of Commonwealth Libraries. The project was started in 1985 as a way to make library materials available to all residents of Pennsylvania. Over the years the project has grown so large that it is now located on the web. Library customers, business and home users can search the Database by title, author, subject, any word, location, or a combination of any of these fields.

As of July 1, 2006, 2,948 school, public, academic and special libraries participate in the Database project. The Database contains approximately 13.5 million titles and over 61 million items.



Among the numerous databases students may access, one example is the Wired/MD database. The streaMed Patient Portal patient education and health information solution is the most comprehensive video, handout, animation, and website database available today for consumer health information. Version 4.1 includes 365 multimedia videos, some of which are available in 8 languages, 1385 associated text handouts, as well as numerous anatomical animations and peer-reviewed health websites. Through this comprehensive database, you will have access to consumer health and patient education videos that are developed by physicians and educators throughout the country. These videos present important information regarding the most common health conditions, diagnoses, procedures, and treatments you may encounter in an educational and entertaining video format.

The ACCESS PENNSYLVANIA project contains additional countless links and services available to students; plan to spend some time searching CTA's new library adventure. Student training for use of the databases will begin shortly at each campus.

Health Care Jobs on the Rise

Business Week (Online) recently listed that the health care industry is continuing to grow! Since 2001, 1.7 million jobs were added. As experts continue to monitor these trends, the expectations are that 30% to 40% of all new jobs created over the next two decades will be in health care!

Keep in mind Career Training Academy has trained people to enter the healthcare industry for the last two decades! So with all that great experience, CTA continues to help people find new careers as Dental & Medical Assistants, Health Insurance Claims Examiners and Medical Billers & Coders.

Please contact admissions to learn about the next training session! You can soon be on your way to a new career in the growing healthcare industry!

Highmark Medicare Services Seminar

Health Insurance Claims Examiner/ Medical Biller students from all three of our campuses will attend a Medicare seminar at our North Hills Branch Campus on November 1st and 2nd.

Ian Mattis, Education Specialist from Highmark Medicare Services' Outreach & Education Department, will present three different training sessions to our students to better prepare them for the world of Medicare billing and coding: Medicare 101, Evaluation & Management Coding, and The Proper Use of Modifiers. This is Mr. Mattis' third year of coming to CTA and the instructors and students are looking forward to broadening their Medicare knowledge and having the chance to question and learn from an expert!



Fundraising



CTA has a long and rich history of contributing to a broad spectrum of organizations via their community service projects. In September, 2006 pet supplies (food, toys, leashes, towels, blankets, rawhides, litter, etc.) were collected for Animal Friends of Pittsburgh (a no-kill shelter) and in October, 2006, a “Coat Drive” helped give “gently used coats” for donation to the North Hills Community Outreach for their annual free distribution. (If you’d like to learn more about Animal Friends of Pittsburgh, check out www.animal-friends.org or call 412.434.8434). The North Hills Community Outreach is a nonprofit organization that offers services to people in crisis...you can learn more about them at www.nhco.org or call 412-487-6316.

No Need to Wait!



Generally, at this time of the year, folks think that if they missed starting school in September, then they must wait for the next session to begin in January. However, not so at CTA! CTA had new classes begin on October 30 and will have another session begin on November 27 (for both day and evening programs).

Please contact admissions to learn more about starting “sooner than later”! The sooner you begin, the sooner you can be in your new job (as a result of our training)!

Recognition Weeks



Medical Assistant Recognition Week – “50 Years of Caring” (this year’s theme) was held on October 16 to 20. Medical Assistants truly enjoy helping others and want to make a difference by assisting others in the health care process.

Massage Therapy Week – October also brings National Massage Therapy Awareness Week, which was celebrated on October 23 to October 27, 2006.

Holidays Soon Approaching!



The holidays will be here before you know it! Think about purchasing gift certificates for massages, which is always a popular gift! A “**50 Minute Swedish Massage**” gift certificate can be purchased for \$25.00.

The “Student Massage Center” (at each CTA campus) is open to the public on most Saturdays from 8:30 am to 2 pm. Appointments for massages must be made in advance. Also, there are several treatment packages available, so give us a call to learn more!

Your family members and friends will really appreciate the gift of a massage!



Meet Our Admissions Staff!

Another group of people who really enjoy helping others are admissions people. The CTA staff of admissions is a happy group who enjoy helping people learn more about our classes, hands-on training, externships, mentor programs, student support programs, “Graduate Quality Assurance Program” and steering these folks into meeting with financial aid planners who can help find the financial resources to attend our school.

Tyna P. can be found at our Main Campus, and is our Director of Admissions. As a director, she mentors and trains admissions staff to learn as much as possible about all the career options that exist for our training programs. Tyna, a graduate of St. Vincent College has a BA in sociology. Upon competing college, her first job was in working as a Victim Advocate! If you knew Tyna, you would not be surprised to learn that as she’s such “a people person” and genuinely enjoys helping others. Tyna will soon be celebrating her first year anniversary as our Director of Admissions!

Lori A. can be found at our Monroeville Branch Campus (CTA2) and is an Admissions Representative. A native of Lower/Upper Burrell, Lori began working at CTA2 in July of this year. She loves pets (has two dogs) and is getting married in January! Lori also has a lovely singing voice and as a young girl, sang for CLO (Civic Light Opera in Pittsburgh). She’ll occasionally sing at weddings. Lori, a Bradford School Graduate also enjoys the interaction of working with people and recently stated that helping people achieve their dreams was a goal for her.

Stephanie K., originally from Vandergrift, PA is a recent college graduate (University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg) and can be found at the Pittsburgh (North Hills) Campus. Stephanie majored in Communications and is a huge sports fan. Her favorite sport is football and her favorite Steeler is Hines Ward. Stephanie enjoys helping people learn more about career options for the healthcare, massage and business fields.

Lisa A., originally from New Kensington, PA is our High School Representative and travels the local Western PA area, attending college fairs and giving presentations to high school seniors who want to learn more about our associate degree programs. Lisa, a graduate of the Monroeville School of Business is also a homemaker and mom to twin girls! At one time, Lisa lived in Orange County, California and attended an IMPROV school in Hollywood! Lisa, who recently began working at CTA recently talked about how she enjoyed working as a High School Representative and stated, “I love my job and want everyone to love their work...to find what I have found”.

CTA is proud of the caring people who work in admissions. They take great care in helping others learn more about the training options that will help people enter new careers, and finding all the joys that come with working at a higher wage.