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Triton College's Workforce Equity Initiative Program Delivers Strong Work Outcomes

RIVER GROVE – Triton College's Workforce Equity Initiative (WEI) empowers students from underrepresented communities the opportunity to earn an industry-recognized credential so that they can move into higher-income jobs in in-demand occupations.

"Our program truly helps our students succeed, allowing them to earn more money in their careers," said Cierra Morris, WEI director. "We're giving these students an opportunity to live the American dream that everybody desires."

WEI is a grant program sponsored by the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) designed to shorten the time it takes for students to enter and succeed in sought-after occupations. Triton is one of 18 colleges in Illinois to offer the program and has been awarded \$1.2 million for expenditure in 2025.

"Our success over the past year shows the amount of dedication within our students, faculty and staff," said Morris. "We are thrilled to report that we exceeded every target set, enrolling 321 participants. Of these, 183 students proudly identified as African American."

The program has had a 92% job placement rate with students earning an average salary of \$20 per hour.

Triton is currently in its sixth year of hosting WEI and offers 15 career programs, including Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Medical Billing & Coding, Phlebotomy, Welding and Dental Assistant, among others.

For more information, visit triton.edu/wei/.

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ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE

Triton College is an institution of higher education dedicated to student success. Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs designed for students to realize their career

aspirations and effectively compete in a global economy. The college campus spans 110 acres in River Grove, Illinois, holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton's exemplary faculty and staff work to provide high-quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 10,000 students each year. Triton College is a member of The Community Colleges of Illinois and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at http://triton.edu/.