Big Changes in Health Care

Electronic Health Records - Providing Great Opportunities

Health Care providers across the nation have begun the process of converting their patient records from physical documents to electronic health records (EHR) since the passing of the Health Information Technology (HITECH) Act. This is big news! In the near future, it is expected that patient records stored as paper documents will be a thing of the past. Medical Assistants and Health Claim Specialists who are EHR Certified (CEHRS) will be very much in demand within the health care field. Many of Premier Education Group’s (PEG) campuses are introducing about 120 hours of coursework to fully prepare Medical Assistant and Health Claims students with the necessary competencies needed to sit for EHR certification. PEG is committed to preparing its students for the real world by keeping abreast with the ever-changing technological advances and changing needs of today’s employers.

The HITECH Act is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 passed by President Obama which promotes the adoption of health information technology (health IT) by hospitals and doctors’ offices across the nation. Health IT is a term that refers to any technology that stores, shares, or analyzes health information and includes EHR, Personal Health Records (PHR), as well as E-prescribing. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the government is promoting health IT to make our health care system more efficient, save money, create jobs, expand affordable care and help diagnose health problems sooner. According to Senior Brand Manager Natalie Ruffatto with The McGraw-Hill Higher Education Companies, a leading global developer of teaching and learning solutions, “EHR improves the quality of service provided to patients by streamlining charting practices, adding information electronically to searchable database records, preventing the potential hazards of handwritten paper files, improving patient safety and alerting providers of critical information in real time.” In an effort to expedite the conversion to EHR across the country, the Federal Government is offering incentives to providers who demonstrate compliant implementation of their new EHR systems.

PEG is using EHR curriculum developed with McGraw-Hill Higher Education. McGraw-Hill uses a hands-on hybrid model in their EHR curriculum called Spring Charts. This system resembles a sample system of one that would be used in the medical field. Many different software programs are used by different doctors’ offices and hospitals. PEG’s EHR curriculum is not designed to train students how to use only one particular software program but rather to prepare students entering the workforce to be able to apply their EHR skills with whatever program they may need to use. All software programs used in doctors’ offices and hospitals must be Office of National Coordinator Certified (ONC Certified) and all require very particular information to be obtained from a patient. Furthermore, PEG students studying EHR will be provided with an understanding of the revenue cycle of a doctor’s office, how claims get processed in a computer system and what is required in order for offices to receive payment from health insurance providers.

PEG maintains relationships with employers in each of its career training fields. Each campus has an advisory board consisting of employers from the local community. These employers provide PEG with valuable information regarding trends within the employment markets and skills that are in demand. Byron Hamilton, Author of McGraw-Hill’s Electronic Health Record’s textbook states, “Over the next five years EHR saturation will move from 50 percent to 95 percent in the small to medium sized healthcare practices. This means that over 100,000 physicians will be hiring qualified staff who possess the necessary EHR skills.” Anyone who is first hired with this certification can then help to train others within their company.

Jane Parker, PEG’s VP of Accreditation & Regulatory Affairs, states, “We recognize tremendous employment opportunities for our graduates possessing EHR skills. PEG has been researching and staying abreast of these developments for the past several years and we feel that our students will now have a distinct competitive advantage as they enter the health care workforce.”
Kendra Hudson worked in a doctor’s office copying files, answering phones and filing patient charts. She shared, “I didn’t enjoy what I did. I wasn’t doing anything I could see myself doing for the rest of my life. I wanted to stay in the medical field but be more than just an office clerk.”

She saw a commercial about Harris School of Business’ Professional Medical Assistant program in Voorhees, NJ and knew right away it was what she wanted to do. “When I was at the campus, I just felt like it was my calling and I knew that I was making the right choice.”

With the support of the Harris staff and her peers, Kendra was very comfortable back in the school environment. She said, “The teachers made it all worthwhile. Listening to their personal, on-the-job experiences helped when trying to understand certain things they were teaching us. They made me never doubt what I was capable of and always had faith in me. I also made many new friends at school whom I am still in contact with today.”

After graduating with perfect attendance and a 3.91 GPA, Kendra was offered a full-time position at her externship site, Lab Corp, as a Phlebotomist performing routine blood work such as CBC, BMP and drug testing.

Kendra added, “Harris School made me believe in myself and that I can do anything that I put my mind to. After doing so well at school, I plan on completing my business management degree and hopefully go to nursing school. Harris showed me that I can do it!”

Jessica Makepeace, C.P.C.
with her son T reece

“Congratulations to our spotlight graduates”

Kendra Hudson

Immediat ely Found a Career

“I knew that being a single mom would be a struggle and that I needed a career- not just a job,” Jessica Makepeace said. “I wanted to better my career choices and going back to school would give me opportunities I didn’t have before.”

Prior to becoming a stay-at-home mom for her son for two years, Jessica worked directly with patients on a clinical level as a Certified Nurses Aid, taking care of the elderly at nursing homes. Getting back into the workforce, she wanted to pursue the business side of health care. “I didn’t want the patient contact, so I chose Health Claims Specialist,” Jessica expressed.

Jessica looked at many schools in her area before choosing Branford Hall Career Institute in Springfield, MA. Her choice of Branford Hall was based on their career-focused approach. By not requiring extra academic courses, the training at Branford Hall is faster and more focused than other types of post-secondary education. “I did not have time to spend two years or more to enter into a new job field,” she said.

During Jessica’s time at Branford Hall, she managed being a stay-at-home mom for her son, handling responsibilities and managing the lawyers’ calls and schedules. “I love what I’m doing so much that my work day flies by!”

“I found a job immediately after I graduated,” Jessica stated. “I work for Midwest’s Billing Service, Inc as an Executive Account Care Giver, managing insurance accounts and patient accounts for ten medical practices. I process all the insurance billing for the doctors and bill the patients. Besides coding, Branford Hall gave me the knowledge to be able to speak to the patients and help them understand their insurance policies, which is extremely important.”

“I like that I have choices. My Certified Professional Coder certification is national so I could go anywhere and still find a job in my field.”

She added, “I have a good job that I absolutely love. I can now care for my son completely on my own without worrying about my income.”

No Regrets

Due to the economic downturn, Ray Herold’s employment of 12 years in the fabrication field came to an end. “I loved being a welder but I found it difficult finding another job in the same field. I felt as though the writing was on the wall and I needed to learn a new trade,” Ray shared.

Ray did some research on in-demand careers and was intrigued to learn about the need for Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning technicians. To begin his journey toward a new career, he decided to enroll in the HVAC/R program at Branford Hall Career Institute in Bohemia, NY. He said, “Branford Hall offered the best HVAC/R program which provided me with a solid foundation to enter the work force as a full-time technician.”

Determined to be the best student he could be and with a desire to learn, Ray excelled through the program and graduated with a 4.0 GPA and perfect attendance! “This came with many sacrifices for my wife, children and me, but I don’t regret it for a minute,” he expressed.

Ray found employment as a Store Facility Technician at Target in Commack, NY. “I use just about every aspect of what I learned at Branford Hall while performing my daily routine and maintenance for the store. I am solely responsible for maintaining the HVAC units which encompasses doing a full system check from a basic filter to the compressors and everything in between. My knowledge of the system allows me to make sure that it is functioning properly. Had it not been for my education from Branford Hall, I would not be qualified to do most of my job duties.”

Ray added, “All of the instructors were passionate about teaching and experts in the HVAC field. I left with a great education in a field that I have fallen in love with. I had an absolutely wonderful experience at Branford Hall and now have a career at a great company.”

Self-Reliant

“Working as a supermarket cashier and hostess were jobs that I did not want to be doing for the rest of my life,” Alyssa Horton shared. “I wanted to earn a diploma that would add to my resume and bring me down the right path. I have always been interested in the legal field and when I learned the Salter School in Malden, MA had a Paralegal program that fit my schedule, I enrolled right away.”

During Alyssa’s nine months of training, she obtained a strong foundation in legal concepts and learned how to support the day-to-day activities in law offices and other legal environments. She enjoyed her teachers and made many new friends. Nearing graduation, the Career Services Staff assisted Alyssa with her job search, making the process stress-free.

She stated, “I am now working as a Paralegal for Lash & Associates, P.C. in the Financial District of Boston. Their areas of practice are civil litigation and real estate. I handle court files and correspondence as well as real estate closings. I also draft court documents and manage the lawyers’ calls and schedules. I love what I’m doing so much that my work day flies by!”

Alyssa’s quality of life has improved since going back to school and she feels her future holds many options. “I am now paying my own bills and I don’t have to rely on my parents like I used to. I can support myself and do a lot more with my friends. Going back to school made me realize I have so many choices in life and that I want to go to law school in the future. A big dream of mine would be to start my own firm.”
Congratulations to our spotlight graduates

Alumni Success

Proud and Independent

Michelle Washington

With her desire and ability to help others, it’s no surprise that Amanda Collins wanted a career in healthcare. She and her disabled husband are shared living providers for a disabled individual at their home and she also worked as a residential counselor in group homes taking care of people with special needs.

Wanting to further her career in the medical field, she decided to enroll in Salter School’s Professional Medical Assistant program in New Bedford, MA. “I had heard good feedback from a current student about The Salter School and they highly recommended their program to me,” she said.

Amanda continued to work while going to school which caused her to have concerns. She asked herself, “How was I going to get my homework done and study for quizzes while going to school at night and taking care of an individual at home?”

With the help of Salter’s faculty, who touched upon time management and different study methods within the classroom, Amanda was able to develop a great routine and felt comfortable about her schedule. “Time management is a huge key in succeeding,” she expressed. “Also, the staff was great at teaching certain skills in interactive ways, making it easy to learn.”

Upon graduating, Amanda was hired as a Medical Assistant with the Cardiovascular Specialists in Falmouth Hospital! She explained, “I take vital signs, help remove sutures, bandage patients, help with laser (vein) procedures as well as assist in sclero therapy procedures. Key skills that I learned at Salter that I currently apply to my career are EKG’s, vital signs, EMR, sterile field technique, and autoclaving.”

“I am so happy I took that first step and made a career for myself. If you have the chance to go back to school to make something of yourself, take it and run with it. Attending Salter School will open many doors. ”

Career Management

Amanda Collins

Linda Martineau

Linda had a great experience at school and learned everything she needed to know to pass her National Board Exam. “I even liked how we were taught proper body mechanics and techniques to prevent injuries from occurring to our hands while we performed different massages,” she stated. “All of the teachers were phenomenal, especially Ms. Judy, whose guidance, experience, knowledge and patience, motivated me to complete the program. I am forever grateful.”

After graduating, Linda was hired at Massachusetts Envy as a Massage Therapist. “I love my career!”

Kim’s future is bright with endless possibilities. She described, “At the age of 21, I have started my career already. Branford Hall gave me an early start. With my massage therapy training, I could work at a spa, resort, casino, hotel, chiropractor’s office or open my own practice. I have a wide variety of career options.”

An Early Start to a Career

Kim Caron

Broadening Her Skills

Linda Martineau

Prior to her placement, Linda had a great experience at school and learned everything she needed to know to pass her National Board Exam. “I even liked how we were taught proper body mechanics and techniques to prevent injuries from occurring to our hands while we performed different massages,” she stated. “All of the teachers were phenomenal, especially Ms. Judy, whose guidance, experience, knowledge and patience, motivated me to complete the program. I am forever grateful.”

After graduating, Linda was hired at Massage Envy as a Massage Therapist. “I love my career!”

Kim’s future is bright with endless possibilities. She described, “At the age of 21, I have started my career already. Branford Hall gave me an early start. With my massage therapy training, I could work at a spa, resort, casino, hotel, chiropractor’s office or open my own practice. I have a wide variety of career options.”

With her desire and ability to help others, it’s no surprise that Amanda Collins wanted a career in healthcare. She and her disabled husband are shared living providers for a disabled individual at their home and she also worked as a residential counselor in group homes taking care of people with special needs.

Wanting to further her career in the medical field, she decided to enroll in Salter School’s Professional Medical Assistant program in New Bedford, MA. “I had heard good feedback from a current student about The Salter School and they highly recommended their program to me,” she said.

Amanda continued to work while going to school which caused her to have concerns. She asked herself, “How was I going to get my homework done and study for quizzes while going to school at night and taking care of an individual at home?”

With the help of Salter’s faculty, who touched upon time management and different study methods within the classroom, Amanda was able to develop a great routine and felt comfortable about her schedule. “Time management is a huge key in succeeding,” she expressed. “Also, the staff was great at teaching certain skills in interactive ways, making it easy to learn.”

Upon graduating, Amanda was hired as a Medical Assistant with the Cardiovascular Specialists in Falmouth Hospital! She explained, “I take vital signs, help remove sutures, bandage patients, help with laser (vein) procedures as well as assist in sclero therapy procedures. Key skills that I learned at Salter that I currently apply to my career are EKG’s, vital signs, EMR, sterile field technique, and autoclaving.”

“I am so happy I took that first step and made a career for myself. If you have the chance to go back to school to make something of yourself, take it and run with it. Attending Salter School will open many doors. ”

Kim Caron

“Congratulations to our spotlight graduates”
“I think goals should never be easy, they should force you to work, even if they are uncomfortable at the time.” ~ Michael Phelps

Making A Difference

Premier Education Group held its Annual Corporate In-Service events where faculty and staff from all participating campuses united to meet with those within the company whom they do not have the pleasure of running into on a daily basis. In addition to the camaraderie this event inspires, it is a time to recognize and congratulate faculty and staff on their many achievements. The events were held at two separate locations, one in Turner’s Falls, MA at Hallmark Institute of Photography while another was held in New Jersey to accommodate the Harris School of Business campuses located in NJ, DE, and PA.

The first event, which took place at the Hallmark Institute of Photography, featured motivational speaker, Jeffrey Schilling, who spoke on the importance of what we do as a company and the impact our campuses, teachers, and staff have on our graduating class. Schilling’s speech focused on the effective role career schools play in helping individuals reach their education, career, and personal goals, especially those factors which students at traditional postsecondary institutions may not have the luxury of experiencing. Schilling shared the most effective strategies employed at the best career schools while members of the audience participated in the discussion by sharing when and how they have had the opportunity to positively influence their students’ lives.

The New Jersey event, held at The Enterprise Center in Mt. Laurel, NJ, hosted key note speaker Jennifer Hurd. She spoke on how different learning styles are important as well as how to increase teamwork and produce success throughout the education organization. Hurd shared examples of learning styles and discussed specific strategies to increase the effectiveness of collaboration and teamwork. The lecture was interactive and informative leaving Harris School of Business’ faculty and staff with new skills they could utilize to benefit their campus’ students.

Awards were presented to faculty and staff for their professional contributions at both events. The awards included Years of Service Awards, Above and Beyond Awards, Faculty of the Year Awards and Career Services Awards. Premier Education Group would like to congratulate all of this year’s recipients!

Congratulations to the 2012 Faculty of the Year award recipients:

- *Regina Riviezzo* - Saltair Nursing  
- *Jennifer Pereira* - New Bedford  
- *Maureen Baptista-Tewsbury* - Eugenia Smyka - Fall River  
- *Oly Eghunike-Maiden* - Kim Luketic-West Boylston  
- *Ryan Baouquet-Chicopee* - Laura Johnston-Sanford  
- *Barbara Ryan-* Manchester  
- *Amy Marsh-Windsor* - Wendy McCabe-Branford  
- *Patricia Collins-Albany* - "Kristen Joyal-Southampton"  
- "Alan Landry-Springfield" - "Eric Smith-Springfield Tech"  
- "David Mais-Danbury" - Tiffany Daniels-Hamilton

*Bruce Weed-Linwood* - Charles Holzhauser-Bohemia  
*Carolyn Jennings-Cherry Hill* - Judy Ward-Wilmington  
*Tanzania Johnson-Voorhees* - Natasha Cassom-Dover  
*Devaguna Davenport-Upper Darby*

Autism Awareness

Branford Hall Career Institute in Bohemia, NY and SeaCoast Career School in Sanford, ME raised over $2,100 to benefit autism research. Each campus conducted their own campaigns to collect these donations during National Autism Awareness Month. The fundraising efforts brought the campus’ students and staff together to work toward a greater good and built on the campus’ community service efforts. According to AutismSociety.org, autism is a complex developmental disability that usually appears within the first three years of life and affects a person’s ability to communicate and interact with others. The cause of autism is uncertain but increased awareness and funding can help families today.

The Bohemia campus had a “No Uniform Day” where students who donated $2 per ticket were allowed to dress down for the day. The students were made aware of the staggering number of reported cases and raised $1,020 by holding this event alone. HVAC student Jason Mahoney was a strong advocate for this event as he has a child diagnosed with autism. The campus would like to thank him and all of those who participated for their initiative.

Students, faculty and staff from the Sanford campus created a team that participated in the 10th Annual Walk for Autism held at the University of New England at Hills Beach in Biddeford, Maine. They named the team “Understanding the Pieces”, referring to the puzzle piece emblem used to represent Autism Awareness. One Sanford student expressed her appreciation for the event by sharing, “This is very near and dear to my family, as 4 out of 5 of our children have autism.”

Both campuses were happy to join in the efforts to support such a great cause. If you would like to donate as well you can visit www.autismspeaks.org.

Autism Awareness advocate and Bohemia HVAC student Jason Mahoney

An Olympic Experience

In 2006, when David Silvia graduated from the Massage Therapy program at the Salter School in Fall River, MA, he never imagined that his journey into a new career would take him to the Olympic Games in London, working on world class athletes as a Massage Therapist.

The first time that David learned about opportunities for Massage Therapists at the Olympics was in 2008 when one of the Massage Instructors at Salter School, Lori-Ann Gallant Heilborn, went to the Beijing Olympics as a Massage Therapist.

Over the years, David had been gaining experience working with athletes. While he was a student at Salter, David and some classmates went to a US Marine Corps marathon in Washington, D.C. as volunteer Massage Therapists to administer massages to the marathon participants. He had also travelled throughout the Northeast with a team of volunteer Massage students to various marathons and triathlons.

In 2009, he sent in his application and resume to the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) to be considered for the 2012 Olympic Games in London. Within 3 months, David was invited to the USOC training center in Chula Vista, CA. There he spent 2 weeks conducting massages and helping out in other areas of the training facility, where his work was closely evaluated. In April 2012, David was informed he was a potential candidate for the Olympics and a month later he received the letter he was hoping for - his official invitation to the Olympic Games in London!

David recalls, “I felt elated, honored and privileged as I left on July 15th for London.” David was assigned to work closely with the US women’s basketball team, who ended up winning a gold medal.

Now back home, David has returned to his business, “Active Health Massage Therapy and Fitness” in Taunton, MA, where he employs two other Salter School grads.

As for David’s future, he shared, “I am already hoping to have an opportunity to return to the Olympics in four years.”

Hats off to David from the entire PEG community!
More than 50 pints of blood were

• The National Phlebotomy examination!
• Online classes are now a component of the Paralegal program. Students embraced the integration saying, “It’s the best of both worlds!”
• The campus has a successful turnout of students, administrato rs and friends who donated over 50 pints of blood to the American Red Cross. Future blood drives are scheduled to meet the high demand for blood during the summer months. Great job!
• Thanks to the Student Council, all students now enjoy bagels and coffee on their first day of school.
• The Career Services department secured 13 new externship sites for students over a five week time frame. Way to go!

ers use professional certifications as criteria for the hiring process.
• For the 6th year in a row, the culinary students participated in the Western Mass AIDS Foundation Benefit Dinner held at the Log Cabin restaurant. The students made and served 1400 mini pastries.

• The campus is proud to announce a 100% pass rate for students who recently took the National Phlebotomy examination! Congratulations on a job well done!
• The student services department partnered with the American Red Cross and held two very successful blood drives. More than 50 pints of blood were collected. Great job!

• Medical Assistant and Health Claims Specialist students had a 100% pass rate on the Electronic Health Record exam! Great job!
• Health Claims Specialist instructor Maria Santiago, CPC, CMA and guest speaker, Steve Sharma, CPC, Coding Analyst at Bridgeport Hospital, discussed different career choices and new coding rules with the Health Claims Specialist students to celebrate National Coders Day.

• Students are very excited about the expansion of the Phlebotomy lab and the addition of new EKG and CMA labs to the campus.
• The campus has been hosting awards ceremony to recognize the success of its hardworking students. Students are given awards for receiving a 4.0 GPA or having perfect attendance for the term.

AIDS, Hepatitis C and chronic illness, came to the campus to interview graduates and potential externs. Due to their growth, AllCare is able to take on students from many different courses of study at Salter College, including Accounting, Business and Medical Office Administration, Medical Billing and Coding.
• The Pride Alliance at Salter College, a student group formed to encourage ultimate acceptance of others, recognized a Day of Silence. The event, sponsored by the Gay, Lesbian, & Straight Education Network, a national organization that works to promote tolerance of diversity, brings light to the silencing effect of anti-LGBT bullying and harassment in schools.

• Congrats to the Computer Networking Management students who have recently become A+ certified and Microsoft Certified in Windows 7. According to industry reports, 55% of employ-
planning a memorial service.

- Massage Therapy students had the pleasure of listening to guest speaker Jeff Mahadeen, LMT, Certified Structural Integrator and owner of Muscular Wellness Institute and Treatment Center. He informatively spoke of his teachings about hands-on massage techniques including Myofascial Release, Neuromuscular Therapy and the related sciences.

- At the end of each module, students are acknowledged for their attendance and hard work by receiving Honor Roll Certificates and having their names posted on a bulletin board for all to view.

- The campus is pleased to announce they are now offering two new programs: Pharmacy Technician and Legal Office Assistant. Everyone is excited as the programs are an impressive addition to the school.

- The Professional Medical Assistant program met every standard set by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) and exceeded the standard on student satisfaction during the accreditation visit. Well done!

- Hats off to the grads! Over 650 guests attended the commencement ceremony held at Keith Middle School to celebrate the graduates’ achievements and witness their defining moment.

- Congratulations to the Professional Medical Assistant students who passed the NHA National Phlebotomy Examination.

- $500 was raised for Medical Assistant student, Amber Vieira, who lost everything in a house fire. Thanks to the fellow students who held a car wash, allowing all proceeds to go to the Salem student. The local fire department also participated by bringing a ladder truck for the event.

- Thanks to hard work by the Medical Assistant Department Chair Danielle Pendable, Clinical Site Coordinator Omieneta Wade, and the entire Malden campus staff, the recent visit by ABHES accreditation was a complete success.

- Massage Therapy students recently participated in an event at the Spaulding Rehabilitation Facility where they utilized their chair massage techniques to work on the facility’s nurses. The students enjoyed the opportunity to give back to the busy nurses who give so much to others.

- The faculty and staff recently hosted a Student Resource Fair, inviting many agencies whose services could alleviate the challenges and obstacles some students face outside of the classroom. Agencies that provide child care, counseling services, insurance benefits, family planning and fuel assistance were in attendance. Students found this event helpful and benefited from the information presented.

- Massage Therapy students participated in the Great Cape Cod Getaway, a 2-day bike ride to benefit Multiple Sclerosis, and provided massages to many sore athletes.

Seacoast Career Schools

- Students, faculty and staff were saddened when Medical Assistant Instructor and Clinical Site Coordinator Judy Pento passed away from a heart attack. Her passing initiated the Student Council to host various fundraisers and raise awareness for heart disease. $600 was donated to the American Heart Association.

- The campus was honored to receive “A Perfect Record Award” from the Better Business Bureau at the Annual Torch Awards in recognition of three consecutive years of the highest rating. Way to go!

- Seacoast sponsored the 5th Annual Child Health & Family Services Breakfast to help raise funds towards nutrition counseling, medical programs, family support services, behavioral and mental care, as well as literacy programs for children.

- Student Council members laced up their sneakers for the Walk for Hunger and raised $1,300 for New Horizon’s Homeless Shelter. Great job!

- Thanks to the Massage Therapy students who attended the Boston Marathon to perform chair massages on the participants.

Harris School of Business

- The campus recently held a job fair that was attended by numerous employers including Mercy Hospital, Massage Envy, Infinity Staffing, Adecco Staffing, and Citizen’s Bank. A number of students were interviewed on the spot or scheduled interviews as a result of the fair.

- New students were invited to an Open House Continental Breakfast where participants from the greeted by Student Ambassadors and met their instructors, as well as key members of the staff.

- Students brought their family and friends to proudly show off the students for their outstanding service to the hospital, providing the best Medical Assistant externs.

- He stated, “The Harris School of Business Medical Assistant students are the most prepared students that we have in our external program.”

- Close to 40 donors registered at the campus’ blood drive and all donations went to patients with serious illnesses. Another drive is scheduled for later in the year when they hope to have an even larger turn-out.

- Partners for Progress, a program designed to create local partnerships with businesses that benefit both the student body and the community, is off to a great start. As part, TD Bank visited the campus teaching the students about fiscal responsibility and offered the opportunity to open up savings accounts.

- Congratulations to Health Claims Specialist Instructor Larissa Riggins for achieving the Above and Beyond award at PEG’s Annual In-Service Event. Along with providing good educational experience, she also organized a voter registration day to expose students to the political process.

- The Father’s Care Network visited the campus and spoke about the importance of a father’s role in the children’s lives. The message was enlightening to both students and staff.

- Students, staff, family and friends gathered to celebrate the achievements of the graduates during the commencement ceremony held at the Cornerstone Commerce Center Atrium. It was a wonderful evening for all!
The campus recently held their graduation ceremony where students wore maroon caps and gowns. The keynote speaker was Barbara Harris-Miles, daughter of the school’s founder Ethel Harris, who told her mother’s inspiring story and gave the graduates motivational advice for their continued success.

The campus has been assigned for each campus to share their school’s news on a daily basis. Megan Murphy, Registrar and Student Services Coordinator at Seacoast Career Schools, has been involved in this effort. She said, “I didn’t set out to create a new lighting technique. I was actually created his own – the ‘Relay For Life’, raising money for breast cancer research. Last year the school raised over $6,500 and this year they exceeded that amount raising over $7,500!

The Blood Bank of Delaware came to the campus recently for a blood drive. Both students and staff got involved in giving the gift of life.

The Dover campus is proud to announce that local pharmacist Zahir Kasmani has joined its Advisory Board. Mr. Kasmani is a pharmacist and owner of the newly-opened Dover Community Pharmacy and has taken on Medical Assistant students both as externs and full-time employees once their externship ends.

The campus embarked on a school-wide effort in this year’s “Relay For Life”, raising money for breast cancer research. Last year the school raised over $6,500 and this year they exceeded that amount raising over $7,500!

Students hosted bake sales, a pretzel sale and medical syringe pen sale to generate cash for the campus’ student fund, raising over $300 for future events. Great Work!

Go green! Student Council members implemented a recycling program for bottles and cans at the campus. It is a work in progress to save the earth!

Forohees recently hosted a Student Appreciation Day where Student Ambassadors offered cold refreshments to all students on an extremely hot day. Students were active, upbeat and felt recharged!

Hallmark Institute of Photography

Professional Photography graduate Alan Bassett was satisfied with the options available for soft lighting, so he actually created his own - the DT30 Continuous Soft Light! He said, “I didn’t set out to create a new lighting technique. I was simply in pursuit of finding an easier way to control the light in my images.” To learn more visit www.atbassettlighting.com.

The Class of 2012 held their annual Student Open House at the school’s 50,000 square foot Educational Center. The event was an opportunity for the students to show off their work and their school to proud parents and family members. Hallmark alumni, industry representatives and the community.

The Gallery at Hallmark recently hosted the opening for Photographer Martin Karpilus’ “Images from the 50’s”, a Kodachromatic journey back through time. This quietly nostalgic exhibition has a focus on post-war Europe and the images reflect the journey of a sharp mind and watchful eye.

Salter School of Nursing & Allied Health

The Student Nurse Association held a Bone Marrow Drive. A total of 53 Surgical Technology students volunteered in the screening for possible future bone marrow donations.

A big thank you to the students who collected toiletry items and clothing for the homeless veteran’s and the women’s shelter in Manchester to assist them in preparation for job interviews.

Staying Connected Through Facebook

Premier Education Group is excited to announce their official presence on Facebook! Now, Facebook provides a platform where each campus community can stay connected and informed while balancing their personal, career and academic lives. With more and more alumni, faculty and students being active on social media these days, PEG recognizes the value for its campuses to be there as well.

The Facebook pages provide a forum for dialogue between students and the campus, giving the faculty and staff the opportunity to build better relationships with their students. The topics discussed include success stories, employment and externship opportunities, current events, alerts, faculty spotlights, videos and photos, as well as community and industry news. Facebook provides the means for users to share their experiences and gives administrators the chance to communicate with them directly.

To provide current information, a representative has been assigned for each campus to share their school’s news on a daily basis, Megan Murphy, Registrar and Student Services Coordinator at Seacoast Career Schools in Manchester, NH shared, “With the implementation of Facebook, many students as well as faculty and staff members have mentioned they feel more informed about the campus, graduates and upcoming events. I think this is a great way for the school and students to be on the same page and it certainly keeps us all connected.”

With this new method of communication, we invite you to “Like” us on Facebook and stay in touch with our growing social networks!
Do you believe employers should ask for access to a potential hire’s Facebook page?

- I am mixed on this topic. I do believe you are entitled to your own thoughts and opinions. Yet, I do think an employer would be able to judge a potential hire by what they write. - Jane Ferraiulo; Branford; Health Claims Specialist
- No, looking into a potential employee’s personal life should not dictate hiring them. This should be a breach of confidentiality. - Luis Mendez; Wilmington; Professional Medical Assistant
- Yes, I believe it is a crucial part of character identification to see how a potential hire acts both in an interview and in their free time. It gives the company a better decision process on who they want to represent them as an organization - Lauren Mousseau; Hallmark Institute of Photography; Professional Photography

Describe any superstitions that you have.

- Eat pork on New Year’s Day to bring luck and prosperity for the entire year. - Pat Otto; Cherry Hill; Computerized Accounting Technology
- If I don’t wear my throw-back Patriots uniform every Sunday from September to February, they will lose. Doesn’t seem to matter though. - Derek Eaton; Sanford; Health Claims Specialist
- Upside down shoes is bad luck and a pocketbook on the floor means no money. - Diane Larouco; Albany; Medical Billing and Coding
- I do not believe in superstitions. We all are responsible for everything that happens to us. You create your bad luck and good fortune. - Trudy-Anne Mothersille; Manchester; Professional Medical Assistant

Which Presidential Candidate do you support?

- I support our President Obama. He was handed a crippled country and has improved schooling, jobs and brought our troops home. - Melinda Besch; Malden; Professional Medical Assistant
- I do not discuss my political standings with anyone. - Michele Riordan; Voorhees; Health Claims Specialist
- Mitt Romney. I am Republican and I like his morale and strong ethics. - Joanne McGovern; Cherry Hill; Professional Medical Assistant
- I wanted Oprah, she won’t run! - Moneike Reynolds; Fall River; Professional Medical Assistant
- At this point, I would support Donald Duck! Neither candidate has shown me they care, respect or value the working classes and their contributions to the greatness of the US culture. - Lori Convey; Fall River; Health Claims Specialist

What do you think is the ideal age to get married?

- Around the age of 30 or older. Even though we think we know what we want when we are younger, we usually don’t. I feel that around 30, we realize what we truly want/need in our life. - Sharon Stavola; Danbury; Certified Nurse’s Aide
- There really is no age. When you meet that right person, you should know. - Jorge Melendez; Linwood; Professional Medical Assistant
- Any age after 18. At this age, you are an adult and you know to whom you want to commit for the rest of your life. - Lydia Guzman; New Bedford; Professional Medical Assistant
- Always stay single and keep your independence. - Kay Ruffin; Voorhees; Multi-Skilled Health Technician

Branford Hall Career Institute
branfordhall.edu
Branford, CT (203) 488-2525
Southington, CT (860) 276-0600
Windsor, CT (860) 883-4900
Danbury, CT (203) 797-1461
Springfield, MA (413) 781-2276
(603) 589-1222
Albany, NY (518) 456-4464
Salter School
salterschool.com
Malden, MA (781) 324-5454
Tewksbury, MA (978) 934-9300
Fall River, MA (508) 730-2740
New Bedford, MA (774) 328-3500
Seacoast Career Schools
seacoastcareerschools.edu
Sanford, ME (207) 490-0509
Manchester, NH (603) 624-7222
Salter School of Nursing & Allied Health
salternursing.com
Manchester, NH (603) 622-8400
Salter College
salter.edu
West Boylston, MA (508) 853-1074
Chicopee, MA (413) 206-0300
Hallmark Institute of Photography
hallmark.edu
Turners Falls, MA (413) 863-2478
Harris School of Business
harrisschool.edu
Cherry Hill, NJ (856) 662-5300
Linwood, NJ (609) 927-4310
Wilmington, DE (302) 478-8890
Hamilton, NJ (866) 586-9104
Voorhees, NJ (856) 309-3701
Dover, DE (302) 674-8060
Upper Darby, PA (484) 463-3800

A Message to the PEG Community

As an organization, we have been able to influence and positively impact thousands of people through the years.

We continue to clearly understand our role in the communities we serve. With unemployment rates high and more people seeking career-focused education, our mission continues to be well defined. Staying focused on your goals is critical to achieving the success you deserve. Every day of training is a step closer to your objective.

Develop great habits - they will form your future and confirm your success.

Sincerely,
Gary Camp
CEO, Premier Education Group

Don’t Miss Out!

Classes are forming! For information about enrolling in a career directed program, please note the campus locations listed to the left. PEG is always exploring new externship sites! Employers interested in becoming an externship site should contact the Career Services Director at the nearest campus.