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Medford, Oregon- Rogue Community College (RCC) and the Medford School District (MSD) have expanded their partnership to provide high school students with practical, career-oriented training, emphasizing certifications that prepare them for jobs in Southern Oregon's healthcare sector and beyond.

Through this initiative, students gain exposure to healthcare career pathways, developing essential technical and interpersonal skills. They also connect with local employers for practical, hands-on experience, enhancing the region's workforce pipeline.

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"The opportunities our students have through this partnership with Rogue Community College are extraordinary," said Larina Warnock, Career Learning Coordinator for MSD. "We're helping our students graduate high school with more than just a diploma. They're leaving with a clear path to well-paying, in-demand jobs and a strong support system for their future."

Students from North Medford High School and South Medford High School can now pursue certifications in areas such as phlebotomy and nursing assistance through RCC programs. These courses are structured to address workforce gaps within the healthcare field. RCC advisors collaborate closely with high school counselors and teachers to guide students through dual-credit, Early College, and other college opportunities, ensuring they meet both graduation requirements and post-graduation goals.

"Through this partnership, we're able to provide learning opportunities within Medford's high schools to mitigate barriers with transportation and schedules, giving Medford students direct pathways to meaningful, local careers," said Lisa Parks, RCC's Dean of Business and Workforce Development.

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The collaboration aims to streamline the transition from high school to college or the workforce by integrating college advising, hands-on training, and access to career-ready certifications.

For further details on RCC's high school partnerships, visit <u>RCC's high school partnership page</u> or call RCC's Advising Department at 541-956-7192. North and South Medford High School students interested in these programs should contact their school counselor or Future Center for guidance.



Source: RCC

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