



PROMISING PRACTICE

Partnerships and Supportive Services

Partnership to STEP UP in Health Careers (STEP UP) Program at Chicago State University
Chicago, IL

A gust of support clears career pathways in the windy city.



The Partnership to **STEP UP in Health Careers (STEP UP)** is a career support program, which provides training to Temporary Assistance for Needy Family (TANF) recipients and low-income individuals in the Chicago area.

STEP-UP's success comes from the unique mix of supportive and educational training services. These services help participants reach the highest level of their career path. In June 2017, STEP UP started a required tutoring program in response to low participant pass rates on the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) exam.

Tutoring strengthens concepts, outlines study strategies, and builds communities of learning. Students develop real-world skills that help them outside of the classroom. Reviews of the

tutoring program are very positive. Students enjoy working in a safe and supportive environment, and they not only study together but support each other. They review content with trained tutors and challenge each other's knowledge.

Program success is seen through completion rates, certification, and student reviews. Students can leave tutoring after scoring above 80% on three successive tests. However, often the relationships formed with their tutors are so strong that they choose to continue.

STEP UP tutoring develops participants into a cohort of driven students who grow and learn together.

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