



State of Connecticut Office of Higher Education

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Contact: Noele Kidney
Noele.kidney@ct.gov
Christian Meagher
cmeagher@griffinhealth.org

TEACH OUT PLAN FOR STONE STUDENTS IDENTIFIED OHE notifies 138 students who were closest to completion that they are eligible for program

HARTFORD – The **Office of Higher Education (OHE)** today announced that 138 students, who were displaced by Stone Academy’s sudden closure earlier this year and closest to completion, have been notified that they qualify to apply to a teach-out program to be administered by Griffin Hospital School of Allied Health Careers (Griffin).

In order to be eligible, students must have completed a minimum of 40% of their practical nursing program at the former Stone Academy as determined by the transcript audit that was completed in July. These students will also be required to pass the HESI Admission Assessment Exam to determine the level of knowledge as well as a skills assessment prior to being accepted into the program.

The 10-month program will be located at a newly constructed Griffin facility in Naugatuck and will include both classroom coursework (in-person and online) and clinical experiences through a number of Masonicare and Griffin Health locations to ensure that upon completion, students will be well prepared to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX). The OHE will be utilizing the student protection account to fund the cost of the teach-out program.

“The Office of Higher Education appreciates students’ patience while the audit was conducted and a teach-out was developed over the past few months – our goal was and has always been to provide displaced students with a path forward” said **OHE Executive Director Timothy Larson**. “While other former Stone students have started over or transferred to other programs to complete their training, this latest path allows for students who are closer to graduation to complete their training and prepare to sit for the NCLEX. I’m grateful for the partnership with Griffin Hospital and for the state’s remaining practical nursing programs for stepping up to the plate to offer a path forward for many of these students.”

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Ned Lamont, Governor • Timothy D. Larson, Executive Director
450 Columbus Boulevard • Suite 707 • Hartford, CT 06103-1841

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“We are grateful for this opportunity, and enthusiastic to welcome these students to become part of the Griffin Hospital School of Allied Health Careers,” said **Dr. Amanda Bell, Executive Dean, Griffin Hospital School of Allied Health Careers**. “As with our other successful Certified Nursing Assistant, Patient Care Technician, Phlebotomy, and Medical Assistant programs, these students will receive an exceptional hands-on education that will prepare them to safely care for patients as highly skilled, compassionate, patient-centered caregivers.”

“We cannot turn back the clock but I’m confident, and more importantly students can be confident, that the planned teach-out will provide them with the knowledge, skills and clinical experiences necessary to become licensed practical nurses,” added Larson.

Larson thanked the Office of the Governor, Office of Policy and Management, the Department of Public Health, the Board of Examiners for Nursing and the Attorney General’s Office, all of whom worked to support the integrity of the LPN licensing process in Connecticut. He also acknowledged his agency employees, specifically those who work within the Academic Affairs Division, for their tireless efforts to support the students.

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