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**Graduates Get Great Jobs with COTC's Nursing Technology Degrees**

*Central Ohio Technical College Admits Qualified Students to Nursing Program Every Semester*

July 18, 2013—Newark, OH—Registered nurses (RNs) make up the fifth largest occupation in the U.S. and nursing is by far the largest occupation in healthcare, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Health care services are expected to be in demand and employment of registered nurses is projected to grow faster than average from 2010 to 2020. Graduates of nursing programs are needed to fulfill these positions and to replace a large wave of nurses nearing retirement.

**“Nothing has changed, it’s still true that nurses can get great high-paying jobs with the associate degree credential,”** said Mark Knutsen, Chief Academic Officer for Central Ohio Technical College. Adding, **“Nearly half of all the Registered Nurses in the U.S. are associate degree graduates and nursing remains a nearly recession-proof career choice. The Nursing Program at COTC provides the necessary skills for entry into the nursing profession. While many colleges have long wait lists, COTC admits qualified students to its nursing programs each semester.”**

In Ohio, both RNs and licensed practical nurses (LPNs) lead the health care industry in total annual job openings. The Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services predicts employment of RNs and LPNs to grow 20 percent and 17 percent, respectively, between 2010 and 2020. In fact, Ohio is the fifth largest employer of LPNs in the U.S. with LPNs accounting for 26% of all nurses in the state.

An education in nursing provides extensive opportunities for employment. Graduates not only join the workforce and become productive upon graduation, but many continue their education to earn advanced degrees. There are three education paths to become a RN, but associate degree nursing (ADN) is chosen by nearly half of RNs. LPNs must complete a one-year certificate program. In both occupations, licensure is achieved by passing a national licensing exam.

COTC offers nursing opportunities in: **Associate Degree Nursing (RN)** - COTC graduates earn an Associates of Applied Science Degree in Nursing Technology with this traditional five semester plan of study; **LPN to RN Transition** - COTC offers a four semester transition option for Licensed Practical Nurses; and **Practical Nursing (LPN)** and **State Test Nursing Aide (STNA)** Certificate programs.

The Nursing Program at Central Ohio Technical College is approved by the Ohio Board of Nursing and accredited by the National League For Nursing Accrediting Commission, Inc.

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