

**TITLE:** Nuclear Medicine Technology Program Grants Awarded

**DESCRIPTION:** The Academic and Strategic Initiatives Committee received an update on the funding provided by the Kentucky Board of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy to award \$100,000 in grant dollars to new or existing nuclear medicine technology academic programs.

**STAFF CONTACT:** Dr. Leslie Sizemore, Associate Vice President for Workforce & Economic Development

---

**COMMITTEE’S REVIEW**

The Academic and Strategic Initiatives Committee received this information update at their November 15, 2024, meeting. It will not be covered or presented in detail at the board meeting; however, staff will be available for questions.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

The Kentucky Board of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (KBMIRT) provided \$100,000 to CPE to solicit proposals and award grants to establish new or support existing nuclear medicine technology academic programs.

Kentucky needs nuclear medicine technologists’ education programs to address the growing demand for specialized healthcare services in diagnosing and treating various medical conditions. Nuclear medicine technologists play a crucial role in utilizing radioactive materials to perform imaging and therapeutic procedures that are essential for accurate diagnosis and effective treatment of diseases such as cancer, heart disease, and neurological disorders. By establishing these programs, Kentucky can ensure a steady supply of skilled professionals to support its healthcare system, improve patient outcomes, and keep pace with advancements in medical technology. Additionally, these programs can provide valuable career opportunities for residents, contributing to the state's economic development and overall public health.

Due to the lack of educational programs for nuclear medicine technology in Kentucky, those students interested in the profession previously had to seek education at out-of-state institutions. Prior to these grant awards, the only active program in the state was Morehead State University’s nuclear medicine technology track within the Bachelor of Science in Imaging Sciences (BSIS) program.

After soliciting proposals, CPE was able to award two \$50,000 grants:

- Morehead State University - BSIS Nuclear Medicine Technology track
- Hazard Community & Technical College – Nuclear Medicine Technology, AAS

Hazard Community & Technical College's new Nuclear Medicine Technology, AAS program has been approved through CPE's program approval process and is pending implementation.