



For Immediate Release
August 28, 2014

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Rhodes State College's Center for Health Science Education & Innovation Receives \$5M from the State of Ohio

Lima, OH – Rhodes State College received \$5M from the State of Ohio today to help build its Center for Health Science Education & Innovation in downtown Lima. This brings state funding for the project to \$10M, and with the other funds secured brings the amount of funding close to three-fourths of the \$20M cost.

Rhodes State was one of six community colleges to receive funds from the \$16M allocated for community colleges during the state's capital construction budget. With the \$5M, Rhodes' award was one of the two largest given.

Dr. Debra McCurdy, president of Rhodes State, said "This is a significant award that brings the vision for the center close to fruition as we partner and collaborate with the city, county, businesses and other educational facilities."

The 75,000 square foot facility, which is being designed to serve 1,200 students and incumbent healthcare workers, will be a regional healthcare training facility. The state-of-the-art facility will offer 3D virtual simulation, classes, clinical experiences and distance education for students in an expanded 25-county area. The Center represents a collaborative effort between Rhodes State, the City of Lima, Allen County and business and organizations to expand educational opportunities for students, advance workforce development and drive community revitalization.

As a regional leader in health sciences, Rhodes State College partners with dozens of healthcare facilities in Allen and surrounding counties to train allied health and nursing students. Rhodes State's Nursing Division offers students a pathway to becoming a registered nurse (RN), licensed practical nurse (LPN), pharmacy technician, or a state-tested nursing assistant (STNA). The Allied Health Division offers programs in dental hygiene, emergency medical services, medical assisting, occupational therapy assistant, physical therapist assistant, radiographic imaging, respiratory care, health information technician, and medical laboratory assistant. Rhodes State continues to serve the community and provide the training for healthcare practitioners.